

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA  
October 18, 2016**

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 October 18, 2016. Mayor Handley called the meeting to order and asked City Clerk, Mark Frey, to call roll after the invocation and pledge.

Present: Council member Leslie Whiting                      Council member Barbara Moore  
          Council member Ricky Ruston                      Council member Kim King (6:08 PM)  
          Council member Ouida Mayfield                    Mayor Stancil Handley

Absent: None.

The Mayor declared a quorum was present.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Minutes 09-20-2016 Regular Meeting.
- B. Approval for Sarah Atchison to use the City Credit Card for quilting supply purchases for the quilting classes at the Columbiana Senior Center. Not to exceed \$300 monthly.
- C. Authorization for Mark Frey to use the City credit card for meals and accommodations at the AAMCA Clerk's training in Tuscaloosa on October 25-28. Not to exceed \$600.
- D. Authorization for a one-step merit increase for Judge Michael Atchison. Moving from \$1138.50 to \$1178.35.
- E. Authorization for a one-step merit increase for Allen Reynolds being moved from Pay Grade XII Step 9 to Pay Grade XII Step 10.
- F. Authorization for a one-step merit increase for Dale Lucas, moving from Pay Grade XI Step 11 to Pay Grade XI Step 12.
- G. Authorization for a one-step merit increase for J. Mark Frey, moving from Pay Grade XIV Step 5 to Pay Grade XIV Step 6.
- H. Authorization for a one-step merit increase for Johnny Howard Jr., moving from \$879.75 to \$910.54.
- I. Authorization for a one-step merit increase for Lamar Vick, moving from Pay Grade XIV Step 8 to Pay Grade XIV Step 9.
- J. Authorization for a one-step merit increase for Ali Payne, moving from Pay Grade X Step 1 to Pay Grade X Step 2.
- K. Authorization for a one-step merit increase for Tom Rary, moving from Pay Grade XIII Step 2 to Pay Grade XIII Step 3.
- L. Authorization for a one-step increase for Liz Taylor for the completion of her probationary period and a one-step education increase for graduation from Magistrate Training. Moving from Pay Grade VIII Step 1 to Pay Grade VIII Step 3.
- M. Hiring of Jenn Roberts as Bookkeeper / Front Office Clerk at Pay Grade VIII Step 1 to fill the position vacated by Kelli Moore.

After discussion about the use of the credit card and merit increases, Council member Mayfield made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda which was seconded by Council member King. The council voted and the consent agenda passed unanimously by all members present.

## **GUEST GWYNN BROWN WITH DISABILITY RIGHTS AND RESOURCES**

Gwynn Brown, with Disability Rights and Resources, came out with several residents of Shelby Woods Apartments to express their appreciation for the City painting the crosswalks and installing new signs to help raise awareness of their residents using the crosswalks. Mrs. Brown also stated that they would like to invite the Mayor, Council and workers of the City out for an appreciation luncheon in the very near future.

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

- **Streets and Maintenance** – Allen Reynolds was driving the Trolley for a tour group tonight. The Mayor and Council expressed their appreciation for the diligent work that he and his crew have been doing on the crosswalks.
- **Administration** – City Clerk Mark Frey reported that he had graduated from the Alabama Municipal Revenue Officers of Alabama training in Tuscaloosa last week and is now a Certified Municipal Revenue Officer. Mark briefly gave some of the topics from the training: Business License, SSUT, Tax Law, and Revenue Discovery training were some of the topics during last week's training.

Mark reported that 3 years ago, all employees were encouraged to participate in an annual municipal health screening. With everyone's participation, City employees enjoy a \$120 per year savings on their health insurance premium. He noted that the health insurance is increasing 6.5% again this year. Mark also noted that the City's workman's comp insurance premium has been cut substantially due to the implementation of a new safety program put in place 2 years ago.

- **Environmental Services** – Dale Lucas reported that his new guy didn't pass his Waste Water test. Chris is preparing to take his WW test again. There is some new equipment out at the plant that was provided for by the Council in the FY2017 budget. This new equipment will allow Dale and his guys to do much of the work themselves. This work would have to be contracted and he expects to see substantial savings by not having to hire contractors on several plant projects.

The construction company that broke the sewer main behind City Hall has brought a check by to cover the cost of the repairs done by the City. Dale and Dave are hoping to tackle 2 sewer projects this year with the help of an ADECA grant. The final smoke testing was done this past Sunday and plans are underway to correct improper storm water connections to the sewer.

- **Library** - Tom Rary reported that library numbers are in and there are 604 active library cards used last year with an average of 35 books per card. The library is getting an LSTA grant this year which will help replace some of the computers, scanners and other administrative equipment. There are many events this month including a Final Thursday Movie on the 27<sup>th</sup>. The 29<sup>th</sup> is a quilt walk and on the 31<sup>st</sup> they will be participating in the Monster Walk. Check [www.cityofcolumbiana.com](http://www.cityofcolumbiana.com) for a full list of library and other city events.

