

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PIEDMONT

2-2-2021

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, Greg South, David Ivey and Terry Kiser. Caleb Pope was absent from the meeting.

Following the invocation given by Mayor Baker and the pledge of allegiance to the flag the minutes were presented for consideration. Jubal Feazell made the motion that the minutes be approved as presented. David Ivey seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The bills totaling \$444,372.22 were then presented for consideration for payment. Terry Kiser made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. David Ivey seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment unanimously.

The Mayor asked Lane Weatherbee, chairman of the Commercial Development Authority to give a report to the council pertaining to any new developments with businesses. He informed the council that Industrial Resin Recycling has new machinery and equipment being installed and will be in operation on February 8, 2021. This will mean 40 new jobs. He said continued construction is happening at Burger King and this will produce 45 new jobs. He informed the council that Pinhoti Properties will be opening the first wood fired pizza restaurant in the spring.

Next Terry Batey spoke to the council about forming a downtown events committee. He said he would like to bring several events a year to the downtown area. After some discussion, Jubal Feazell made the motion to form a Piedmont Arts and Downtown Committee. Richard Williams seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next the Mayor asked the council to reappoint Randy Morgan to the Park and Recreation Department Board to serve another 5-year term. Terry Kiser made the motion to reappoint Randy Morgan to the board. Greg South seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor called on Park and Recreation Director Jeff Formby to discuss repairing the lighting on one pole at the entrance of the complex. After discussion of bids from different companies the council decided to have the Piedmont Electrical Department repair the light with LED lights with the total amount being \$9,200.00. Greg South made a motion for the electrical department to repair the light. Jubal Feazell seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The council then discussed taking possession of the access road behind Mapco on highway 9. The road is currently owned by Mr. Lin Latta and he would like to donate the road to the city. The council discussed the condition of the road and the fact that it needed paving. The Mayor informed the council that

County Commissioner Lee Patterson would pave the road at no expense to the city. At this time, Terry Kiser made the motion that the city take possession of the road with the stipulation that signage be placed on the road stopping large trucks from parking on the road. David Ivey seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next the council discussed the rear loader garbage truck that has been in operation since 2010. They discussed the cost of repairs to the truck and determined that the repairs would be too costly for an 11-year-old truck. The council discussed purchasing a new rear loader garbage truck from Ingram Equipment Company in the amount of \$172,550.00 with a five-year warranty. After a lengthy discussion about a method to pay for the truck, Jubal Fezell made the motion to increase the garbage rate for residential customers \$1.60 which would change from \$16.00 per month to \$17.60 per month and to increase the business and commercial dumpster charges by 10% across the board. Noting that the city has not had a rate increase on garbage pickup since 2006 and the city has incurred the cost of landfill increases through the years. Richard Williams seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

In Council Reports John Lawrence informed the council that February is Black History Month and he also wanted to recognize that Mr. John Henry Richardson was the first black man elected to the City Council of the City of Piedmont.

Richard Williams thanked Terry Batey for coming before the council with the idea of a Piedmont Downtown Committee.

Jubal Fezell asked about the new website and the photo for the Pinhoti brochure.

Greg South had no report.

David Ivey had no report.

Terry Kiser had no report.

In the Mayor's Comments the Mayor thanked Terry Batey for speaking to the council about a downtown committee and he also said it had been a very productive meeting.

With no other business to come before the council Terry Kiser made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. David Ivey seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.