

CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF PIEDMONT
SEPTEMBER 15, 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 Mary Bramblett, Kenny Kelley, Brenda Spears, Mark Harper and Terry Kiser.

Ben Keller and Frank Cobb were 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. 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 \$314,602.71 were then presented for consideration for payment. Mary Bramblett made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the bills were approved with one "no" vote by Brenda Spears.

The Mayor then asked for consideration of Resolution 2015-21 which is an abatement for 208 Harris Ave. Kenny Kelley made the motion to approve Resolution 2015-21. Mary Bramblett seconded the motion and Resolution 2015-21 was approved unanimously.

Next the Mayor called on Chief Norton to give the Police Report for the month of August, 2015. There were 8 felony arrests, 52 misdemeanor arrests, 3 DUI arrests, 3 crimes against persons arrests, 2 theft arrests, and 22 court/warrant arrests. There were 47 citations, 6 accident reports, and 44 motorist assists. 2 violent crimes reported, 9 burglaries reported, 26 thefts reported, 23 cases investigated and 124 incident reports. There were 1947 total contacts with the public including motorist assists. The Piedmont Municipal Court collected \$20,358.25 in fines for the month of August 2015.

Chief Norton gave the Piedmont Animal Control report for the month of August 2015. There were 31 calls for service, 2 follow-up investigations, 51 animals picked up, 1 animal returned to owner by ACO, 50 animals took to shelter, 30 strays/animals at large and 3 reclaimed at the shelter by owner.

Charles McDonald gave the Piedmont Nuisance and Abatement Report for the month of August 2015. There were 37 total cases, 2 total new yard cases, 10 cases being processed, 10 cases with second notice sent, 8 cases completed/properties in compliance current month, 3 community service workers, 1 contract on building and 2 court appearances.

In Other Business Terry Kiser made the motion to resend the previous motion for \$10,000.00 for the Indian Festival. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the City Clerk for a roll call vote and the vote was as follows:

YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN
Mary Bramblett	Brenda Spears	None
Kenny Kelley	Mark Harper	
Terry Kiser		

Following the roll call a vote of 3 yeas and 2 nays were cast with the majority voting not to appropriate funds for the Indian Festival.

Terry Kiser also asked where the city could move the skate park if the rescue squad purchases the property that the park is on. The Mayor said that the rescue squad is looking for a grant to move the skate park.

Mark Harper asked if the city could work out a swap for the skate park and the rescue squad property. Brenda Spears said that signs have been stolen and it is a hazard for the EMT, Fire and Police to find an address and that the problem needed to be addressed.

Next Kevin Fagan asked the council to consider his proposal of 75/25 percent for the restaurant that he would like to open in the city owned building. Kenny Kelley made the motion to accept the proposal which would be 20% of the gross sells plus the 5% sales tax to come to the city including the rent and utility amounts. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the Clerk for a roll call vote and the vote was as follows:

YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN
Kenny Kelley	Brenda Spears	Mary Bramblett
Terry Kiser	Mark Harper	
Mayor Baker		

Following the roll call the vote was 3 yeas and two nays which would allow for the 75/25 percent for the restaurant.

Next Terry Kiser made the motion to allow Cody Carroll to put vending machines in several city buildings and the city would receive 30% of the profit from the machines. Mark Harper seconded the motion and the motion carried with one abstention by Kenny Kelley.

Terry Kiser made the motion to post and take bids on the Anniston Ave. property that the city currently owns. Mary Bramblett seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

In Visitor's Comments Craig Bryan with Three Corners Landfill introduced himself to the council and invited them to come out and see the landfill anytime.

In Council Reports, Mary Bramblett had no report.

Kenny Kelley said he was missing signs in his district.

Brenda Spears council comments:

The Bills of Payment for council tonight is \$314,602.71. Payroll and taxes for September 4 was \$54,755.65 and the week of September 11 was \$53,595.94. The total for tonight's council approval is \$422,954.30. The total payments for the two council meetings in September is \$1,011,278.23.

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www.piedmontcity.org

If the council does not stop increasing our fixed debts and spend wisely with the Bills of Payment every two weeks, it will seem impossible for Piedmont to be solvent.

Street signs are missing in most districts. This becomes a major health and safety issue for the Police and Fire and EMTs. City employees could check with county and out-of-county scrap yards for stolen signs.

The council has not approved the EMT agreement between the City of Piedmont and the City of Ohatchee without being given a copy of the contract prior to a vote.

The mayor needs to provide the council with a work session with our city attorney to explain the new OMA (Open Meeting Act) that was passed in Montgomery and went into effect September 1, 2015. This is Code of Alabama Act 2015-340 that replaces the 1975 Open Meeting Act/Sunshine Law. This new act describes how council members and municipalities discuss and conduct city business topics and has a clear definition of serial meetings. This is very serious.

I am turning in work orders for the following: 14 for the Street Department, 10 for Abatement, 2 for Electric, and 1 sign.

Thanks to the area churches that provided a day of fun and games with free food and sodas and trophies and live music at Veteran's Park on Saturday, September 5. It was truly a fun day for families.

Mark Harper had no report.

Terry Kiser had no report.

In the Mayor's Comments, the Mayor, referring to Brenda Spears comment concerning work session said that a work session is a council vote. The Mayor wished Mary Bramblett a Happy Birthday. He thanked all who was involved in the Party in the Park. He invited everyone to come out and support the Piedmont Bulldogs as they played Glencoe.

The Mayor then read a Proclamation for National Assisted Living Week for the week of September 13-19.

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 7:15pm.