

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PIEDMONT
JULY 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 Bill Baker, Council Members Ben Keller, Kenny Kelley, Brenda Spears, Mark Harper and Terry Kiser.

Mary Bramblett and Frank Cobb were absent from the meeting.

Next Coach Jay Wilson for the 10 and under Piedmont PARD baseball team asked the Council if the team could do a roadblock at Memorial and Main Street to take up money to help the team get to the state tournament. Terry Kiser made the motion to allow the roadblock with the understanding that the adults would be in the road collecting the money and not the children for safety purposes. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Following the invocation given by Keith Word and the pledge of allegiance to the flag the minutes were presented for consideration. Ben Keller made the motion that the minutes be approved as presented. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The bills totaling \$244,745.38 were then presented for consideration for payment. Terry Kiser made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment unanimously.

Next the Mayor asked for consideration of Resolution 2016-12 which is an abatement for 702 3rd Ave. Ben Keller made the motion to adopt Resolution 2016-12. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next Miss Gracie Bangs, a fourth grader at Piedmont Elementary School told the Council that she had a petition to get prayer back in the school. She told about how she would like to be able to pray and have prayer with her teachers when she is having a problem. The Mayor, Council and Clerk signed the petition and several copies were given out for people to take to their churches.

The Mayor said that the Council would look into the Digital Detective software that Chief Norton spoke about in the work session. Brenda Spears asked if the person from the business would come and speak to the Council about the software. Chief Norton said he would see if Mr. Phillip Smith would come to the next meeting.

In Other Business Brenda Spears asked had any information been received for the insurance on employees? Carl Hinton said that the increase was at 8%. City Clerk Michelle Franklin said that Frank Cobb had requested a meeting with the insurance representative and would be set up in the next week. Mark Harper asked if the new phone system was in. He also asked for an update on the RV Park. The Mayor said that Jeff Formby had marked off the spots and Casey Ponder had ordered some of the electrical supplies.

Brenda Spears asked that the Mayor put a bench at Guttery Insurance and Debra's, Pool Doctor and the Old Piedmont Journal Building. She also asked if AMEA paid for the benches. Brenda Spears also said

that the Noble Bank PARD account was almost \$1000.00 two weeks ago and now it is zero. She asked what happened to that money. The City Clerk stated that the bills for that was on the bills for payment and was used for the park and recreation tournament teams.

The City Clerk stated that due to the Mayor running for another term that the Council needed to appoint her to do the duties for the election that the Mayor is supposed to perform. Terry Kiser made the motion that the Clerk take over the duties of the Mayor for the Municipal Election. Kenny Kelley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Terry Kiser said he would like to see the city go to direct deposit before this administration is over. He said he thought it would save some money.

In Council Reports Ben Keller thanked the DAV for the fireworks at the sports complex.

Kenny Kelley had no report.

Brenda Spears Council Comments:

The Bills of Payment for tonight's council is \$244,745.38. The Payroll and Taxes for the week of June 24 was \$59,884.85. The Payroll and Taxes for the July 1 week was \$59,435.06. The total for tonight's council is \$364,065.29.

The Mayor will need to review with the council the FY Budget. Our monthly expenditures should be much less than reflected in the following numbers:

2015 October \$1,205,446.09

2016 January \$996,080.88

2016 February \$926,487.78

2016 March \$1,028,467.09

2016 April \$1,200,642.28

2016 May \$982,671.01

2016 June \$1,326,286.33

Mayor Baker, why didn't you inform the council of the contract ending between the Piedmont Council, Animal Control, and Etowah County? Why would you not share this with your council as soon as it occurred?

What information has been received for the council's decision concerning the competitive bids from other insurance companies when the rates go up under the current employees plan?

I would like quarterly reports for the council concerning continued water testing with Calhoun County Water Authority and EPA and ADEM for acceptable levels in our drinking water of octane sulfonate and octanoic acid, which are used in industries.

The Abatement Board met May 20, 2016. Twelve points were discussed.

Point Number 6 stated:

- (1) Abatement Officer, Charles McDonald, wants the violator to be notified by mail (2) If the violation is ignored, then the police delivers a summons for a court appearance (3) The Court Clerk puts the owner on the docket for abatement violation (4) The Municipal Judge hears the case and makes a ruling. Contact Mr. McDonald for abatement issues at 256-447-3562 or 256-689-1479.

I am turning in work orders for District 5 for limbs, garbage at curbs, high grass at abandoned houses.

Mark Harper thanked the City Clerk and Mayor for managing the bills this year and not having to borrow money from the line of credit. The Mayor and City Clerk thanked Mr. Harper for his comments.

Terry Kiser said that he would be helping make signs for "No Littering".

In the Mayor's Comments the Mayor said Brenda Spears mentioned the animal control contract. He stated that a lot of things happen during a day at the office and as elected officials you all have the responsibility to come into the office and check with me periodically. He said some he never sees unless they are coming in to pick up a packet or a paycheck. He said come in and ask for an update. He said he doesn't have time to run you down. He said he would share anything with the council but he would not track you down and tell you what is going on in the city.

The Mayor said that the bills were mentioned as being high. He said it takes money to run a city and we have AMEA power bills that are high that we have to pay along with other high bills.

He also thanked the Boy Scouts and the DAV for the fireworks for the 4th of July.

With no other business to come before the Council Mark Harper made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ben Keller seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.