

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PIEDMONT  
APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2018  
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, Greg South, Bobby Hardin and Terry Kiser.

Following the invocation given by Mayor Baker 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 minutes were approved unanimously.

The bills totaling \$744,650.30 were then presented for consideration for payment. Doug Dickeson made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment unanimously.

Next Mary Bramblett made a motion to accept a manufacturer alcohol license for Dugger Mountain Shines located at 306 Hanks Road, Piedmont, Alabama. Matt Rogers seconded the motion and the alcohol license passed unanimously.

The Mayor reminded the Council of the Board of Education appointment for the next meeting.

Carl Hinton and Ricky Jackson gave a sanitation report to the Council showing all expenses and revenues for the 2017 fiscal year. The report showed that the city profited \$186,471.23 for the year in collections.

Doug Dickeson made a motion to allow Bubba's Truck and Equipment to repair the knuckle boom truck in the amount of \$11,591.15. Mary Bramblett seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor asked for consideration of Resolution 2018-07 which is an abatement at 204 Fifth Ave. N. Terry Kiser made the motion to adopt Resolution 2018-07. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor called on Chief Norton to give the Police Report for the month of March 2018. Officers had 1624 total contacts with the public. There were 23 felony arrests, 83 misdemeanor arrests, 5 DUI arrests, 48 drug arrests, 7 crimes against persons arrests, 1 theft arrest, 25 court/warrant arrests and 9 other agency arrest. There were 106 citations written, 14 accident reports and 30 motorist assists. There were 3 violent crimes reported, 3 burglaries reported, 10 theft cases, 10 cases investigated and 131 incident reports. The Piedmont Municipal Court had a total of \$23,688.00 in fines for the month of March 2018.

The Chief then gave the Piedmont Nuisance and Abatement Report for the month of March 2018. There were 30 total cases, 5 new yard cases, 4 new house cases, 7 cases being processed, 5 cases completed, 2 community service workers and 3 verbal contracts.

The Mayor then called on Chief Ledbetter to give the Fire Report for the month of March 2018. There was 1 structure fire, 2 automatic alarms, 2 false alarms, 1 vehicle fire, 6 vehicle accidents, 2 ambulance assist, 6 service calls and 1 landing zone established. The Chief explained that the FEMA Grant for the fire department will expire at the end of April and asked if the night shift volunteers and the \$25.00 per fire call would remain. Doug Dickeson made a motion to keep the night shift and \$25.00 per call pay for a month until the city finds out if the FEMA Grant will be awarded again. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

In Council Reports Ben Keller asked that the Council consider changing the rates for the aquatic center. Matt Rogers made the motion to charge \$6.00 for a day pass, \$75.00 for single membership per year and \$125.00 for family membership per year. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mary Bramblett asked about the Highland Cemetery wall and steps. Carl Hinton said the state could take down the wall and smooth the hill so grass could be cut. Terry Kiser made the motion to have the state take down the wall and smooth the hill. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mary Bramblett also said the sidewalks were covered with leaves and asked if community service workers could clean the sidewalks. She said there were a lot of holes in the streets that need patching and the city needed to look at getting a street sweeper.

Doug Dickeson made a motion to raise the garbage rates by \$2.00, putting it in an account for the street department for equipment and to charge a \$5.00 surcharge on the water bills to pay for the water tank maintenance that will cost roughly \$400,000.00. Greg South seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the City Clerk for a roll call and the vote was as follows:

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

Following the roll call the vote was 3 yeas and 5 nays therefore, the motion did not carry.

Matt Rogers made a motion to add a monthly \$5.00 surcharge to the water bill for the maintenance of the city water tanks and once the amount pays off to drop the surcharge to \$1.30 from \$5.00 monthly. Greg South seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the City Clerk for a roll call and the vote was as follows:

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

Following the roll call the vote was 5 yeas and 3 nays therefore, the vote carried to add a \$5.00 surcharge to the water bill to pay the maintenance on the city water tanks.

Greg South made a motion to go forward with the consultant Joan Young for Economic Development for downtown area. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the Mayor asked the City Clerk for a roll call and the vote was as follows:

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

Following the roll call the vote was 3 yeas and 5 nays therefore, the downtown economic development plan did not carry.

In the Mayor's Comments the Mayor asked the Council to consider the \$2,900.00 for the up grade to the civic center tennis court for the pickle ball teams to play on and also tennis. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

He informed the Council that someone would speak at the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to discuss the maintenance on the water tanks. He said that he would ask the surrounding Mayors to bring him copies of their abatement policy to his next Mayor's roundtable meeting.

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 7:38 pm.