

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PIEDMONT
3-17-2020
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, Doug Dickeson, Matt Rogers, Greg South, Bobby Hardin and Terry Kiser. Mary Bramblett was absent from the meeting.

The Mayor asked for a motion to go into execution session to discuss a property issue. Terry Kiser made the motion to go into executive session. Ben Keller 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>
Ben Keller	None	None
Doug Dickeson		
Matt Rogers		
Greg South		
Bobby Hardin		
Terry Kiser		
Mayor Baker		

Following the roll call the vote was unanimous to go into executive session and the Mayor informed the audience that the meeting would resume following the session.

Following the invocation given by Mayor Baker and the pledge of allegiance to the flag the minutes were presented for consideration. Matt Rogers made the motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The bills totaling \$373,011.36 were then presented for consideration for payment. Doug Dickeson made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. Greg South seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment unanimously.

The Mayor called on Chief Norton to give the police report for the month of February 2020. Officers had 1663 total contacts with the public. There were 13 felony arrests, 73 misdemeanor arrests, 1 DUI arrest, 13 drug arrests, 8 crimes against persons arrests. There were 64 citations written, 5 accident reports, and 23 motorist assists. There were 3 violent crimes, 5 burglaries reported, 12 thefts reported, 26 cases investigated and 116 incident reports. The Piedmont Municipal Court collected \$21,751.10 in fines for the month of February 2020.

The Chief gave the Piedmont Nuisance and Abatement Report for the month of February 2020. There were 36 total cases. 11 new yard cases, 1 new house case, 13 cases being processed, 7 cases completed, 2 contract on structure, 2 court appearances and 2 verbal contracts.

The Chief then gave the Animal Control Report for the month of February. There were 19 calls for service, 18 animals picked up, 15 animals taken to shelter and 5 reclaimed by owner.

Greg South made a motion to accept the low bid from Bragg TLC for the Piedmont Highland Cemetery and Chief Ladiga Trail maintenance in the amount of \$4,100.00 per month. Matt Rogers seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Doug Dickeson made a motion to reject the bid from Low Life Constructions bid for the roof at the motor pool at the street department for \$23,400.00 and to renegotiate the amount. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Matt Rogers made a motion to accept the low bid by Low Life Construction to rebuild the gazebo in downtown for the amount of \$13,860.00. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the motion carried with one "no" vote by Terry Kiser.

The Mayor then asked for consideration of Resolution 2020-05 which is a State of Local Emergency due to the Coronavirus. The resolution would authorize the Mayor waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of political subdivision by law. Bobby Hardin made the motion to adopt Resolution 2020-05. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next Attorney Ron Allen asked the Council for an oral Resolution which would allow the City to transfer \$4,692.50 to the commercial development board to pay for half of an electrical transformer for Industrial Risen and the other half be paid by Industrial Risen. The public purpose would create jobs and increase electrical revenue. Greg South made a motion to allow the purchase of the transformer and the transfer of the \$4,692.50 to the Commercial Development Board to pay for half of the transformer. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ron Allen asked for the Council for another oral Resolution which would allow the city to tear down a building owned by River City Propane at 23096 Alabama Highway 9. The city would allot a one-time payment to the commercial development board for the amount of the demolition which in turn the board would enter into an agreement with River City Propane with the understanding that they will build a new building which would increase employment. Doug Dickeson made a motion to allow the demolition of the building. Matt Rogers seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

In Council Reports Ben Keller apologized for missing the last meeting and said he was feeling better. Doug Dickeson asked if the library needed to be closed due to the coronavirus. Michelle Franklin informed him that the city had limited the number of people inside at this time. He also said he appreciated the support when his father in law passed away.

Matt Rogers asked the council to consider making Piedmont an Alabama Pinhoti Trail Town. Greg South made a motion to allow the City to be a Pinhoti Trail Town. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

In the Mayor's comments the Mayor informed the council that he and City Clerk Michelle Franklin met with the department heads to discuss the coronavirus. He informed the council that all sports are postponed and any activities at the civic center are postponed until further notice.

With no other business to come before the council Ben Keller made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Doug Dickeson seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm