

CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF PIEDMONT

JUNE 2, 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 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. Mary Bramblett seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The bills totaling \$261,377.22 were then presented for consideration for payment. Kenny Kelley made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Frank Cobb seconded the motion the motion carried with one abstention by Brenda Spears.

Dan Freeman asked the Council's permission to have summer concerts at the gazebo. He also asked that the trucks be stopped from coming through the downtown area and destroying the flags and curbs. He asked that something be done about parking on the street.

Next Terry Kiser made the motion to accept the low bid from Suncoast Infrastructure of \$382,047.50 for the sewer grant rehab project that will affect Alabama St., 5th Ave. and the school area. Mark Harper seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Frank Cobb made the motion to let Superintendent Casey Ponder get bids for a power transformer for substation number 2. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor then read a Proclamation for Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

In Other Business Mary Bramblett made the motion that the city pay the cost to run water lines and install 2 fire hydrants at Dr. Ben Ingram's request to new residents that were to be built on Crimson Trail and Cane Drive.

The cost to the city would be \$13,309.00. Mark Harper 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>ASTAIN</u>
Ben Keller	Frank Cobb	None
Mary Bramblett	Kenny Kelley	
	Brenda Spears	
	Mark Harper	
	Terry Kiser	

Following the roll call the Council voted not to pay the total cost to run the water lines and install fire hydrants.

Brenda Spears said the Berman Museum is hosting a 71st D Day WW11 honoring remember ceremony starting at 10:15 am. music provided by Parker Memorial Baptist Church on Friday, June, 5th. Also on Friday, June, 5th is the Chehea Economic Activity Zone Exposition held at Cleburne County Mountain Center Hall from 8:30 to 11:00.

Brenda Spears also asked why the Cross Plains Cemetery had not been cut and that she had turned in a work order on it. The Mayor told Mrs. Spears that he had already informed the street department to cut the cemetery.

Terry Kiser said that the signs are in for Cherry Street and would be put up soon.

In Visitor's Comments Lisa Spurling a representative from UCP asked for approval for a roadblock for Cerebral Palsy in August. Mary Bramblett made the motion to approve the roadblock. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

David Clark with Forever Sunrise Organics asked the Council's permission to do another walk against GMO on July 7th, at 11:30 am from their store to the gazebo.

In Council Reports Ben Keller asked about lights for the Bethune Softball field.

Mary Bramblett thanked the police department for taking care of business in her part of town. She said she had turned in abatement problems on Pine Street and also had a problem on Gayley Street with pipe falling in that will need to be repaired soon.

Frank Cobb had no report.

Kenny Kelley had no report.

Brenda Spears Council Comments:

The Bills of Payment for June 2, 2015 is \$261,377.22. The payroll and taxes for May 22 and May 29 is \$117,440.92. The total for tonight's council approval is \$378,818.14.

The Bills of Payment with payroll and taxes for the May 5 council approval was \$479,019.31; the May 19 council approval for Bills of Payment and payroll and taxes was \$506,858.14. The total spent for May 2015 is \$985,877.45.

I was absent for the Tuesday, May 19 council meeting attending the Alabama League of Municipalities convention. During the classes, work sessions, and speakers, the theme that was stressed was very basic to me:

BUDGET by objectives

Budget to be more transparent

Budget with reasons for ALL expenditures

Budget with documentation for all numbers/amounts spent

Budget that defines the how and the why to be paid with funds from the taxpayers. (How and Where are the funds to pay for each project?)

According to The Anniston Star on May 21, 2015, Piedmont has had the largest drop in population in Calhoun County from 2010-2014. Piedmont's population dropped to 4,730 with a 2.73% change.

Anniston Star May 22, 2015

Congratulations to the Piedmont School System with a 93% graduation rate, tied with four other Calhoun County Schools. Also, The Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama awarded the Piedmont Benevolence Center as a grant recipient of \$5,000.

All board appointments for the council's vote must be an agenda item. On the May 19 council's agenda, the appointment for the Board of Education was not on the agenda for consideration.

The A/C at the Piedmont Museum /Depot needs to be fixed. Two work orders (April & May) were turned in.

I have turned in information for paving needs for District 5 to the mayor and Lee Patterson, District 5 County Commissioner.

Included are 400 block of Riddle Avenue and 200 block of South Fifth Avenue. The council can approve paving using the 4 cent (balance \$68,954.30) and the 7 cent (balance \$86,243.97) Gas Tax that is earmarked for paving needs. Why aren't we?

Mark Harper had no report.

Terry Kiser had no report.

In the Mayor's Comments the Mayor announced a ribbon cutting at Forever Sunrise Organics at 11:30 am on Wednesday. He also said Commissioner Lee Patterson was coming to Piedmont soon to look at roads that were in need of paving.

The Mayor asked for a member to serve as the AMEA Committee Representative. Terry Kiser made the motion to reappoint Frank Cobb back to the position. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

With no other business to come before the council Terry Kiser made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Frank Cobb seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.