



City of Clay

P.O. Box 345
Clay, Al 35048-0345

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES June 18, 2012

The City Council of the City of Clay, Alabama met in regular session on Monday, June 18, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at the Clay Community Center. Mayor Ed McGuffie presided and City Clerk Bobby Christmas served as recorder.

Mayor McGuffie called the meeting to order and Chamber of Commerce President Ronnie Dixon opened in prayer and led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States.

Roll call of those present was answered by the following:

Councilman L. B. Feemster
Councilwoman Becky Johnson
Councilman Charles Webster

Councilwoman Jackie Hambrick
Councilman Kevin Small
Mayor Ed McGuffie

Absent: None

Mayor McGuffie called for a motion to approve the Pre-Council meeting and Regular Council meeting minutes of June 4, 2012. Councilman Small made a motion to approve the Pre-Council meeting minutes and Regular Council meeting minutes of June 4, 2012, which was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Mayor McGuffie called for a motion to approve tonight's Meeting Agenda. Councilman Small made a motion to approve the meeting agenda which was seconded by Councilwoman Hambrick and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Mayor McGuffie called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Feemster made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Councilman Small and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Under **Scheduled Public Comments**, Mayor McGuffie announced the bid opening for paving of streets. Mayor McGuffie stated that Building Inspections Superintendent Lynn Burch sent out eight bid requests and two responded. The bids were read aloud as follows:

Butler Contractors:

Frazier Circle \$17,953.00
Keith Drive \$17,580.00
Pannell Road \$41,251.00
Shane Circle \$35,719.00
Uphill Drive \$13,575.00
Total: \$126,078.00

Dunn Construction Company:

Frazier Circle \$24,850.00
Keith Drive \$26,450.00
Pannell Road \$51,750.00
Shane Circle \$37,650.00
Uphill Drive \$11,950.00
Total \$152,650.00

Mayor McGuffie stated that these bids will be reviewed.



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Mayor McGuffie recognized Mr. Joe Gilliland. Mr. Gilliland identified himself as living on Brewer Lane. He asked the Council who determines which businesses are required to be licensed. Councilwoman Johnson answered that every business in Clay must obtain a business license.

Mr. Gilliland asked who regulates the sign ordinance. Mayor McGuffie answered that the city is responsible for enforcing the sign ordinance. Mr. Gilliland asked if the sign at the new City Hall is considered illegal. Mayor McGuffie answered that the sign is temporary to inform the public of the location of the new City Hall.

Mr. Gilliland inquired about waiving the rental fee for the Community Center to promote a business in Clay. He asked if Freds was charged to rent the Community Center. Mayor McGuffie answered that they were not charged. Mr. Gilliland asked why that opportunity is not given to other businesses. Mayor McGuffie answered that the opportunity is available to other businesses.

Mr. Gilliland further questioned the sign ordinance, asking about the number of election signs allowed per residence. Councilman Feemster answered that one sign is allowed per residence. Mr. Gilliland stated that a residence in Clay has two election signs in their yard.

Under **Reports from Standing Committees** Councilman Feemster was recognized for a report from the **Public Safety Committee**. Councilman Feemster called on Deputy Terry Scott for an update. Deputy Scott reported that Steeplechase, Clayton Cove, and other neighborhoods have seen an increase in vandalism recently, copper was stolen out of an air conditioning unit at Bryant Park, and a fuel theft was interrupted at the ballpark. Deputy Scott encouraged everyone to be on the lookout in their subdivisions and to call and report anything suspicious. Meanwhile, there will be more frequent patrols in these areas.

Councilwoman Hambrick was recognized for a report from the **Committee on Community Development, Environmental, Historical, Library and Seniors**. Councilwoman Hambrick asked citizens to remain diligent especially in the summer. Deputy Scott explained the City curfew as being 9:00 pm on weeknights and 11:00 pm on weekends for anyone under 18 years of age. He further explained that parents and guardians can be held responsible for minors who break the curfew ordinance. Councilwoman Hambrick urged citizens to be proactive in keeping our community safe and band together and form neighborhood associations. She explained that the library's summer reading program is going great. She encouraged everyone to visit the library's website and facebook page. Councilwoman Hambrick explained that improvements continue at the Cosby Lake House.

Under **Committee on Annexation, Business, Census, Planning & Zoning and Schools**, Councilwoman Johnson reported that Clay United Methodist Church helped tremendously during the tornado recovery and now has a need for food donations for their pantry. She stated that a list of food items will be put on facebook and the website and available from City Clerk Bobby Christmas at City Hall. She announced Clay Chalkville High School's new principal is Mr. Michael Lee from Minor High School. Councilwoman Hambrick called on Mr. Ronnie Dixon, President of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Dixon stated that Clay May Days was a success and announced the Butterbean Festival will be held on October 5 and 6. Mr. Dixon also announced the Chamber of Commerce luncheon will be held on June 19 at the Grayson Valley Country Club.

