

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA
April 21, 2020**

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. on Tuesday, April 21, 2020. Mayor Stancil Handley called the meeting to order and asked City Clerk, Charlene Tucker, 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
Council Member Ouida Mayfield
Mayor Stancil Handley

Absent:

None

The Mayor declared that a quorum was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes 4-7-20 Regular Council Meeting
- B. Approval of Check Registers for April 10 and April 17, 2020 Accounts Payable Batches

Council Member Mayfield made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, which was seconded by Council Member King and followed by a unanimous show of hands vote of all members present. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

- **Street** – Allen Reynolds reported that his department has been very busy picking up brush from homes and cutting grass. They have also been cleaning the cemetery.
- **Library** – Shelia Gallups reported that the Library has had a low volume of people coming to the library. She is submitting the grant for collection development for next year.
- **Police** – Chief Jeff Bowers reported that his department is making traffic stops that are for public safety. Their call volume has been low. Last week Detective Alexander, Officer Peavy and Sergeant Knighten investigated an incident on Mildred Street. Someone shot the window of a vehicle in a resident’s driveway with a bb gun and that person has been caught.
- **Fire** – Rodney Reed reported that the fire department had a few calls due to storm damage last week. There were several trees down. The storm shelters were open. The department checked temperatures before residents were allowed to enter and distributed masks and gloves. If a resident

had a temperature, they would have been directed to the back of the second storm shelter which had been partitioned off.

- **Environmental** – Dale Lucas reported that the classes that his employees were attending for their certification were cancelled and the test has been postponed.
- **Planning & Zoning** – Dale Lucas reported that the developer for Springs Crossing is waiting on the plat for Sector 2 to be recorded. After that, building will start and there will be 35 homes in that sector.
- **Admin** – Charlene Tucker reported that Columbiana’s Census response rate is 45.7%. This is from the online surveys that have been complete. Anyone needing help completing their survey can call City Hall. She is also getting information on FEMA grants for COVID-19 to reimbursement for expenses.
- **Senior Center** – Ali Payne reported that her department delivered 53 meals a day last week. These are delivered Monday through Friday. They are also calling and checking on the seniors and running errands for those in need.
- **Marketing** – Elizabeth Smith reported that Bubbles of Love was supposed to be on April 25 but has been postponed until May.

DISCUSSION – 5% APPRECIATION BONUS

Council discussed giving a 5% increase to a group of employees who have had contact with the public during COVID-19. This will be for two pay periods and will only be for employees that are more exposed. For this to be effective immediately, a resolution will need to be passed.

PROCLAMATION – 2020 MISS SHELBY COUNTY SHIANN HARPER

WHEREAS Shiann Harper was crowned the 2020 Miss Shelby County at the Miss Shelby County Pageant; and

WHEREAS Shiann Harper is a graduate of Gardendale High School with an Alabama High School Diploma with Academic Endorsement, a Summa Cum Laude graduate of Wallace State Community College with an Associate of Science, and is a graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham where she was a Biology Major and Chemistry Minor with a Pre-Dental Concentration; and

WHEREAS Shiann Harper continues to champion her social impact initiative – “Smile” – Instilling Confidence in Children through Preventive Dental Care; and performs a modern clogging routine; and

WHEREAS, Shiann Harper is a member of Phi Sigma Phi Biological Honor Society at UAB and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at Wallace State; and

WHEREAS Shiann Harper will be competing for the title of Miss Alabama representing Shelby County.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Stencil Handley, Mayor of the City of Columbiana, do hereby proclaim the City of Columbiana’s support of Shiann Harper as Miss Shelby County who is vying for the title of Miss Alabama 2020.

DISCUSSION – OTHER CITY BUSINESS

There will be a public hearing help for the USDA Rural Development application. Council Member Whiting made the motion to suspend the regular meeting and it was seconded by Council Member King. There was a roll call vote that was unanimous by all members present. Dale Lucas and Mayor Handley spoke in favor of and gave the details of the application. This is only for the application process. This is an application for sewer system improvements. This will relieve overflowing at the manhole in front of Piggly Wiggly and to provide sewer to failing septic tanks along Highway 25 and Old Highway 25. The loan and grant will come from USDA Rural Development. The grant may be 45% of funding requested. The loan interest rate is currently 1.875% for 40 years. The total amount being requested is \$3,869,625.00. The loan amount will be \$2,128,294.00 and the grant amount will be \$1,741,331.00. This will improve the sewer service for around 60 homes. No one spoke against the application. Council Member Mayfield made the motion to adjourn the public meeting and it was seconded by Council Member Whiting. There was a unanimous show of hands vote and Council returned to the regular council meeting.

MAYOR’S REPORT

The Mayor gave an update on Old Mill Square. Crews are working on the grounds, landscaping and the fountain.

RESOLUTION 04-20-03 WAS ADDED TO THE AGENDA

Council Member Mayfield introduced:

**RESOLUTION 04-20-03
COVID-19 5% HAZARD PAY INCREASE**

BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Columbiana, Alabama wishes to acknowledge employees that have increased exposure to COVID-19 while performing their job duties. These employees are in the police, fire, street/sanitation, sewer, court and senior center departments.

The City will increase their base pay (hourly rate) for regular hours only by 5% for the next two pay cycles.

A list of employees in these departments have been approved by Council and will be attached to this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Columbiana does adopt the above actions. The motion was made by Council Member Whiting and seconded by Council Member Mayfield and passed unanimously by a vote of the Council.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Ruston announced that the Park and Recreation Board is working on a back-up plan for children to play summer sports.

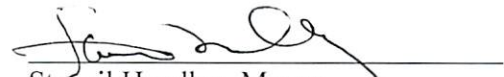
Frank Couch has contacted a company to make a banner with pictures of the seniors at Shelby County High School. The banner will go across Main Street and Council will have to make an exception in the sign ordinance for this.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Mayor was asked for an update on the chicken noise complaint on Looney Road. The complainant withdrew the complaint but some of the chickens have been moved.

There being no further business, Council Member King moved that the meeting be adjourned which was seconded by Council Member Ruston. The motion passed by vote of all members of the Council present. Mayor Handley declared the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.


Charlene Tucker, City Clerk


Stancil Handley, Mayor

