

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PIEDMONT  
DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2017  
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 Ben Keller, Mary Bramblett, Doug Dickeson, Matt Rogers, Bobby Hardin and Terry Kiser.

Following the invocation given by Doug Dickeson 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. Matt Rogers seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The bills totaling \$336,362.42 were then presented for consideration for payment. Mary Bramblett made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment unanimously.

The Mayor asked for a nomination for the Library Board member. Bobby Hardin nominated Heather McDivitt to fill the position for the board. Matt Rogers seconded the nomination. With no other nominations Mrs. McDivitt was voted to fill the position unanimously.

Next the Mayor asked for a nomination for the Piedmont Health Care Board. Doug Dickeson nominated Carlos Farmer to be reappointed to the board. Terry Kiser seconded the nomination. With no other nominations Mr. Farmer was reappointed to serve another term on the board.

After some discussion on the bond refinance for the city, Greg South made a motion to table the refinance for another meeting. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Casey Ponder explained to the Council that the utility software needed to be merged to show the water, gas, sewer, electric and garbage on the same screen in the computer and this would need to be done before the city could look at updating the software and the cost would be around \$6,000.00 to fix the problem. Mary Bramblett made the motion to merge the bills on the computer. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

In Council Reports, Ben Keller said that he appreciated the city employees and asked the Council to consider the longevity incentive that the employees had received in the past. Mary Bramblett said that the old Dari King building was being roofed and remodeled and the owner is talking to prospects for the building. She also said that Thompson Lewis with Sewell Manufacturing was coming Monday to look at putting a business in the city. Doug Dickeson asked about the airport sign. The Mayor said he would call and check on it. He also asked when the Dr. that purchased the old hospital was going to open. Carl Hinton said he was trying for June,

2018. He asked about the JSU study and City Clerk Michelle Franklin told him that it was going to be December 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>.

Doug Dickeson made a motion to put \$10,000 a month into a reserve fund to be used only at the discretion of the Council and to go into effect in January. Matt Rogers seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the City Clerk for a roll call and the vote was as follows:

<u>YEAS</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Mary Bramblett	Ben Keller	None
Doug Dickeson		
Matt Rogers		
Greg South		
Bobby Hardin		
Terry Kiser		
Mayor Baker		

Following the roll call the vote was 7 yeas and 1 nay therefore, the reserve fund will go into effect in January 2018.

Matt Rogers said that he had spoken with Lee Patterson and the County attorney about animal control. He said that the county and Cheaha Animal Rescue would have to add on so they could accommodate more animals but that he was aware of Piedmonts situation and asked for patience to resolve the problem.

Greg South said that the speeding on Main Street and Center Ave was excessive.

Bobby Hardin asked if the numbers were ready for the budget. Michelle Franklin said that all the numbers were not in yet and that the Council had decided in a previous work session to wait on the JSU study.

Terry Kiser said that Piedmont was the only city in Calhoun County that had not passed a budget.

In the Mayors comments the Mayor thanked all the city employees that were out working during the winter storm. He also said that Rainbow City is not going to accept contracts at this time for animals.

With no other business to come before the Council Doug Dickeson made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.