



City of Clay

P.O. Box 345
Clay, Al 35048-0345

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES February 1, 2016

The City Council of the City of Clay met in regular session on Monday, February 1, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. at Clay City Hall. Mayor Webster presided over the meeting and City Manager Ronnie Dixon, served as recorder.

Mayor Webster called the meeting to order, opened in prayer, and led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of those present was answered by the following:

Councilor Baker, Councilor Becky Johnson, Councilor Bo Johnson, Councilor Small, Councilor Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Absent: None

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve the Pre and Regular Council meeting minutes of January 19, 2016.

Councilor Bo Johnson made a motion to approve the Pre and Regular Council meeting minutes of January 19, 2016, which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve tonight's Meeting Agenda. Councilor Bo Johnson requested to add Mr. Doug Sanders under his time and Councilor Becky Johnson asked to add Ms. Rebecca Ferguson, Ms. Felecia Willingham, and Dr. Sharon Gallant to her portion.

Councilor Baker made a motion to approve tonight's amended Meeting Agenda, which was seconded by Councilor Small and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve tonight's Consent Agenda.

Councilor Bo Johnson made a motion to approve tonight's Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Councilor Small. The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.

Nays: None

Under **Mayor and Council Comments**, **Mayor Webster** presented the Council with the plans for the Clay Chalkville High School sign.

Councilor Baker reported that the Public Safety Committee is interested in starting a Community Watch Program and asked for contact information for Neighborhood Associations' and Homeowner Associations' Presidents. Councilor Baker would like to set up a meeting with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office to discuss safety cameras. Councilor also asked for contact information of Sgt. Pennington to invite him to the next Public Safety meeting.

Councilor Becky Johnson informed everyone that the School Committee needs volunteers for the reading program at Clay and Chalkville Elementary Schools. Councilor Johnson



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recognized Ms. Felecia Willingham who brought student ambassadors to observe the City Council meeting. Councilor Becky Johnson asked if any of the ambassadors would like to speak and Ms. Keira Briggs, Vice President of the Student Ambassador Program, thanked the Council for letting them observe. Councilor Johnson introduced Ms. Ferguson, a fourth grade teacher at Clay Elementary School, who thanked the Council for awarding her class the monthly grant which will be used for technology upgrades in the classroom. Councilor Johnson then asked Ms. Linda Plummer for a report from the Senior Center, who reported that the February calendar is on the website.

Councilor Bo Johnson informed the Council that there are three businesses looking into moving into Clay and that Auto Zone has begun demolition. Councilor Bo Johnson recognized Mr. Doug Sanders, Clay Chalkville High School softball booster club president. Mr. Sanders presented the Council with a list of upgrades the booster club would like to request for the softball fields. He thanked the City for their part in erecting an outfield fence for the softball field as well as the grass maintenance. The Council discussed the field conditions and softball schedule.

Councilor Small made a motion to allocate \$5,000.00 for immediate needs for the softball field upgrades which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson. The Council and Coach Robo discussed the immediate needs.

Councilor Small amended his previous motion to spend up to \$5,000.00 for sand and light repairs for the softball field upgrades which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Councilor Small reviewed the Library's evaluation from the Alabama Public Library Services and announced that the Library will begin opening on Wednesdays from 10 am until 7 pm. Councilor Small called on Mr. Steve Ostaseski of 5583 Summit Pointe. Mr. Ostaseski reviewed a 10 step methodology for inspection roadway conditions. Councilor Thackerson asked if we could assess street signs at the same time. Mr. Ostaseski answered affirmatively. Councilor Small asked if storm covers could be included. Mr. Ostaseski responded that it would be possible if the County has GIS maps prepared. Councilor Small would like to discuss at the next meeting.

Councilor Thackerson asked for an update on clearing for additional trails below the dam at Cosby Lake. Mayor Webster answered that he has spoken with Danny Garret and is waiting for permission from Wendy Jackson and will begin when they have permission and the work schedule for Public Works permits.

Under **Reading of Petitions, Applications, Complaints, Appeals, Communications, etc.**, Mayor Webster announced that there were none.

