

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY OF PIEDMONT, ALABAMA
MAY 25, 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 John Lawrence, Mary Bramblett, Ed Hanson, Kevin Farmer, Eddie Baldwin, Bill Baker and Doug Goss.

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 \$432,108.31 were then presented for consideration for payment. Ed Hanson made the motion that the bills be approved for payment as presented. Eddie Baldwin seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment as presented by acclamation.

Mayor Fagan then called on the Clerk to read Resolution No. 2005-003. This resolution approves the continuation of the Section 5311 Transportation Program for fiscal year 2006 with a matching fund requirement of \$10,446.00. Doug Goss made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2005-003. Kevin Farmer seconded the motion and Resolution No. 2005-003 was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Fagan then called on the Clerk to review bids received on equipment for the Street Department. The Clerk reviewed the bids for a Compact Track Loader. Warrior Tractor Co. submitted no bid. Thompson Tractor Co. submitted a bid of \$42,544.71. Rhinehart Equipment Co. submitted a bid of \$39,243.92. Cowin Equipment submitted a bid of \$45,258.00 and Tractor & Equipment Co. submitted no bid. Rhinehart Equipment also submitted the low bid for four attachments for the Compact Track Loader. Kevin Farmer made the motion to accept the low bid of Rhinehart Equipment Co. for the Compact Track Loader and proposed attachments. Eddie Baldwin seconded the motion and the bid was awarded to Rhinehart Equipment Co. by unanimous consent.

The Clerk then presented the bids for a mid-size Excavator. Warrior Tractor submitted a bid of \$114,971.40. Thompson Tractor submitted no bid. Tractor & Equipment Co. submitted a bid of \$106,986.00. Rhinehart Equipment Co. submitted no bid. Cowin Equipment Co. submitted a bid of \$111,270.00. Bill Baker made the motion to accept the low bid of Tractor & Equipment Co. for the mid-size Excavator. Doug Goss seconded the motion and the bid was awarded to Tractor & Equipment Co. by unanimous consent.

The Clerk then presented bids for a Wheel Loader Backhoe. Warrior Tractor met all specifications and submitted a bid of \$60,498.00 with a trade allowance of \$14,000.00 for the existing city backhoe and an option for four-wheel drive for \$4,400.00. Thompson Tractor submitted no bid. Tractor & Equipment Co. submitted no bid. Rhinehart Equipment Co. submitted no bid. Cowin Equipment submitted a bid of \$56,871.32 with a trade allowance of \$12,000.00 and a four-wheel drive option for \$5,257.27. The unit bid had nine deviations from specifications. Cowin Equipment submitted a second bid of \$59,345.00 with a trade allowance of \$12,000.00 and a four-wheel drive option for \$5,257.27. The unit bid had four deviations from bid specifications. Eddie Baldwin made the motion to accept the bid of Warrior Tractor based on meeting all specifications, the higher trade allowance and lower cost of the four-wheel drive option. Mary Bramblett seconded the motion and the bid was awarded to Warrior Tractor Co. by unanimous consent.

Mayor Fagan then presented a copy of the Utility Billing Policy with revisions as discussed in a previous meeting. The revisions primarily deal with changing the policy to adopt a non-refundable service charge in lieu of a deposit on new accounts. Ed Hanson made the motion to adopt the Utility Policy as revised and to refund existing deposits over a period of time by billing routes. Doug Goss seconded the motion and the Utility Policy with revisions was adopted by unanimous consent.

In Board appointments Ed Hanson nominated Martha Garner to a new term on the School Board replacing Ben Ingram whose term has expired. John Lawrence made the motion that the nominations be closed. Bill Baker seconded the motion and Martha Garner was appointed to the School Board by majority consent as follows;

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
John Lawrence	Kevin Farmer	None
Mary Bramblett	Eddie Baldwin	
Ed Hanson		
Bill Baker		
Doug Goss		

In Council reports Mary Bramblett advised she had received complaints regarding an outdoor wood-burning furnace in her district. Mrs. Bramblett presented copies of pictures of the furnace and stated that the furnace produced a large amount of smoke that was bothering some of the neighbors. Mrs. Bramblett made a motion that the City Clerk and Fire Chief be authorized to investigate any possible restrictions regarding the use of such a furnace in a residential neighborhood. Doug Goss seconded the motion and the motion carried by acclamation. Bill Baker expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to attend the League of Municipalities convention in Huntsville and to share ideas and problems with leaders of other cities. Doug Goss expressed his appreciation of the new banners in the downtown area and reminded those present of the Piedmont High School graduation ceremony to be held on Thursday, May 26th.

In the Mayor's report Mayor Fagan also expressed his appreciation of the new banners and advised that different banners of a holiday nature had been ordered and would be displayed during the next holiday season. The Mayor reminded those present of the Memorial Day ceremony to be held at 10:00am on Monday, May 30th at the Disabled American Veteran's new building on Center Avenue. The Mayor advised that due to recent events some current and past financial accounts of the city might need to be audited separately to determine if there was any unauthorized use of the accounts. The Mayor advised the Council that he would give them more details as information was received. Mayor Fagan reminded the Council that some department head positions were retained during the organizational meeting on a temporary basis pending further review. The Mayor advised that review of those departments and department heads has been completed and the Council now needs to make decisions as to the reappointment of those department heads.

In visitors comments Billy Studdard of the local D.A.V. chapter invited the Council and public to attend the Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 30th.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time Mayor Fagan declared the meeting adjourned sine die at 7:28pm