

CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF PIEDMONT
OCTOBER 16TH, 2012
5:30 PM

The City Council of the City of Piedmont met in regular session at the time and on the date above. Present were Mayor Brian Young, Council Members John Lawrence, Mary Bramblett, Ed Hanson, Kenny Kelley, Diane Studdard, Billy Baker and Brent Morrison.

Mayor Young declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

Following the invocation and the pledge of allegiance to the flag the minutes were presented for consideration. Billy Baker made the motion to approve the minutes from the October 2nd, 2012 regular meeting. Mary Bramblett seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously. Billy Baker then made the motion to approve the minutes from the October 15th, 2012 special meeting to canvass the votes for the 2012 Run-Off Election. Diane Studdard seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The bills totaling \$700,219.85 were then presented for consideration for payment. Ed Hanson made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment unanimously.

The Mayor then made his nomination for the appointment for the Piedmont Housing Authority Board for the remainder of Terry Kiser's term who was elected to the Piedmont City Council. The Mayor nominated Mac Singleton to fill the vacancy for the Piedmont Housing Authority. With no objections from the council Mac Singleton was appointed to the board.

Next on the agenda Keith Word thanked the Mayor and council for putting good board members on the housing authority board through the years and he also thanked the city employees for the help they had given him in the past. He said he enjoyed working with everyone.

The Mayor then read a proclamation for Red Ribbon Week.

Next the Mayor asked for council comments.

John Lawrence said he enjoyed the 20 years on the council and the fellowship and friendships he had made over the years. He said he also appreciated the citizens of Piedmont for their support over the years.

Mary Bramblett said it was a sad night in one way by losing council members that she had worked with for 20 years but in another way she was looking forward to four years of progress with the new council. She also asked that everyone remember Jeff Rader and his family in prayer due to the sickness of his daughter.

Ed Hanson said he had enjoyed his 16 years on the council and thanked Mayor Young for all he had done for the City of Piedmont. He also mentioned Commissioner Rudy Abbott and the late Lee Fite and thanked them for all they had done for Piedmont. He thanked the city workers and his council family. Kenny Kelley said he was thankful to be re-elected for another four years and that he was looking forward to working with the new council but would miss the ones that were not going to be back

because they were like family. He thanked City Clerk Michelle Franklin for always answering any questions that he may have had and he also thanked Mayor Brian Young for all he had done and accomplished for the City of Piedmont.

Diane Studdard said she really enjoyed being on the council and had learned a lot in her short term. She said that she felt that she had ran a clean campaign and that she had no regrets and thanked everyone that supported her and wished good luck to the new Mayor and council.

Billy Baker said he had been on the council for 21 years and said it had been an honor to serve with all the Mayors and council members over the years. He said he had great respect for Mayor Young and all he had accomplished for Piedmont. He also thanked City Clerk Michelle Franklin for doing a good job for the last four years. He said it had been an honor, joy and privilege to work with everyone and looks forward to the new members coming on board.

Brent Morrison said he stands behind all the decisions he had made on the council and that the new council will have to stand behind the decisions that they make as well. He said he has enjoyed the last four years and that it was totally different from the 25 years he spent as city clerk and administrator because on the council you have to make the tough decisions whereas as city clerk those decisions are not yours to make. He said he had great respect for Mayor Young because of the care and dedication that he has shown to the City of Piedmont. He said he enjoyed working with all the council and the city clerk and hoped that the new administration would continue to progress.

Mayor Brian Young said that he is aware that a lot of people didn't want to help improve the facilities at the school but he said that Piedmont kids are winners and deserve the best and that if anyone doesn't like what was done at the school to blame him because he would take the blame and take it with pride. He said if you want to make Piedmont a better place then go home and look in the mirror because that's the only person that is going to make it better. He said he feels that his administration had accomplished a lot during the four years, for example, a new business coming into the fifth Avenue plant by the end of the year, the AG building and the storm shelter was under construction in the previous administration and it was finished during this administration, the Benevolence Center opened and the Alzheimer unit opened at the Piedmont Health Care, the airport has been improved with adding an FBO office with the help of Centre and Cherokee County, the new aquatic center is under construction, added two water wells that will be up and running in the near future, added an internet system, returned the refuge back to the city. The Dollar General opened a larger store in the city which in turn provided more revenue. He said the city bills were paid. He said that he and the council concentrated on the school system a good bit and the school system was growing and adding students. The school was awarded a National Blue Ribbon recognition that was awarded to very few schools. The schools received the Apple Distinguished Award. He also stated that this administration lowered the utility rates lower than what they were in the previous administration. He thanked City Clerk Michelle Franklin for always being honest with him during the four years and he also thanked all the city employees for their hard work and dedication to the city. He thanked the city council for being truthful with him. He thanked his wife and family for standing by him for the last four years. He said he loved Piedmont and wanted to see it continue to grow and prosper.

With no other business to come before the council Brent Morrison made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Diane Studdard seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:13 pm.