

CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF PIEDMONT
NOVEMBER 4TH, 2014
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 Bill Baker, Council Members Ben Keller, Frank Cobb, Kenny Kelley, Brenda Spears, Mark Harper and Terry Kiser.

Mary Bramblett was absent from the meeting.

Following the invocation given by Frank Cobb and the pledge of allegiance to the flag the minutes were presented for consideration. Terry Kiser made the motion that the minutes be approved as presented. Frank Cobb seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The bills totaling \$212,025.68 were then presented for consideration for payment. Frank Cobb made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the bills were approved with one abstention by Brenda Spears.

Mayor Baker then read a Proclamation for HOSA week for future health professionals which designates November 2-8, 2014 as National HOSA Week at Piedmont High School.

Next Terry Kiser made a motion to adopt Resolution 2014-13 which is an abatement to have 508 Church St. and 403 5th Ave. torn down and removed. Ben Keller seconded the motion and Resolution 2014-13 was adopted unanimously.

Mayor Baker asked for consideration of Ordinance #601 for a sales tax increase of one cent. Terry Kiser made the motion to adopt Ordinance #601. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the City Clerk for a roll call and the vote was as follows:

<u>YEAS</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Kenny Kelley	Brenda Spears	None
Ben Keller	Frank Cobb	
Mark Harper		
Terry Kiser		

Following the roll call the vote was 4 for and 2 against the one cent sales tax increase.

Mayor Baker then asked for consideration of Ordinance #602 for an increase of one cent on the use tax. Terry Kiser made the motion to adopt Ordinance #602. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the City Clerk for a roll call and the vote was as follows:

<u>YEAS</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Kenny Kelley	Brenda Spears	None
Ben Keller	Frank Cobb	
Mark Harper		
Terry Kiser		

Following the roll call the vote was 4 for and 2 against the one cent use tax increase.

Terry Kiser made the motion to make January 1, 2015 the effective date for the sales tax increase. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

In Other Business Terry Kiser made the motion to allow the Interim Police Chief Norton to purchase a drug take back box for old prescription drugs out of the crime prevention account. The amount of the box would be \$695.00. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Terry Kiser also asked for an update on the RV Park at the sports complex. The Mayor stated that he had met with Commissioner Rudy Abbott and that he was waiting for the equipment needed for the project to become available.

Mark Harper asked that the Park and Recreation Department come up with a list of pros and cons on whether or not the city should run the concession stand or contract it out.

Next Frank Cobb made a motion to make the council exempt from voting on the city's health insurance. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the motion carried with one abstention by Terry Kiser.

In Council Reports Ben Keller said that a speed limit sign was needed on Church St. close to the house that burned.

Frank Cobb said he was getting some complaints from Shady Grove Road and asked that the police be more present in that area.

Kenny Kelley said he was getting complaints from Burns Subdivision about the garbage truck crushing the drain pipes.

Brenda Spears council comments: The bills for payment for November 4 were \$212,025.68 with the October 24 and October 31 payroll and taxes adding up to a total of \$125,014.77. The total for bills of payment and payroll and taxes come to \$337,040.45 for tonight's council.

Under "Invoices" for the October 7 and October 21 Council Meetings, the phones, cell phones, air cards, with Charter and AT&T and Verizon came to almost \$7,900. This would be a yearly cost of \$94,000 JUST for phones and cell phone services. There were 2 payments to Charter, 4 payments to AT&T and 1 to Verizon for this \$7,900 amount. I would like to work on a committee to look into reducing the phones and cell phone coverage as a cost-saving measure for this new fiscal budget. Bundle a strong package with one provider. Have Charter and AT&T and Verizon be competitive for Piedmont's services. And, why would the city pay for the Aquatic Center to have a cell phone there during the closed season at \$81.06 per month?

I have received many calls concerning the still broken fire hydrants inside the city limits. It has been over a year and many residents are unhappy with the city spending money for other projects and not fixing these broken fire hydrants in their neighborhoods. I hope this will be a top priority for the Mayor and Council.

For the City of Piedmont's Utility billing, I want to have the "Other Tax" identified as what it specifically is for. Other Tax is not transparent.

Mark Harper said that the street department did a good job cleaning up Dailey Street.

Terry Kiser thanked Lee Young for giving a donation to the Police Department.

In the Mayor's Comments the Mayor thanked Terry Kiser and everyone that participated in the Downtown Trick or Treat. He announced that there would be a Veterans Day Program at the Piedmont Elementary Cafeteria at 9:00 am on November 10th, 2014.

With no other business to come before the Council Terry Kiser made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.