

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA
September 3, 2013**

The City Council of the City of Columbiana, Alabama met in a Regular Session in the Council Chambers of Columbiana City Hall at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday September 3, 2013. Mayor Handley called the meeting to order. The Mayor then asked City Clerk Mark Frey to call roll.

Present:

Council member Leslie Whiting
Council member Barbara Moore
Council member Rickey Ruston

Council member Kim King
Council member Ouida Mayfield
Mayor Stancil Handley

Absent:

None

A quorum was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes: - August 20, 2013 – Regular Meeting

Council member Whiting moved to approve the consent agenda and Council member King seconded the motion which was approved by all members present with a vote as follows:

Yea: Council member Leslie Whiting
Council member Barbara Moore
Council member Rickey Ruston

Council member Kim King
Council member Ouida Mayfield
Mayor Stancil Handley

Nay: None

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

- **Rescue** – Lifesaver Helicopter has discontinued service from Birmingham. This helicopter was considered the 2nd in for Columbiana and the South Shelby County area. 1st in comes from Sylacauga and the response time is about 8 minutes. 2nd in will be reassigned to Auburn (25 min. flight time) or Wetumpka (20 min. flight time). 3rd in has been Wetumpka up until now. A rep from Air Evac came in and reiterated that this change will not affect our 1st in response from Sylacauga.

There is still a radio problem with the repeater tower and 911 is working on it. Rescue has not missed any calls due to this problem because they use cellular phones as a backup to the radio system. The new Mobile Data Terminals have been installed in the rescue trucks. This will aid in mapping and transmitting information to and from the hospital while in transit.

- **Fire** – Rodney Reed reported that it was business as usual. The fire truck that caught on fire is still out of commission. EAP is still finding additional wires that were damaged in the fire. There is not an estimate yet for when this truck will be in service.
- **City Clerk** – Mark Frey reported that Kelli Moore that was hired as Clerk II / Administrative Assistant and started work today. Kelli will be working the front window, answering telephone calls and helping Kathy with AP. Mr. Frey also reported that he had attended the Certified Municipal Clerks training in Tuscaloosa last week and is working towards making sure that the City is up to speed on the Healthcare Act, Labor Laws and proper office procedures for HR.
- **Streets** – Allen Reynolds reported that he has a whole new crew working in Streets. Grass is being cut and garbage is being collected. Mr. Reynolds also reported that the engineer will be coming back in to do the final inspection on the roof so that project can be completed and closed out.
- **Police** – Chief Lamar Vick reported that he is getting compliments about the new School Safety Officer. The Mayor and several members of the City Council discussed the positive response that has been expressed by the parents and teachers.

The Chief also met with the Public Safety Committee last week to discuss the weather sirens. He has contacted someone about checking to see what will be involved in the repair of the malfunctioning sirens. Council member Mayfield noted that the units are 13 years old. The plan is to repair the units that are the easiest and least costly to repair. There are 8 sirens and 4 are not working properly. Council member Whiting noted that the Safety Committee is looking at involving one of the local TV stations and educating our citizens about the importance of having a weather radio located in their home or business.

- **Court** – Joanna Seale reported that Rich Sheliva is our new prosecutor and he is doing a good job for the court. The ticket load is up slightly. Court is on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month and starts at 3pm. Mayor Handley noted that our court system works very smoothly and Joanna, City Judge Mike Atchison and the prosecutor worked very efficiently.

Helen Dean reported on the Columbiana Merchant and Professionals Association's Art and Wine Experience on Main Street. She spoke with the ABC Board about the requirements for this event. The Council will write a letter showing approval and draft a resolution suspending Ordinance 265 for a specified area of town and a specific period of 2.5 hours for the event. The extensive application includes a map of the area of the event and very stringent guidelines in order to put on the event. This event would potentially be scheduled on Friday, October 18th and the City will also have to give a 25 day notice to the State for this Special Event License approval.

Mayor Handley asked City Clerk Frey to draft a resolution for the event and CMPA can move forward with making plans for the event and take a vote at the next council meeting.

