

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PIEDMONT
12-15-2020
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, John Lawrence, Richard Williams, Jubal Feazell, Caleb Pope, Greg South, David Ivey and Terry Kiser.

Following the invocation given by Mayor Baker and the pledge of allegiance to the flag the Mayor informed the Council that a vote was needed to go into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation for the city. Terry Kiser made the motion to go into Executive Session. Richard Williams 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>
John Lawrence	None	None
Richard Williams		
Jubal Feazell		
Caleb Pope		
Greg South		
David Ivey		
Terry Kiser		
Mayor Baker		

Following the roll call the vote was unanimous to go into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation. The Mayor informed the audience that the meeting would resume after the Executive Session.

The Council resumed the meeting and the minutes were presented for consideration. Greg South made the motion that the minutes be approved as presented. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The bills totaling \$319,227.83 were then presented for consideration for payment. David Ivey made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. John Lawrence seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment unanimously.

Next the Mayor asked for consideration of Resolution 2020-28 which is the holiday schedule for the city employees for 2021. Jubal Feazell made the motion to adopt Resolution 2020-28. Caleb Pope seconded the motion and Resolution 2020-28 was adopted unanimously.

The Mayor then asked for consideration of Resolution 2020-29 which would be a de-annexation of a piece of property approximately 6.43 acres that extends into Cherokee County, Alabama owned by Dr. James Berry. With the enactment of Amendment 935 to the Alabama Constitution the city is unable to enforce its police jurisdiction within Calhoun County, Alabama due to this specific piece of property.

Therefore, the Resolution would enable the police to enforce the police jurisdiction by de-annexing the property. Jubal Feazell made the motion to adopt Resolution 2020-29. Caleb Pope seconded the motion and Resolution 2020-29 was adopted unanimously.

The Mayor called on Chief Norton to give the Police Report for the month of November 2020. Officers had 1265 total contacts with the public. There were 16 felony arrests, 74 misdemeanor arrests, 1 DUI arrest, 22 drug arrests, 5 crimes against persons arrests, 5 theft arrests, 31 court/warrant arrests and 17 other agency arrest. There were 74 citations written, 5 accident reports and 29 motorist assists. There were 2 burglaries reported, 9 thefts reported, 15 cases investigated and 99 incident reports. The Piedmont Municipal Court collected \$19,613.96 in fines for the month of November 2020.

The Chief gave the Nuisance and Abatement Report for the month of November. There were 25 total cases, 9 new yard cases, 9 cases being processed, 7 cases completed, 1 contract on structure, 2 court appearances and 3 verbal contracts.

The Chief then gave the Animal Control Report for the month of November. There were 8 calls for service. 20 animals picked up, 7 taken to the shelter and 13 reclaimed by owner.

Next the Mayor asked for a motion to allow the city employees to get December 31st off (New Year's Eve) along with New Years Day. Greg South made the motion to allow an extra day off for the city employees. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Council then voted on an oral resolution to have City Prosecutor Jake Matthews pursue through the circuit court an abatement issue on a piece of property located in the city limits of Piedmont. Caleb Pope made the motion to accept the oral resolution. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. The Mayor asked City Clerk Michelle Franklin for a roll call and the vote was as follows:

YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN
John Lawrence	None	None
Richard Williams		
Jubal Feazell		
Caleb Pope		
Greg South		
David Ivey		
Terry Kiser		
Mayor Baker		

Following the roll call the vote was unanimous to accept the oral resolution.

In Visitor's Comments Dallas Whorton owner of Low Life Construction asked the Council for the money owed to him for the gazebo in the total amount of \$43,060.00. The Council offered Mr. Whorton, based on the invoice provided by him an amount of \$33,000.00 which would be double what was spent on the invoices provided to the Council. Mr. Whorton did not accept the offer of \$33,000.00 and the matter will be turned over to each parties' attorneys. Caleb Pope made the motion to hire a contractor to give the city an estimate of the cost of the gazebo as it stands now. Jubal Feazell seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next Josh Wright the Director of the Piedmont Rescue Squad asked the Council if they could help with the CARES Act funds that the city received to purchase 3 or 4 advanced endoscopes to help keep the EMS personal at a safe distance from the patient due to Covid 19. The Mayor explained that some things are waiting to be approved through the state that the city had asked for and that he and Michelle Franklin would check tomorrow to see if we could help with this need for the Rescue Squad. Caleb Pope commended the Rescue Squad for the great job that they do for the city.

Next Mr. and Mrs. Hass asked the Council for permission to have a roadblock for Jeremy Matthews who needs a heart transplant. Jubal Fezell made the motion to allow the roadblock. David Ivey seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

In Council Reports John Lawrence thanked the street department for getting the leaves picked up that are bagged.

Richard Williams thanked the street department for getting the 3 work orders done that he turned in. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Jubal Fezell asked if Rick Hawkins came to give a quote on the knuckle boom truck.

Caleb Pope wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Greg South wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

David Ivey thanked the street department for cleaning up Railroad Street and he also wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Terry Kiser wished everyone a Merry Christmas and he thanked all the city employees.

In Mayor's Comments he reminded the Council to pick up their yard decoration signs. He said we had a great parade. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With no other business to come before the Council Caleb Pope made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. David Ivey seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.