Under **Committee on Building Inspections, Sanitation, Streets and Utilities** Councilman Kevin Small announced that the paving bids will be reviewed and evaluated and he hopes to be able to bring them up again at the next meeting.

Councilman Webster was recognized for a report from the **Committee on Parks and Recreation**. He stated that Clearview Baptist Church also has a food pantry and money for tornado recovery. He also announced the Clay Community singing would be held on June 30 from 6-8pm at the Community Center. He stated that the Fishing Rodeo was a success.



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Mayor McGuffie clarified that Freds used the Community Center for a job fair. Councilman Feemster stated that any business who would like to hold a job fair could use the Community Center. Mayor McGuffie stated that he would like to put up signs in various locations around the city: City Hall, Senior Center, Community Center, Bryant Park, Library, and an information sign at an unknown location. Councilman Small made a motion to put out a bid for signs at the Senior Center, City Hall, Library, Bryant Park, and the informational sign. Councilman Feemster asked to add a city limit sign for Chalkville Road. Councilman Small amended his motion to include a city limit sign. Councilman Feemster seconded the amended motion and it was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Under **Reading of Petitions, Applications, Complaints, Appeals, Communications, etc.** there was nothing to report.

Under the **City Clerk's Report**, City Clerk Bobby Christmas reported the account balances in the 4 & 5 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$62,579.44; 7 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$143,353.01; Capital Improvement Fund = \$145,717.53; Contractors Bond = \$43,375.76; General Fund = \$519,326.94; Library Fund = \$7,579.69; and Senior Citizens Fund = \$11,005.26.

Under **Resolutions, Ordinances, Orders and Other Business** there was nothing to report.

Mayor McGuffie called an end to Unanimous Consent and called for **Public Comments** and recognized Mr. Andy Driggers who identified himself as living at 5517 Garden Valley Lane and asked for prayers for his daughter, Lora, who would be undergoing her sixth surgery on Tuesday.

Mayor McGuffie called for any **Mayor / Council comments** and recognized Councilwoman Hambrick clarified that the sign for the Senior Center is also for the Community Center.

Mayor McGuffie recognized Councilman Webster who relayed citizens' request for help with entering traffic on Old Springville Road from Claymont. Councilman Feemster stated that he would speak with Ken Boozer at the County about this concern. Councilman Feemster said that there are other places where it would be advantageous to install a traffic mirror if the County will allow it.

Councilman Feemster announced that paving will take place in front of the library on Tuesday, so parking will be located at the soccer parking lot.

Councilman Small made a motion for the city to contribute \$5,000.00 to the Clay Chamber of Commerce for operational expenses and their networking and marketing the city of Clay. Councilman Webster seconded the motion and it was voted on as follows: Councilmembers Small, Webster, Johnson, Hambrick voted yea and Councilman Feemster voted nay.

Mayor McGuffie recognized Mr. Carol Foster, who reiterated Councilman Webster's request. She stated that utility trucks often park at the corner of Clayton Road and Old Springville Road which causes a traffic hazard. Councilman Feemster stated that a no parking sign was installed, but he will ask the Public Works Department to move it closer to Old Springville Road.

Mayor McGuffie recognized Councilwoman Johnson who stated that bushes are overgrown at the intersection of Cardinal Drive and Old Springville Road.

Mayor McGuffie recognized Councilwoman Hambrick who stated that the seniors have produced a brochure advertising the seniors center. Councilwoman Johnson asked about the distribution of the pamphlet. Mr. Mercer, the creator of the pamphlet, stated that he was placing them at local grocery stores and gas stations. Councilwoman Johnson suggested distributing them at local churches.

Carol Foster asked that the Council review the weed ordinance again as there is a growing problem with vacant lots not being cut. Mayor McGuffie stated that the city is looking at the weed ordinance and trying to adjust the length of time required for notices. Councilman Feemster stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission has discussed the wording of the weed ordinance and is working on a way to allow the City to cut the grass without the violation having to be reported multiple times.



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Mayor McGuffie recognized Councilman Webster who asked to move the pre-Council meeting to the Community Center.

Mayor McGuffie announced that the next regular City Council meeting would be July 2, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Feemster made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilman Webster and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The City Council adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobby Christmas
City Clerk