Mayor Handley thanked Tom for his efforts and especially for working on the grants. The Mayor also expressed the City's appreciation for the Friends of the Library group and the many events made possible by their contributions.

- **Police Department** – Chief Lamar Vick reported that his guys have been busy. The Police Department is in mourning due to the unexpected passing of Dispatcher, Wes Walker. The Chief said that Wes had worked for the City almost 13 years and he will be well missed. Wes passed away on Sunday and Chief Vick asked everyone to keep Michelle and Anika in their prayers. A memorial service is planned at Bethel Baptist Church at 11AM.

Mayor Handley asked anyone who is able to attend Wes’s memorial on Saturday – to make an effort to express our appreciation to Michelle for Wes’s many years of service to our City.

- **Fire Department** –Chief Johnny Howard Jr. said that some of the Knox Box materials have come in and they are his guys are working on that project. There have been quite a few brush fires in the last couple of weeks due to the drought. There is a no-burn order that has been put out by Governor Bentley. They have even seen fires started by fired ammunition and a bush hog.

Assistant Chief, Brett Ashworth, has been working on inspections and is doing a good job. Mayor Handley thanked Brett for coming out to Shelby Woods the other day. There was some discussion about the lack of effective communication with the apartments and the fact that some of the residents have changed their own locks out and the Fire Department is unable to get in without breaking down a door. The Director from Shelby Woods was at the Council meeting and she stated that she had one master key and that is what the PD and FD should have. After some discussion about these master keys and the Knox Box program, the Shelby Woods Director and Fire Chief will get together and insure that the FD have the proper key for the property.

**Marketing Report** – Elizabeth Smith reported on the many events that are happening in town through the end of the month. On the 29<sup>th</sup> is the guided Cemetery History Tour and on the 31<sup>st</sup> will be the annual Monster Walk program as well as the Baptist Church’s annual Fall Festival and Touch-a-Truck program. Council member Mayfield mentioned that the Methodist Church will also have a Fall Festival on the 31<sup>st</sup> as well.

Council member Mayfield introduced:

**RESOLUTION 10-16-05**  
**AMENDING THE FY2017 BUDGET TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES**

WHEREAS, the Columbiana City Council has approved a beginning budget for FY2017, and

WHEREAS, the Columbiana City Council has identified the need to provide funding for the salary line of the Court Fund which line item was unintentionally not included when the new budget was passed; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the City Council to approve a budget that is consistent with the revenue and expenditures reflecting their priorities for the City of Columbiana;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Columbiana that the City Council hereby amends the Fiscal Year 2017 budget to include the salary line in the Court system for \$14,500. This resolution also authorizes the City Clerk/Treasurer to transfer the funds from the General Fund Previous Year’s surplus to the Court Fund Salary line on the FY2017 budget in order to keep a balanced budget.

THEREUPON Council member King moved and Council member Whiting seconded the motion that said resolution be given vote, and said resolution passed by roll call vote of all members of the Council present, and the Mayor declared the same passed. Results of the vote:

	Yea	Nay		Yea	Nay
Council member Whiting	<u>X</u>	___	Council member Moore	<u>X</u>	___
Council member Ruston	<u>X</u>	___	Council member King	<u>X</u>	___
Council member Mayfield	<u>X</u>	___	Mayor Handley	<u>X</u>	___

Adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016.

**Discussion – Open Air Shuttles**

Mayor Handley discussed 2 8-person shuttles that were purchased for use at the American Village approximately 5 years ago. They are like new and have been stored, unused, for years. These units were purchased new for \$7500 each and are made to be pulled by a truck, tractor or side by side. The director indicated that they would possibly be willing to sell these both for \$7500 (half price). Hoover has similar units that are currently in use. These shuttles would be used for City events all during the year and could be run separately or hooked together. The Council asked the Mayor to get pictures and more information about these units and report back.

**Discussion – Park and Rec Board – Closing of Parks Overnight**

Council member Whiting said that there has been some vandalism and damage in the parks after hours. He and the P&R Board are looking at what can be done in order to give the Police Department the ability to police the parks at night and deter vandalism and improper use afterhours. Council asked the Board to order signs to try and deter overnight abuse.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

- None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- The Director from Shelby Woods asked, “When is the new Shoals Mill Village scheduled to open?” Mayor Handley said that he isn’t sure, but he sent someone over the other day to get on the list to be a resident. They were told that they are not taking any applications at this time due to the fact that they have already received 130 applications.

There being no further business, Council member Whiting moved that the meeting be adjourned which was seconded by Council member King. The motion passed by vote of all members of the Council present. Mayor Handley declared the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

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J. Mark Frey, City Clerk

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Stancel Handley, Mayor