

CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF PIEDMONT

APRIL 1ST, 2014

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, Mary Bramblett, Frank Cobb, Brenda Spears, Mark Harper and Terry Kiser.

Following the invocation given by Rev. Matt Turner and the pledge of allegiance to the flag the minutes were presented for consideration. Mary Bramblett made the motion that the minutes be approved as presented. Frank Cobb seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The bills totaling \$341,084.36 were then presented for consideration for payment. Frank Cobb made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried with one "no" vote from Brenda Spears.

Next on the agenda the Mayor re-appointed Ms. Kelly Rampy back to the Piedmont Housing Authority Board to serve another term.

Tracy Jones with Air Method, a helicopter ambulance service gave the Council information on the services they provide. She said that for an individual to use the helicopter service the cost would be \$44.95 for the year and a group would be \$54.95.

Mary Bramblett made the motion for Fire Chief Mike Ledbetter to start the bid process to replace the air packs that have malfunctioned. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Park and Recreation Director Jeff Formby presented the Council with the new Aquatic Pool fees and the schedule and also the fees for all sports registrations and Civic Center fees. He also announced opening day of baseball and softball on April 5th, 2014 and the Foothills Race on April 6th, 2014.

In Other Business Terry Kiser announced that the Budget Committee would meet on Thursday April 3rd at 6:00 pm.

Brenda Spears said that Matt Wade with the Calhoun County Community Watch and the Host of Alabama's Most Wanted will be at the April 15th, 2014 Council Meeting to discuss neighborhood watch. Mark Harper said that the budget meeting would be about saving money and not cutting.

In Council Reports Ben Keller said it made him feel good to see the kids playing on the new ball field at the Bethune Center.

Mary Bramblett also announced the Budget Committee Meeting on Thursday, April 3rd, 2014. She also said that the hole across from the Piedmont Middle School needed to be repaired and a busted pipe needed to be repaired on Alabama and 3rd Street.

Frank Cobb said the pumping station on James St. was running and not shutting off and it had a bad odor coming from it.

Kenny Kelley thanked Ricky Jackson, Officer Shannon Kelly and the Mayor for helping him with an abatement problem in his district.

Brenda Spears council comments: The total bills for payment tonight are \$457,686.24. For April 1, 2014, the bills for payment totaled \$341,084.36 with payroll and taxes for the week of March 21 was \$73,429.28 and for the week of March 28 payroll and taxes was \$43,172.60. These three added together make the total at \$457,686.24.

The Piedmont Foothills Road Races have had very little publicity, but the races are scheduled for this Sunday, April 6 starting at 9 AM from the Clyde Pike Civic Center at 500 Mill Street. Ms. Marilyn Cullinane is the Director of Planning for these Foothills Races. This race attracts over 200 + bikers with a cash purse of several thousand dollars and merchandise. Come out and let the riders know that Piedmont supports them.

The American Red Cross is sponsoring a Blood Drive with Piedmont High School at the campus on Wednesday, April 16 from 10 AM to 2 PM.

JSU is conducting an ETHICS and the PUBLIC OFFICIAL session on Wednesday, May 28, 2014 from 1-4 PM at the Anniston City Meeting Center. This class is open to the public but is relevant to city and county employees and elected officials having responsibility for expenditure of public funds. The cost is \$20.00 per person and each participant must be registered.

With the city's financial conditions being discussed openly, I hope that all council members will focus on T.E.A.M. = Together Everyone Achieves More.

Mark Harper asked that the utility departments bring a list of things they need to upgrade the utilities.

Terry Kiser asked Fire Chief Ledbetter to do his monthly report.

Chief Ledbetter reported that in February 2014 the fire department had 2 structure fires, 3 grass/woods fires, 1 hazmat call, 2 ambulance assists, 2 vehicle accidents, 1 automatic alarm, 4 service calls and 6 burn permits were issued.

In the Mayor's comments the Mayor announced opening day of baseball and softball on April 5 and the Foothills Race on April 6. He also announced the opening of Gregersons Cash Saver.

The Mayor asked the Council for a motion to allow Carl Hinton to look at the possibility of resending an undeveloped piece of property on 208 Calhoun Street.

Terry Kiser made the motion to allow Carl Hinton to look into this matter. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

With no other business to come before the Council Ben Keller made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.