

CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF PIEDMONT

JULY 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 Baker, Council Members Ben Keller, Mary Bramblett, Frank Cobb, Kenny Kelley, Mark Harper and Terry Kiser.

Brenda Spears was absent from the meeting.

Following the invocation given by 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. Frank Cobb seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The bills totaling \$505,247.63 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 with one abstention by Frank Cobb.

Next on the agenda Geoffrey and Amanda Cobb asked the Council to vacate a cul de sac at the end of their road. After some discussion by the Council, Kenny Kelley made a motion to table vacating the street until the attorney had reviewed the paperwork. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next Mayor Baker asked for consideration of Resolution 2015-11 which pertains to the Section 5311 Nonurbanized Area Public Transportation for the City of Piedmont. The City commits the amount of \$35,693.00 as local non-federal match for capital, administrative and operations expenditures. Frank Cobb made the motion to adopt Resolution 2015-11. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and Resolution 2015-11 passed unanimously.

Next Mayor Baker asked for consideration of Resolution 2015-12 which is a nuisances and abatement Resolution for 311 Center Ave. Kenny Kelley made the motion to adopt Resolution 2015-12. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and Resolution 2015-12 was passed unanimously.

Mayor Baker then asked for consideration of Resolution 2015-13 which is a nuisances and abatement Resolution for 511 Cedartown Highway. Mary Bramblett made the motion to adopt Resolution 2015-13. Frank Cobb seconded the motion and Resolution 2015-13 was passed unanimously.

Charles McDonald also asked to declare two properties a public nuisance. The first one being on South Harris Ave. Terry Kiser made the motion to declare this property a public nuisance. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The second address was 0 Cedartown Hwy that is a lot that is grown up. Kenny Kelley made the motion to declare a public nuisance. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Charles McDonald then gave his report for Piedmont Nuisance and Abatement for the month on June, 2015. He had 41 total cases, 6 new yard cases, 7 cases being processed, 12 cases with second notice, 14 cases completed, 3 community service workers, 2 contracts on buildings and 2 court appearances.

Next the Mayor called on Chief Norton to give the Piedmont Police report for the month on June, 2015. Officers had 2312 total contacts with the public. There were 6 felony arrests, 17 misdemeanor arrests, 1 DUI arrest, 11 drug arrests, 2 crimes against persons arrests, 9 court/warrant arrests and four other arrests. There were 52 citations written, 4 accident reports and 38 motorist assists. There were 4 burglaries reported, 19 thefts reported, 17 cases investigated and 95 incident reports. The Piedmont Municipal Court collected \$17,984.00 in court fines for the month of June, 2015.

Chief Norton then gave the Animal Control Report for the month of June, 2015. There were 38 calls for service, 1 preliminary investigation, 1 follow-up investigation, 50 animals picked up, 1 animal returned to owner by ACO, 49 took to shelter, 27 strays/animals at large, 18 surrendered by owner, 4 abandoned and 1 reclaimed at shelter by owner.

Chief Ledbetter gave the Piedmont Fire Department report for the month of June, 2015. There was 1 structure fire, 3 automatic alarms, 3 vehicle fires, 3 woods/grass fires, 7 service calls, 1 hazardous materials call, 6 vehicle accidents and 5 ambulance assist.

In Other Business Mark Harper asked who would resume responsibility for the Robert's House if it is put on city property. The City Clerk read an email that she sent to the League of Municipality with the response that the City could not donate the property nor sell it to the Historical Society at a reduced rate. Frank Cobb said that another issue was that the house would not fit on the property. At this time Frank Cobb made the motion that the city should not get involved in the move of the house or anything else that pertains to the house. 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>
Frank Cobb	None	Ben Keller
Kenny Kelley		Mary Bramblett
		Mark Harper
		Terry Kiser

Following the roll call the vote was 2 yeas and 4 abstentions which did not have a majority vote to carry the motion.

Water and Gas Superintendent Jesse McKnight asked the Council's permission to purchase materials for the replacement of the cast iron pipe that the city is required by the state to replace. Frank Cobb made the motion to approve the purchase of materials. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next in Visitor's Comments Mr. Brett Shields read a statement to the Council concerning the discrimination of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community (LGBT). He said that Councilman Kelley had used a slur on social media calling some people "queers". He asked that the Council pass an Ordinance that includes the LGBT Community that would keep the group from being discriminated against.

In Council Reports, Ben Keller had no report.

Mary Bramblett thanked everyone that helped during Horace's surgery. She also said a sign needed to be added on Old Piedmont Gadsden Highway to stop the trucks from getting on the Safe Route to

School sidewalk. She announced a budget committee meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 22 at 12:30 at the administrative office.

Frank Cobb had no report.

Kenny Kelley apologized to Brett Shields for the comment he made on social media.

Mark Harper had no report.

Terry Kiser said he had some abatement issues on Johnson St.

In the Mayor's Comments the Mayor said the Highland Cemetery should be tar and graveled in about three weeks. He recognized the 3 Park and Recreation teams for making it to state. He said that the Piedmont Library had done a great job with the summer program. He also said that the city had great employees.

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 7:25 pm.

**\*\*CORRECTION TO THE MINUTES:**

**Frank Cobb made a motion that the city should not get involved with the move of the Robert's House or anything else that pertains to the house. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken. The roll call vote was 2 yeas and 4 abstentions. After consulting the Alabama League of Municipalities the vote did in fact carry.**