Discussion Item – Mayor Handley asked Joanna Seale to report about changes that the Council is being asked to consider with our City Business License. Mrs. Seale reported that the City is significantly higher on our fee schedule for residential and nonresidential builder's license as well as manufacturing as compared to surrounding municipalities. The proposed changes are as follows:

OLD ORDINANCE:

Section 32. License fee schedules, Rate Schedule #3 Nonresidential Contractor, with respect to the current fee schedule is set at \$4.00 per thousand, with no limitation on the number of units

Section 32. License fee schedules, Rate Schedule #4 Residential Contractor, with respect to the current fee schedule is set at \$2.50 per thousand, with no limitation on the number of units

Section 32. License fee schedules, Rate Schedule #5 Manufacturers of any product within said City shall pay a license based on their gross-sales at the following rates: Annual gross sales of \$100,000.00 or under \$250.00 On all gross receipts in excess of \$100,000.00 --- \$250.00 plus .50 cents per thousand of all receipts in excess of \$100,000.00.

POTENTIAL NEW ORDINANCE PROVISIONS:

Schedule fee should be set at \$300.00 per year for both Schedule #3 Nonresidential and #4 Residential Contractors

Manufacturers GR Rate shall be \$250.00 for annual gross sales of \$100,000.00 or under and on all gross receipts in excess of \$100,000.00 \$250.00 plus .50 cents per thousand up to \$10,000,000.00, then .25 cents per thousand on all gross receipts in excess of \$10,000,000.00

After extensive discussion, the Mayor asked City Clerk Frey to draft an ordinance to amend the Business License Ordinance to reflect the changes discussed at tonight's meeting. This will take effect starting on January 1st of 2014 (new business license year).

Council Member Ruston reported that the Park and Rec Committee have been working towards revamping the operation of the Board and reviving the City's parks and recreation. Council Member Whiting also noted that they are trying to get many different people involved with some different ideas in promoting recreation in the City.

The Mayor asked the Council to consider the recommendation of Columbiana Housing Authority director Peggy Horton, for the reappointment of Commissioner Randy Wood to the Columbian Housing Authority. Thereupon Council member Mayfield moved and

Council member Whiting seconded the motion that said appointment be given vote. The appointment passed by a roll call vote of all members of the Council, and the Mayor declared the same passed unanimously.

Yea:

Council member Leslie Whiting
Council member Barbara Moore
Council member Rickey Ruston

Council member Kim King
Council member Ouida Mayfield
Mayor Stancil Handley

Nay:

None

Mayor Handley asked for the Council's approval to appropriate \$20,000.00 for the purchase of a Trolley Bus for the City of Columbiana, noting that we have had an opportunity to purchase two different trolleys for less than this amount in the last month or so. The Mayor added that we have a citizen in town who has volunteered to refurbish the bus in exchange for an advertisement on the bus. After some discussion, the Mayor and council asked for a resolution to be placed on the agenda for next meeting.

Renasant Bank has offered to give the City a scrolling LED sign that they are removing from in front of their bank. The Mayor has talked to Willie Patterson, who is an expert in these signs, to take a look and make sure that this would work as a replacement for our City sign that is located in the courthouse parking lot.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Handley announced that Gary Ray, with ALDOT, said that once the work begins for the CR70 and Hwy 26 highway project, he would join with the City in approaching the State with a request to make CR 70 from the light at McDonalds and Hwy 26 a 3 lane road in an effort to improve traffic flow and encourage growth.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Theresa Whiting thanked Allen with the Street Department for taking down the old ribbon at the ball field. The Mayor noted that the street department is always very responsive to request of the citizens of Columbiana and thanked them for all of their hard work.

Helen Dean added that the Columbiana Newsletter will be out tomorrow.

There being no further business, Council member Whiting moved that the meeting be adjourned, Council member Ruston seconded and the motion passed by vote of all members of the Council. Mayor Handley declared the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

J. Mark Frey, City Clerk

Stancil Handley, Mayor