

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PIEDMONT
MARCH 18, 2025

5:44 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 John Lawrence, Richard Williams, Jubal Feazell, Caleb Pope, Greg South, David Ivey, and Terry Kiser..

Following the invocation by Jubal Feazell and the pledge of allegiance given by Mayor Baker, the minutes were presented for consideration. David Ivey made the motion that the minutes be approved as presented. John Lawrence seconded the motion and the minutes were approved. Terry Kiser abstained.

The bills totaling \$243,761.22 were then presented for consideration for payment. Richard Williams made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Jubal Feazell seconded the motion and the bills were approved to be paid as presented. Terry Kiser abstained.

The money collected from the electrical rate increase was the next item on the agenda. Greg South made a motion to put all of the new electrical increase into a capital improvement fund for the electrical department. There was no second. Jubal Feazell made a motion to put \$5,000.00 in a WGS capital fund, \$10,000.00 in an electrical capital fund, and the remainder of the monthly collections will go into the general fund. David Ivey seconded the motion and the motion carried. Greg South was a no vote.

After the Police and Fire reports were given, Nathan Johnson talked about an ordinance that the City of Lincoln has adopted for the possible new business that will be selling cbd products. He asked the Council to look over what was handed out so they will have a better understanding of it.

In visitor comments there were two people that signed in. Linda Bell spoke first concerning her high utility bill. Her bill was over \$900.00. She says she does not see how many of the Piedmont residents can pay these high utility bills. The next guest speaker was Brenda Spears. She had some questions concerning the electrical rate increase and questions about the budget. She also told Councilman John Lawrence that he could ask for a roll call vote anytime when any item is voted on per Roberts Rule of Order.

In Council reports, John Lawrence had no report.

Richard Williams had no report.

Jubal Feazell asked if any more follow up had been made by the company that bought the old Cotton Plaza on the purchase of the 11 acres next to it.

Caleb Pope had no report.

Greg South told everyone that he seconded the motion from the last meeting to approve the budget that Councilman Feazell presented. He said the actuals are less than spending, and revenues are more. He said we need to take another look at the budget. We need to show the \$15,000.00 extra on

revenues with new increase. He said there is no way to figure actuals with the new budget. He said the budget is not workable. In closing, he apologized for voting on the new budget.

David Ivey told the Council that the City did not make it to the next round for Lowe's grant.

Terry Kiser told the Mayor, Council, and the audience that he would not be seeking re-election. He has enjoyed being on the Council for three terms. He told everyone that his body was not able to get out and walk the district to seek re-election.

Clerk Hinton told the Council that Vulcan had finished putting down the shoulder material on the trail. He announced that the Throttle King's Car Show would be on Saturday, March 22, 2025. The show will start at 8 am and last until 2 pm. He also told the Council about a request to bring beer/wine into restaurants without having an ABC license. He will bring this up at a later meeting.

In the Mayor's comments he wanted to let everyone know that the traffic light by the gazebo had some damage to the control panel. It has been reset but it is unknown how long it will last. The two options will be a 4-way stop or replace the panel for \$10,000.00. He announced on May 1 from 5-7 pm there will be a national day of prayer at the gazebo. He announced the four Southeast Energy scholarships. The winners were Noah Farmer, Ansley Pope, Caleb Tidwell, and Chris Parris (technical). He appreciates everyone for coming out tonight. He said we have the best City employees ever. He announced that 149 people went to the storm shelter for the recent storm.

With no other business to come before the Council, Greg South made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.