

CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF PIEDMONT

APRIL 21, 2015

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

Following the invocation given by Mr. Keith Word 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. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The bills totaling \$495,063.11 were then presented for consideration for payment. Terry Kiser made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment with one "no" vote by Brenda Spears.

Next on the agenda Dave Bechtel with Utility Engineering explained to the council about the improvements to the water plant and also the need for the well to be developed at the sports complex which would be a backup source of water for the filter plant. After much discussion by the council Mark Harper made the motion to add the \$400,000.00 to add the well. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the Clerk for a roll call vote and the vote was as follows:

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

Following the roll call a vote of 5 yeas and 2 nays the motion carried to add the well.

The Mayor then called on Chief Norton to give the police report for the month of March 2015. Officers had 2215 total contacts with the public. There were 4 felony arrests, 46 misdemeanor arrests, 3 drug arrests, 9 crime against persons arrests, 2 theft arrests, and 20 court/warrant arrests. There were 89 citations written, 14 accident reports and 24 motorist assists. 14 violent crimes reported, 7 burglaries, 19 thefts reported, 117 new cases investigated and 117 incident/arrest reports. The Piedmont Municipal Court collected \$16,063.03 in fines for the month of March 2015.

The Chief then gave the Nuisance and Abatement Report for March 2015. There were 24 total cases, 1 new house case, 10 cases being processed, 4 cases with second notice sent and 2 cases completed. The Chief also gave the Piedmont Animal Control report for the month of March 2015. There were 43 calls for service, 1 preliminary investigation, 1 follow-up investigation, 63 animals picked up, 3 animals returned to owner by ACO, 60 animals took to the shelter, 27 strays, 33 surrendered by owner and 3 reclaimed at shelter by owner.

The Mayor then called on Chief Ledbetter to give the fire report for the month of March 2015. There were 3 structure fires, 3 automatic alarms, 1 false alarm, 5 ambulance assist, 6 vehicle accidents, 5 service calls, 1 hazardous materials call, 4 grass fires and 10 burn permits issued. The Chief then asked for permission to purchase two thermal imagers for the fire department with \$10,000.00 of the money coming from grant money and \$4,000.00 coming out of fire tax. Mary Bramblett made the motion to allow Chief Ledbetter to purchase the thermal imagers. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

In Other Business Jeff Formby informed the Council that Brain Freeze was the only bid turned in for the Aquatic Center Concession Stand. The bid was for 40/60 split of sales. Brenda Spears made the motion to award the bid to Brain Freeze. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the Clerk for a roll call vote and the vote was as follows:

<u>YEAS</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Ben Keller	none	Mary Bramblett
Frank Cobb		
Kenny Kelley		
Brenda Spears		

Mark Harper  
Terry Kiser

Following the roll of 6 yeas and 1 abstention the bid was awarded to Brain Freeze.

Next Terry Kiser made the motion to allow the Water and Gas Department to purchase a new John Deere 2950 M with 60" Deck, full suspension seat and 27 hp Kawasaki engine for \$8,598.00. Frank Cobb seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next Chief Norton informed the Council that the Country Corner applied for a beer and wine license with the ABC Board and that the owners had passed the necessary background checks. Terry Kiser made the motion to approve the beer and wine license. Frank Cobb seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mark Harper then informed the Council that Commissioner Lee Patterson had formed a new Piedmont Advisory Council that would help promote business in the City of Piedmont. The board will consist of 9 members and shall be a six year term.

Brenda Spears made the motion to resend the motion from the previous meeting that would allow the Mayor to make two new hires for the Street Department and the Utility Office. With no one seconding the motion the motion dies.

In Council Reports Ben Keller had no report.

Mary Bramblett thanked the Street and Abatement for tearing the house down on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. She also thanked the Police Department for patrolling more in that area. She said Crystal Bonner had opened up a business in Piedmont and she wishes her well.

Frank Cobb said he had some abatement issues on Taylor Street.

Kenny Kelley thanked Engineer Dave Bechtel for coming to the meeting.

Brenda Spears Council Comments:

The Bills for Payment for Tonight, April 21, 2015, is \$451,605.99. Payroll and taxes for April 10 and April 17 is \$111,011.30. The total for tonight's council approval is \$660,573.25. The council's total approval for April is \$1,223,190.60.

Saturday, May 9, 2015 is the annual America's Letter Carriers Delivering HOPE. It is easy to help:

1. Collect and bag non-perishable food items.
2. Place by mailbox for your letter carrier to deliver to the Piedmont Benevolence Center.
3. Help us Stamp Out Hunger. Spread the Word.

I want to thank Jeff Formby, Ricky Jackson and Casey Ponder for addressing the work orders turned in. The Council simply cannot as a city government continue to add to our fixed debt and expect to stay solvent.

Mark Harper no report.

Terry Kiser thanked the Street Department for tearing down a house.

In the Mayor's Comments the Mayor said the Farmers and Merchants Bank had their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and it was very nice and he thanked them for their service to Piedmont.

With no other business to come before the Council Terry Kiser made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.