

CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF PIEDMONT
JANUARY 5TH, 2016
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 Baker, Council Members Ben Keller, Mary Bramblett, Frank Cobb, Kenny Kelley, Brenda Spears, Mark Harper and Terry Kiser.

Following the invocation given by Frank Cobb and the pledge of allegiance to the flag the minutes were presented for consideration. Mary Bramblett made the motion that the minutes be approved as presented. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The bills totaling \$370,540.90 were then presented for consideration for payment. Terry Kiser made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion. At this time Brenda Spears asked for discussion of the bills. Mayor Baker said that the bills had already been discussed in the work session and we would not be going over them again and that she should have gotten to the meeting on time. Frank Cobb made the motion to allow Brenda Spears to discuss the bills for payment. With no one seconding the motion the motion dies. The motion to pay the bills carried with one "no" vote by Brenda Spears.

Next the Mayor asked for consideration for Ordinance No 605 which would allow the Mayor to sign all the necessary paperwork for the State Revolving Fund loan to make necessary upgrades to the Piedmont Filter Plant. Kenny Kelley made the motion to adopt Ordinance No 605. Mary Bramblett seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the City Clerk for a roll call vote and the vote was as follows:

| <u>YEAS</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Ben Keller | Brenda Spears | none |
| Mary Bramblett | | |
| Frank Cobb | | |
| Kenny Kelley | | |
| Mark Harper | | |
| Terry Kiser | | |

Following the roll call the vote was 6 yeas and 1 nay. Therefore Ordinance No 605 was adopted.

In Other Business Mark Harper asked about making a parking beside the civic center. He also asked for the council to consider the Air Evac purchase for the citizens.

Terry Kiser thanked the Mayor and City Clerk for making sure the bills were paid in full.

Mary Bramblett also thanked the department heads for keeping their expenses in check.

In Visitor's Comments Mr. Randall Estes of 306 Adamson St. expressed his concerns to the council about an incident at his home concerning his dog. He stated that someone came on his property and tried to pull his dog through his fence and then called the police on him for animal cruelty. He said as a result a report was written up and his dog also died. He said that he wanted his name cleared of any wrong doing.

Chief Norton asked the council for permission to replace another officer that had left the department. Terry Kiser made the motion to allow Chief Norton to replace the officer. Mary Bramblett seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mark Harper then made the motion to allow Chief Norton to hire an officer when he needs to replace one instead of having to come before the council each time as long as he stays under the 12 officers that he has on staff. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next Chief Ledbetter asked the councils permission to purchase the two used fire trucks that the council gave him permission to go look at in Missouri. He stated that the trucks were in very good condition with only a few cosmetic places that needed to be repaired. Both trucks will cost \$160,000.00 and the funds will come from the fire tax account. The Chief said his plan was to sale one of the fire trucks the department has now and that should cover the cost of the two trucks he would like to purchase. Mary Bramblett made the motion to allow Chief Ledbetter to purchase the trucks on a 6 month single payment loan at 4.00%. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the Clerk for a roll call vote and the vote was as follows:

| <u>YEAS</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Ben Keller | None | Frank Cobb |
| Mary Bramblett | | |
| Kenny Kelley | | |
| Brenda Spears | | |
| Mark Harper | | |
| Terry Kiser | | |

Following the roll call of 6 yeas and 1 abstention the vote carried to allow Chief Ledbetter to purchase the fire trucks.

In Council Reports Ben Keller asked that a tree on Church St. be looked at.

Mary Bramblett had no report.

Frank Cobb thanked Abatement Officer Charles McDonald for working on some issues in his district.

He also wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Kenny Kelley asked when Vandy St. was going to be finished on the paving.

Brenda Spears council comments:

In 2015, I voted many times not to pay the Bills of Payment. I asked for work sessions and information in meetings to review the budget and go over departments that were over budget and how much of the utilities revenues were being transferred to the General Fund in order to pay the city's bills. The Mayor answered to me on December 3 2015 during the Mayor's Comments that the city had the money to pay all the current bills in a timely manner. Therefore, I will continue to review the monthly summaries for the revenues and expenses for the 2015-2016 Budget. I will consider my vote to pay the Bills of Payment based on the Mayor telling the council that the city has the money coming in to cover all bills for Bills of Payment and Payroll and Taxes.

The Bills of Payment and Payroll and Taxes for tonight's council approval is \$549,256.86.

Concerning the relocation of the Ms. Ruby Roberts home, the city paid Steve Martin \$400 to appraise the Southern Depot property that the city now owns.

Mark Harper had no report.

Terry Kiser had no report.

In the Mayor's Comments the Mayor asked for a motion to declare a portion of the railroad property that the City purchased from Norfolk Southern as surplus property. He stated that the fair market value is \$1650.00. Mary Bramblett made the motion to declare the portion of the property surplus. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor also asked for a motion to go into executive session to discuss a property matter. Kenny Kelley made the motion to go into executive session. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the City Clerk for a roll call vote and the vote was as follows:

| <u>YEAS</u> | <u>NAYS</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> |
|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Ben Keller | None | None |
| Mary Bramblett | | |
| Frank Cobb | | |
| Kenny Kelley | | |
| Brenda Spears | | |
| Mark Harper | | |
| Terry Kiser | | |

Following the roll call the vote was unanimous to go into executive session.

The Mayor informed the audience that the meeting would not convene after the executive session.

With no other business to come before the council Terry Kiser made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.