

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA
March 16, 2021**

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, March 16, 2021. Mayor David Mitchell called the meeting to order and asked City Clerk, Charlene Tucker, to call roll after the invocation and pledge.

Present:

Council Member Vickie Mizzell
Council Member Ricky Ruston
Council Member Kim King

Council Member Ashley Phillips
Mayor David Mitchell

Absent:

Council Member Karen Lilly

The Mayor declared that a quorum was present.

Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes 3-2-21 Regular Council Meeting

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

Department Head Reports

Police – Jeff Bowers reported the following:

- We currently have no on the job injuries
- We are currently on course with our 2021 budget
- Lance Brown starts Thursday to fill an open position for a fulltime dispatcher.
- New are on back order and should arrive by the end of March
- Flock camera to be installed by the end of March
- Training continues for 2021
- New flock camera to be installed to assist with investigations and apprehension of wanted persons. This is through Southern Company safety. Other municipalities uses this system. It takes pictures of tags and vehicles so law enforcement can look for specific vehicles or tags. Alabama Power pays for the poll and cameras and the city pays for the data. We can access other cameras in the area that are on the same system.
- Speeding continues to be an issue in several areas. Patrols are being increased with zero tolerance. This is mostly in residential areas and some ADECA grants will help with this. The mayor has also received speeding complaints on Highway 25 between Brown Lumber and the Animal Clinic.

Administration – Charlene Tucker reported the following:

- No reports of safety issues. Continue to clean/sanitize due to COVID-19.
- February 2021 budget – revenues are up and expenses are down.
- Fully staffed with 3 full time positions and 1 part time position.
- City Clerk attending certified revenue officer training in April and will be a Certified Revenue Officer after this training class.
- City Hall needs to be updated. No repairs are needed at this time.

Public Works – Allen Reynolds reported the following:

- No injuries during this fiscal year
- At this time our current budget is on track
- We are currently down two employees in sanitation and three employees in street
- We are in need of two ¾ ton pick-up trucks long wheelbase for the sanitation department
- Some of our equipment is in need of replacement and some are in need of repairs
- We have monthly training meetings
- We are in desperate need of a shop and office building to work on equipment
- The County has let the bid on our paving projects. We should have a good price on the cost of our paving by the first of April. Paving will be on North Main to the Water Board and up Mildred Street to the High School. Paving should start mid-summer or sooner.
- We applied for a paving grant through Rebuild Alabama and was not awarded any of the grant.
- There are electrical problems at Bolton field.

Court – Mike Atchison reported the following:

- There has been no lost time due to injuries or other safety issues. Court staff needs police officers at every court to insure everything runs smooth and for everyone's safety. Everything in court has been running smooth.
- We are on track with our budget
- Staffing is good
- No facility issues
- No vehicles for court
- Court equipment is up and running
- The next court will be held on March 23rd, 2021 @ 2:00pm
- The prosecutor and defense counsel are working well.
- Court has transferred all fine and court cost debts to the Municipal Intercept. We are hoping that by doing this early, we will get to collect more money this year. (Municipal Intercept is us taking some of our older cases and asking this program to help us collect our money by getting Alabama taxes.)
- We are still working on virtual hearings at the jail.

Board Reports

The Planning Commission met on March 11 and the Highpointe subdivision plat was approved. This is the subdivision on Highway 70 & 343 (Amos Mitchell Road). Highpointe will start pulling permits to start that subdivision.

Main Street Columbiana met on March 9. The City is in the process of hiring a Main Street Director. The Easter Bunny Tea was Saturday, March 13 and it raised \$1000.00. The Shelby County Schools Art Walk will be April 24 on Main Street. This will be from 10:00 am – 7:30 pm and will consist of art shows, choir and band performances. Joel Dixon is coordinating the Liberty Day 5k.

Saturday was opening day for youth baseball. The Recreation Board is happy that sporting events can take place this season. There will also be youth softball and football.

PROCLAMATION

Recognizing the week beginning March 21, 2021 as “National Safe Place Week”

Whereas the youth of Columbiana, Alabama will determine the future strength of our country and be the bearers of our democracy;

Whereas youth need a safe haven from various negative influences, such as child abuse, substance abuse, depression, and crime, and youth need readily available resources to assist them when faced with circumstances that compromise their safety;

Whereas the Safe Place program is committed to protecting the youth of Columbiana, Alabama by offering access to immediate help and safety for young people seeking assistance and guidance;

Whereas, designated locations where youth can get information and immediate help, Safe Place is found at businesses, such as restaurants, convenience stores, movie theaters, and community buildings such as fire stations, libraries and public transportation vehicles;

Whereas the success of Safe Place is based on public/private collaborations between businesses, school systems, fire departments, law enforcement, and a network of volunteers;

Whereas Columbiana, Alabama needs increased numbers of community volunteers serving as mentors and positive influences on young people;

Whereas the Safe Place program must meet performance standards, relative to outreach and community relations, to receive direct federal assistance as set forth in the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.);

Whereas more than 1,500 communities in 38 states administer the Safe Place program at more than 22,000 locations;

