

COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
CITY OF PIEDMONT, ALABAMA  
MARCH 28, 2005  
7:00PM

The City Council of the City of Piedmont met in regular session at the time and on the date above. Present were Mayor Charles Fagan, Council Members Doug Goss, Bill Baker, Eddie Baldwin, Kevin Farmer, Ed Hanson, Mary Bramblett and John Lawrence.

Mayor Fagan declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

Following the invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag the minutes of the previous meeting were presented for consideration. Bill Baker made the motion that the minutes be approved as presented. Doug Goss seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as presented by acclamation.

The bills totaling \$209,148.38 were then presented for consideration for payment. Mary Bramblett made the motion that the bills be approved for payment as presented. Ed Hanson seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment as presented by acclamation.

Mayor Fagan then called on Mrs. Shirley Davidson who represents American Homeless Veterans, Inc. dba Bingo Palace. Mrs. Davidson presented Mayor Fagan with a check donation of \$5,000.00 to be used for renovations at the Veterans Memorial Park. Mayor Fagan thanked Mrs. Davidson and assured her the donation would be put to good use at the Veterans Memorial area of the park.

In Council Reports Ed Hanson reported that the Parks & Recreation Board had received bid proposals for concession supplies at the Sports Complex from Coke and Pepsi. After review of the proposals the Board recommends approval of the bid submitted by Coke. Mr. Hanson made the motion to approve the Board's recommendation subject to review of the proposal by the City Clerk for accuracy. Bill Baker seconded the motion and the Coke proposal was approved subject to review of the Clerk. Mr. Hanson reminded the members and audience that opening day for baseball/softball season is Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, that the Clyde Pike Civic Center dedication ceremony is scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm and that the Cheaha Challenge is scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup>. Bill Baker expressed his pride and appreciation with regard to the downtown streetscape project and commented on a visit from Goodwater city officials to view the project in anticipation of doing a similar project in their city. Doug Goss echoed Mr. Baker's comments about the downtown project and the enthusiasm being shown by the downtown business owners with regard to renovations. Mr. Goss then made a motion that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to negotiate with Jerry Masters for the purchase of the vacant property adjacent to the Administrative Offices for future expansion. Bill Baker seconded the motion and the motion carried by majority consent with Eddie Baldwin voting against the motion.

Mayor Fagan then called on Chief David Paslay who read a letter of commendation from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security - Secret Service Branch to Piedmont Police Officer Stephen Oaks for his professional assistance in breaking up a counterfeit operation that was being conducted locally. Officer Oaks initial investigation and apprehension of a suspect in the case resulted in the identification and apprehension of the manufacturers of the counterfeit currency by the Secret Service. The letter commends the professionalism displayed by the Piedmont Police Department and in particular Officer Oaks.

In the Mayors report Mayor Fagan advised that follow-up letters have been sent to downtown property owners who have not complied with abatement requirements and that he has personally met with Buster Miles regarding his property. The Mayor requested that merchants who have participated in renovation of their properties contact those who have not complied to express their opinions personally. Mayor Fagan reported that brickwork has begun on the elementary school gymnasium and that city crews have completed most of the interior framing. The Mayor advised that the Christmas decoration committee has met and is working on proposals to bring before the Council.

Mayor Fagan discussed the need to update parking and traffic regulations to include the new parking areas created by the streetscape project and to address truck traffic in the downtown area. The Mayor also commented about the ongoing problem with litter in the public parking areas downtown and asked for input from the Council regarding proposals for addressing the situation. Mayor Fagan asked the Parks & Recreation Committee to work on a policy regarding Civic Center use by outside organizations and groups to resolve current issues in that area. The Mayor updated the members and audience regarding paving projects advising that paving has been completed on Vigo-Ladiga Road and on Vigo Road from the Industrial Park to Ladiga Street. Mayor Fagan advised that striping on these roads would be completed next and further paving would be done after completion of these projects and review of the budget to see what further funds will be available.

There being no visitors comments and no further business to come before the Council at this time Mayor Fagan declared the meeting adjourned sine die at 7:21pm.