

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PIEDMONT
JULY 17TH, 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. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The bills totaling \$1,179,469.11 were then presented for consideration for payment. Ben Keller made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment unanimously.

Next Trudy Low from the Piedmont Health Care spoke to the Council about refinancing the bond for the Piedmont Health Care that is in the City of Piedmont's name. After some discussion the Council agreed to vote at the next regular Council meeting.

The Mayor informed the Council that the bids for the water tank was not bid out as a maintenance therefore a new bid needs to be put out on the tanks. Mary Bramblett made the motion that the tanks be rebid. Matt Rogers seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Matt Parker from Joe Jolly spoke to the Council about refinancing the Water, Gas and Sewer bond. He informed the Council that with the refinance that money could be immediately come from the refinance to be used for improvements for the Water, Gas and Sewer Department. Matt Rogers made the motion to look at refinancing for a lower payment but not take the money savings from the bond which would raise the monthly bond payment an estimated \$2,500.00 per month and to get more companies to see what kind of saving they could offer. Bobby Hardin seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Frank Humber from East Alabama Planning Commission informed the Council of a \$40,000.00 grant for mapping in the city. If the grant is awarded the cost would be \$20,000.00 local match. Doug Dickeson made a motion to accept Resolution 2018-12 which is a Resolution to make application for the grant. Matt Rogers seconded the motion and the Resolution passed unanimously.

The Mayor then called on Chief Norton to give the Police Report for the month of June 2018. Officers initiated 1180 contacts with the public. There were 16 felony arrests, 91 misdemeanor arrests, 5 DUI arrests, 29 drug arrests, 13 crimes against persons, 5 theft arrests, and 26 court/warrant arrests. There were 61 citations written, 5 accident reports and 46 motorist assists. There was 1 violent crime reported, 1 burglary reported, 12 thefts reported, 19 cases investigated and 141 incident reports. The Piedmont Municipal Court collected \$22,415.20 in fines for the month of June 2018.

The Chief then gave the Piedmont Nuisance and Abatement Report for the month of June 2018. There were 38 total cases, 15 new yard cases, 1 new house case, 16 new cases, 12 being processed, 10 cases completed, 2 community service workers, 2 court appearances and 4 verbal contracts.

Chief Norton also informed the Council that Officer Kevin Blue had been diagnosed with brain cancer and to please keep him in your prayers and the police department.

In Council Reports Ben Keller asked that the grass at the Bethune Field be fixed.

Mary Bramblett had no report.

Doug Dickeson asked if the fiber had been installed. He also mentioned raising the gas tax.

Matt Rogers made a motion to see if the general obligation bond money could be used for the lab improvements at the water plant. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Matt Rogers also said that the Piedmont Rescue Squad was selling shirts to help Officer Kevin Blue with his medical expenses.

Greg South said to continue to pray for Officer Blue and the Piedmont Police Department.

Bobby Hardin had no report.

Terry Kiser said to pray for Officer Blue.

In the Mayor's Comments the Mayor said that the Council needs to make a decision on the bond refinance.

With no other business to come before the Council Doug Dickeson made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ben Keller seconded the meeting and the meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.