Under the **City Manager's Report**, Mr. Dixon thanked Public Works Director Josh Isbell and employee Chase Epps for their mechanic work on the City's dump truck which saved thousands of dollars. He reported that demolition has begun at Bryant Park.



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Mr. Dixon reported the account balances in the General Fund = \$527,921.41; Contractors Bond = \$190,766.80; Capital Improvement Fund = \$434,237.48; 4 & 5 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$166,139.24; 7 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$91,357.33; Road Project Fund = \$325,000.00; Contingency Fund = \$750,000.00; BBT Fund = \$75,463.84; Ballpark Revenue = \$18,876.75; and Ballpark Expense = (\$22,736.38).

Under the **Public Hearing**, Mayor Webster introduced Z-2016-01, rezoning the property located at 2354 Old Springville Road to Conditional Zone. Mr. Dixon explained that this property will be used for a tow lot and has been recommended for approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mayor Webster asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak for or against this and there was no response.

Councilor Becky Johnson made a motion to approve Z-2016-01, rezoning the property located at 2354 Old Springville Road to Conditional Zone with the 15 foot side setbacks for the purpose of a tow lot, which was seconded by Councilor Small. The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Under **Resolutions, Ordinances, Orders and Other Business** Mayor Webster called for a motion to enter into Unanimous Consent.

Councilor Small made a motion to suspend the regular rules of order and enter into Unanimous Consent, which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson. The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Ordinance 2016-03, An Ordinance Establishing Voting and Polling Places for all Municipal Elections in the City of Clay, Alabama, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

Councilor Small made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016-03, which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson. The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2016-04, A Resolution Releasing Lien at 6191 Canterbury Road, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

Councilor Small made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-04, which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson. The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.

Nays: None



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Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2016-05, A Resolution Releasing Lien at 6231 Canterbury Road, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

Councilor Bo Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-05, which was seconded by Councilor Small.

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2016-06, A Resolution Releasing Lien at 6241 Canterbury Road, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

Councilor Bo Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-06, which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson. The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.

Nays: None

Mayor Webster called an end to Unanimous Consent and called for **Public Comments** and recognized Mr. Joe Gilliland of 5544 Brewer Lane. Mr. Gilliland asked the City to give money to Chalkville Elementary School. Mayor Webster answered that the school is located outside of the city limits. Mr. Gilliland answered that there are 200 students who live in the City who attend Chalkville Elementary and half of the kids who attend Clay Elementary, Clay Chalkville Middle and Clay Chalkville High Schools don't live in the city limits. Mayor Webster reiterated that the City cannot give money to a school outside of the city limits and that redistricting should solve that issue.

Mayor Webster recognized Mr. Andy Driggers of 5517 Garden Valley Lane. Mr. Driggers volunteered to be a polling place official and as such requested electronic voting machine training in February. Mr. Dixon thanked him and informed him that the City is waiting for authorization to use the County's voting machines. Until the County Commission votes, the City does not know which voting machines it will use. Mr. Dixon stated that he does not know of a reason Mr. Driggers cannot attend training, but the City does not officially know that the County will approve the City's use of the new machines.

Mayor Webster recognized Mr. Steve Ostaseski of 5583 Summit Pointe. Mr. Ostaseski requested that the City put the budget and financial information on the website. Mr. Dixon answered that the website is a work in progress and financial information will be available on the website soon. Mr. Ostaseski questioned the Council's reasoning for not giving money to Chalkville Elementary School. He stated that he does not know any law prohibiting a city from donating funds to a school not located within the city limits. Mr. Ostaseski suggested that Councilor Baker look at using the website nextdoor for the neighborhood watch.

Mayor Webster announced that the next City Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 16, 2016.



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Councilor Thackerson asked for an update on paving. Mr. Dixon answered that 18 or 19 streets with potholes have been patched over the last few weeks and the streets will be paved once weather cooperates.

Councilor Small made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson and approved by a unanimous vote.

The City Council adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronnie Dixon
City Manager