

CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF PIEDMONT
NOVEMBER 20TH, 2012
6:00 PM

The City Council of the City of Piedmont met in regular session at the time and on the date above. Present were Mayor Rick Freeman, Council Members Ben Keller, Mary Bramblett, Frank Cobb, Kenny Kelley, Brenda Spears, Billy Baker and Terry Kiser.

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

Following the invocation given by Rev. David Paslay 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 16th, 2012 meeting and also the November 5th, 2012 Organizational Meeting. Frank Cobb seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The bills totaling \$492,870.02 were then presented for consideration for payment. Mary Bramblett made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the bills were approved with one abstention from Frank Cobb.

Mayor Freeman read two Proclamations one proclaiming the week of November 16 through November 22, 2012 as National Farm-City Week and the other proclaiming February 27, 2013 as Arbor Day for the City of Piedmont.

The Mayor asked for a motion to accept the council committees for the newly elected council members. The committees will consist of one council member being the chairperson over the committee and two other council members to serve on the committee. Terry Kiser made the motion to accept the council committees. Frank Cobb seconded the motion and the council committees were accepted unanimously.

Next the Mayor called on Chief Tidwell to give the police report for the month of October 2012. Officers had a total of 778 contacts with the public, 4 felony arrests, 28 misdemeanor arrests, 1 DUI, 4 Drug arrests, 3 theft arrests, 10 court arrests, 36 UTC's, 6 accident reports, 37 motorist assists, 3 violent crimes reported, 6 burglaries reported, 17 thefts reports, 66 cases investigated and 79 incident reports. The Piedmont Rescue Squad had 226 calls dispatched and the Piedmont Fire Department had 15 fire calls dispatched. The Piedmont Municipal Court collected \$10,431.95 in court fines for the month of October.

In other business the Mayor asked for a motion to have two trees cut down at 404 and 406 South Main Street and to allow B & H Tree Service to cut the trees and remove them at the cost of \$6,000.00. Billy Baker made the motion to have B & H Tree Service to cut and remove the trees for \$6,000.00. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor asked for a motion to stop the installation of a pool heater at the new aquatics center which would cost \$14,000.00 to heat the pool in the winter months and to use the money in another area of the aquatics center. Kenny Kelley made the motion to stop the installation of the pool heater. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next the Mayor asked for a motion to sign an agreement with the Piedmont Housing Authority which would allow the City of Piedmont to take over the maintenance of the Piedmont Housing Authority's gas system. Frank Cobb made the motion to accept the agreement with the Piedmont Housing Authority for the city to maintain the housing authority gas system. Mary Bramblett seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor then asked for a motion to repair the roof at the Piedmont Fire and Municipal Court Building that has been leaking for years and to accept the bid from Jerry's Roofing, Inc. in the amount of \$5,650.00. Billy Baker made the motion to accept the bid from Jerry's Roofing in the amount of \$5,650.00 to repair the roof. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. The Mayor asked for a motion to purchase used workout equipment for a women's workout program at the civic center in the amount of \$7,500.00. Mary Bramblett made the motion to purchase the equipment for the women's workout for \$7,500.00. Billy Baker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

In visitor's comments Charlotte Adderhold asked that the council speak into their microphones so they could be heard in the audience. Thomas Bragg asked if he could give each member of the council a binder at the end of the meeting with information that would be very vital on a personal level and as leaders of the city. Danny Freeman informed everyone of the Christmas Festival that would begin

December 15th at 10:00 am with crafts, food, Santa Claus, Carolers and ending with a parade starting at the Piedmont Armory and ending at the Clyde Pike Civic Center. He also said the next meeting of the Christmas Committee would be on Thursday November 29th, at 5:00 pm at the Solid Rock.

In council reports Ben Keller said that he had some trees on Haslam Street in the power lines and on Caldwell Street that the electrical department needed to address.

Mary Bramblett said she wanted to thank everyone that took part in the swearing in ceremony and also thanked Misty and Judy Freeman for catering the reception that followed the meeting. She thanked the 5th graders at Piedmont Elementary School and also the Piedmont Nursing Home for putting on a great Veteran's Day Program. She also thanked Danny Freeman for all the work that him and the other business people do for the downtown. She said that she had some ditches in her district that needed cleaning out and the leaves need to be picked up. She said that she also had signs that needed to be replaced in her district.

Frank Cobb thanked the city employees for all their hard work. He said that the city needed to look at the utility infrastructure on all the utilities because there would be some issues with this in the future that needed to be addressed and that the city owned all of its utilities and we needed to keep them up and not let them fall apart. He said he met with Utility Manager Lee Young and the engineer and asked them to come up with some kind of program to start fixing the problems.

Kenny Kelley thanked Rev. David Paslay for coming to the meeting and giving the invocation. He said that every sign that he has put up in his district are stolen and asked that if anyone sees somebody stealing signs to please contact the police department and file a report. He said that he worked at the Benevolence Center the past Saturday and they gave out over 300 boxes to help the needy.

Brenda Spears said that the residents that live on the back alley of Ray Street have requested that the alley be paved because that is the only entrance to their home. She said everybody desires to have a paved road to their home. She also said a family that lives on South Fifth Ave below the water tower told her that every time it comes a hard rain the water rushes down and floods their yard so the drain needs to be kept clean and something needs to be done behind New Beginnings Church if that is where the problem originates. She said she had made two business contacts one at Bonnie Ray's Bake Shop on McClellan Blvd. and Jilly Beans Cupcakes on the square in Jacksonville and both informed her that they could not look at putting a location in Piedmont until the first of the year. She said that the city needed to be responsible spenders of the city's money. She also said that she would like to give thanks to all the military men and women all over the world for our freedoms.

Billy Baker announced a ½ marathon on December 1st beginning at 8:00 am starting at the Piedmont Welcome Center and ending in Jacksonville and to speak with someone at the Park and Recreation to get registered. He thanked Danny Freeman for his leadership role and what he is doing for the downtown area. He said that he has Angie Maddox and Susan Adderhold as the two he picked for the abatement committee from his district. He recognized the Youth Leadership students that attended the meeting from Spring Garden and said he appreciated them being present at the meeting. He congratulated the Piedmont Bulldogs and the Spring Garden Panthers for making it the second round of playoffs. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Terry Kiser thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He said that a resident on Highway 9 South had brought him a sample of his drinking water and it was brown. He asked that something be done to correct this problem because no one that lives in the city limits of Piedmont should have to drink water in this condition. He also thanked the Mayor for getting the roof fixed at the Piedmont Fire Station.

In Mayor's comments Mayor Freeman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and he also thanked the band members that attended the swearing in ceremony. He said that there may have been some money spent at the meeting tonight but that he was going to take care of the personnel by making the necessary improvements to the buildings. He said in the past money had been spent in other places but that we were going to take care of the personnel and citizens now. He thanked the council for the work that they have been doing and said that they care about our city. He thanked Ms. Bramblett for going out and looking for business. He said he appreciates everyone that has been involved in the downtown events and that it feels like we are getting a positive feeling back in the town. He said that the council was about to get serious about abatement and get the town cleaned up. He said he was going to take care of the town and that he was very proud of Piedmont. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and asked everyone to remember our troops.

With no other business to come before the council Billy Baker made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Frank Cobb seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.