Whereas more than 359,000 youth have been helped at a Safe Place location or received counseling by phone as a result of Safe Place information received at school;

Whereas since program inception in 1983, more than 15 million youth have been educated through National Safe Place Network’s Safe Place outreach efforts, familiarizing them with the Safe Place sign and providing them with information about how to seek help in order to stay safe;

Whereas increased awareness will encourage more communities to establish Safe Place locations where youth can readily access the help they need. Now, therefore, be it

Now therefore be it resolved, that the City Council of the City of Columbiana, Alabama--

(1) Recognizes the week of March 21 through March 27, 2021, as “National Safe Place Week”; and

(2) Calls upon the people of Columbiana, Alabama and interested groups to--

- (A) Promote awareness of, and volunteer involvement in, the Safe Place program;
- and
- (B) Observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Council Member Lilly arrived at 6:30 pm.

Public Hearing – Re-Zoning Property at 201 Highway 47 South from R-2 to B-2

Council Member King made a motion to suspend the regular council meeting to go into a public hearing and Council Member Ruston seconded the motion. A roll call vote of yeas was unanimous by all members present.

No one spoke in favor of or against the rezoning request.

Council Member Ruston made a motion to adjourn the public hearing and Council Member Lilly seconded the motion. Council returned to the regular agenda.

Mayor Mitchell introduced:

ORDINANCE NO. 02-21-03

AN ORDINANCE REZONING PROPERTY FROM R-2 TO B-2

WHEREAS, the City of Columbiana has adopted a comprehensive zoning ordinance; and

WHEREAS, certain property located at 201 Highway 47 South, Columbiana, AL is currently owned by Randy and Susie Clements; and

WHEREAS, after holding a public hearing on the matter, the Columbiana Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended that, at the request of the property owner, this parcel be rezoned from the R-2 to B-2, subject to certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Columbiana City Council has held a public hearing on the Columbiana Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation and carefully considered the said recommendation and the comments thereon;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the zoning district boundaries be amended so as to rezone the following property from R-2 to B-2, and that such rezoning be reflected on the Zoning Map of the City of Columbiana:

Tax Parcel # 21 7 26 4 401 002.000

Provided, however, that such rezoning is subject to the following condition: Compliance with the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures of the City of Columbiana, and

Section. 2. That the city clerk be directed to publish or post this ordinance as required by law.

Council Member Ruston moved and Council Member Phillips seconded the motion that said ordinance be given vote, and said ordinance passed by unanimous show of hands vote by all members present.

Council Member King made a motion to suspend the rules and adopt the ordinance at the first reading. Council Member Ruston seconded and the motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote by all members present.

Discussion – Other City Business

None

Mayor's Report

- Debt Refunding Update: The Amendment 772 validation has been filed. We are waiting for hearing date.
- Virtual Meeting with Kenneth Boswell, Director, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA), was March 9. The discussion included economic development resources and the Opportunity Zones. Director Boswell will visit the city and there will be a follow-up meeting in July. Thank you to State Representative Corley Ellis for setting up this meeting.
- New Kontane Logistics facility is open in a portion of the old Vulcan Electro Coating facility. Kontane manufactures crating for automobile parts. There is currently 40 employees at this location.
- Shelby County Economic Development Forum is March 24 at Chelsea City Hall.

Announcements

- Wednesday, March 17th -COVID Vaccination Clinic at Old Mill Square Park.
- Thursday, March 18th -COVID Vaccination Clinic at Old Mill Square Park. Food Trucks: Smoke on Wheels and Frio
- Monday, 22nd – Friday 26th -Shelby County Schools Spring Break
- Thursday, 25th -COVID Vaccination Clinic at Old Mill Square Park
- Thursday, April 1st -COVID Vaccination Clinic at Old Mill Square Park
- Friday, April 2nd -Good Friday, City offices closed. No garbage pickup
- Monday, April 5th -6:00 Beautification Board Meeting
- Saturday, April 24th -Art Walk in Columbiana
- Every Tuesday at 9:00 am, Shelby County's web-site has appointments for COVID vaccines.

Public Comments

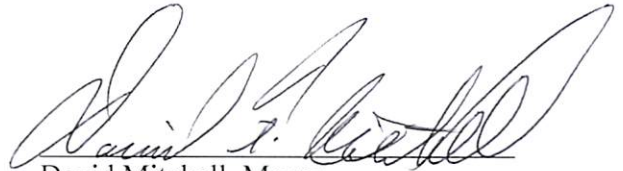
Lou Rouviere thanked the city for the signs at the crosswalk at Jacks. The mayor stated that those signs have been up but they are not at eye level and the crosswalk needs to be painted.

Susan Conn wanted everyone to know that the Birmingham/Tuscaloosa Kennel Club Dog Show will be at the Exhibition Center on April 8-11 from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm. This brings in around 2000 people into the city.

There being no further business, Council Member Ruston moved that the meeting be adjourned which was seconded by Council Member Mizzell. The motion passed by vote of all members of the Council present. Mayor Mitchell declared the meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.



Charlene Tucker, City Clerk



David Mitchell, Mayor

