

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PIEDMONT

January 7, 2025

6:21 PM

The City Council of the City of Piedmont met in regular session at the time and on the date above. Present were Mayor Baker, Council Members John Lawrence, Richard Williams, Jubal Feazell, Greg South, David Ivey, and Terry Kiser.

Following the invocation by Jubal Feazell and the pledge of allegiance given by Mayor Baker, the minutes were presented for consideration. Terry Kiser made the motion that the minutes be approved as presented. Richard Williams seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

The bills totaling \$650,382.50 were then presented for consideration for payment. Richard Williams made the motion that the bills be approved as presented. David Ivey seconded the motion and the bills were approved for payment.

Resolution 2025-01 was the next item on the agenda. Terry Kiser made a motion to table until a later date. Greg South seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chief Todd Kirkland was next on the agenda. He presented a Fire Department adjustment plan. Terry Kiser made the motion to approve the plan that Chief Kirkland has proposed. Richard Williams seconded the motion and the motion carried.

In visitor comments, Adam Brandt spoke concerning a neighbor's water that was disconnected due to a bill not being paid.

In Council reports, John Lawrence had no report.

Richard Williams had no report.

Jubal Feazell made the motion to approve the needed repairs on the foundation and crawl space at the Administration building. The cost will be \$16,232.77 with work being performed by OX Foundation Solutions. David Ivey seconded the motion and the motion carried. He also told the Council that our wages are low in many departments and we need to find a way to increase them. He said that he supported the Fire increase and we need to look at the Police so we will not lose any officers.

Caleb Pope was absent.

Greg South appreciates the information that Chief Kirkland presented to the Council. He is good with doing what is right for the City. He would love to see everyone get a raise, but we need to be able to justify it. He does not want to make the citizens of Piedmont absorb the raises with an increase in utility rates. He wants to be clear on the additional money we spend, we must increase revenues to offset.

David Ivey wanted to let everyone know about the upcoming Lowe's Grant. He gave a copy of what they are looking for to be included in the grant proposal to the Council. He gave three ideas for the grant. Library expansion, Storm Shelter, and warming station at the Benevolence Center when food is given out during the cold months.

Terry Kiser wanted to thank the Fire Chief. He hopes that he will be able to find good part time employees. He also told everyone to keep warm because of the upcoming cold front.

Clerk Hinton told everyone that the stage in the gym and upstairs banquet room has been completed with refinished hardwood floors. He asked the Council to approve the new turnout request from Chief Kirkland for the amount of \$8,655.00 from Central Alabama Training Solution. Terry Kiser made the motion to approve the purchase of new turnouts in the amount of \$8,655.00. Richard Williams seconded the motion and the motion carried.

In the Mayor's comments he said that Lane Weatherbee has requested to put Steven Maddox on the Commercial Development Board. The Council asked to table until next meeting to see if he met the qualifications. The Mayor also mentioned that we have many employees that are underpaid that start with an \$11.50 per hour wage. Councilman Kiser presented the Mayor with a newspaper clipping that listed the achievements of the Piedmont School System. They received all A's on the State report card. They tied with Vestavia Hills for second with Mountain Brook taking the top honor. He wanted to let everyone know that it was a great turnout for the Annual Squirrel Drop on New Year's Eve. He would like to thank Terry and Ashley for all the work they did. He also told of the recent Polar Plunge which was on January 4. He wanted to thank Councilmen Kiser and Ivey for attending. They raised almost \$600.00. He was contacted by the Health Care Board that Aggie Harbour's term was expiring and would like to be re-appointed to the board. David Ivey made the motion to re-appoint Aggie Harbour to the Piedmont Healthcare Board. Terry Kiser seconded the motion and the motion carried. In closing, he stated the next Council Meeting will be January 21, 2025.

With no other business to come before the Council, Terry Kiser made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Greg South seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.