



**City of Clay**  
**P.O. Box 345**  
**Clay, Al 35048-0345**

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**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**December 3, 2012**

The City Council of the City of Clay met in regular session on Monday, December 3, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at Clay City Hall. Mayor Webster presided over the meeting and City Manager Ronnie Dixon, served as recorder.

Mayor Webster called the meeting to order and Councilor Small opened in prayer and led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of those present was answered by the following:

Councilor Baker  
Councilor Small

Councilor Halstead  
Councilor Thackerson

Councilor Johnson  
Mayor Webster

Absent: None

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes of November 19, 2012.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes of November 19, 2012, which was seconded by Councilor Small and approved by unanimous voice vote.*

Mayor Webster stated that the meeting agenda should be amended to add discussion of the previous City Clerk after Resolutions and called for a motion to approve the amended Meeting Agenda.

*Councilor Small made a motion to approve the amended meeting agenda which was seconded by Councilor Halstead and approved unanimously by voice vote.*

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve the consent agenda which was seconded by Councilor Baker and approved unanimously by voice vote.*

Under **Scheduled Public Comments**, Mayor Webster introduced Mr. Randy Matthews who identified himself as living in the Polo Downs Subdivision. Mr. Matthews presented the Council with a Petition to Address and Resolve the Dangerous and Potentially Deadly Situation on Canterbury Road, Clay, Alabama. Mayor Webster stated that he would like to look into this issue further, but would like to address the matter soon.

Under **Reports from Standing Committees** Mayor Webster reported for the **Finance Committee**. He announced that the City Manager, Ronnie Dixon, has been working on a budget and he hopes to have a preliminary budget to present at the next council meeting. He reported that he has had several people interested in volunteering for the finance committee, and he plans to have the committee in place and hold a meeting before the beginning of 2013.



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Councilor Baker was recognized for a report from the **Public Safety Committee**. Councilman Baker announced that he has had more people volunteer for the Public Safety Committee. He said that he has also spoken with Deputy Scott about extra patrols. City Manager Ronnie Dixon replied that Sheriff Hale has Tahoes for the Deputies to use.

Councilor Halstead was recognized for a report from the **Committee on Community Development and Annexations and the Building Inspections Department**. Councilor Halstead thanked Lynn Burch and Debby Clayton for searching the Courthouse database for vacant commercial real estate. He spoke of his hope to rent the empty locations to businesses. Councilor Halstead discussed establishing a subcommittee for annexations and asked for volunteers.

Under **Committee on Schools, Seniors Advisory Board Liaison and Planning and Zoning Councilor Ex-Officio**, Councilor Johnson reported on the following: (1) Christmas Parade will be held Saturday, December 8, at 3:30 pm. (2) Clay Chalkville Middle School will host a pancake breakfast with Santa on the morning of December 8. (3) The Clay Elementary School All County Choir will perform at the Tree Lighting on December 8. (4) The band Reunion will host a Country Christmas Party at the Community Center after the Tree Lighting. (5) The Senior Center calendar is on the City's website. (6) The Chamber of Commerce party will be held on December 10 at the Grayson Valley Country Club at 6:30 pm. (7) The Library Craft Night will be held on December 6 at 6 at the Community Center. (8) The School Committee is starting a reading program at both elementary schools in kindergarten through third grade and they need volunteers.

The Mayor acknowledged that the School Committee is implementing this program because many kids fall behind in reading during early stages and have trouble catching up.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to recommend appointing Cindy Godwin to the Board of Zoning Adjustments which was seconded by Councilor Baker and approved by a unanimous voice vote.*

Councilor Small was recognized for a report from the **Public Work Department and Library Board** and announced that the Library Board has a budget to present to Council. He also stated that the Sci-Fi book club will meet on December 11. He reported that Josh Isbell, Public Works Superintendent, has been working to present a budget to the Council as well as reviewing equipment needs and surplus equipment.

**Councilor Thackerson** was recognized for a report on the **Parks and Recreation Board**. He announced that he has had several applicants for Park Board and that he will take resumes until December 15<sup>th</sup>. He hopes to form after the first of the year. He advertised that he has been working with Park Superintendent, Will Collins, on creating an online registration option for softball and baseball. Councilor Thackerson informed the audience of a Youth Sports Public Forum on December 11 at 7:00 pm at the Community Center. He related his goal to increase participation in youth sports. He brought the Council's attention to a disc golf proposal included in their packet. He stated that the proposal is from a local resident and approximately half of the cost of previous quotes. The Mayor announced that he is looking for sponsors and likes that this sport is family friendly.



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

Under the **City Clerk's Report**, City Manager Ronnie Dixon pointed out that the City is now printing account balances on the agendas for the public. He stated that he plans to expand this to include a condensed form of the consent agenda. Mr. Dixon reported the account balances in the 4 & 5 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$100,019.62; 7 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$118,491.18; Capital Improvement Fund = \$51,821.88; Contractors Bond = \$53,375.76; General Fund = \$230,304.67; Library Fund = \$7,137.10; and Senior Citizens Fund = \$4,379.24.

Councilor Johnson asked Ronnie Dixon about the two phone lines and cellular service for the Concession Stand. Mr. Dixon answered that the cellular service for the concession stand has been discontinued. Mayor Webster stated that the City has received a \$1,500.00 check for the concession stand along with some financial information for the Concession Stand.

Under **Resolutions, Ordinances, Orders and Other Business** Mayor Webster called for a motion to enter into unanimous consent.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to suspend the regular rules of order and enter into unanimous consent which was seconded by Councilor Baker.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Proclamation 2012-06, A Proclamation to Recognize Ms. Evelyn Self on Her Centennial Birthday, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve Proclamation 2012-06, which was seconded by Councilor Halstead.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-35, A Resolution Designating City Officials, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Small made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-35, which was seconded by Councilor Johnson.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson.

Councilor Thackerson stated that the City hired Will Collins as a Park and Recreation Superintendent. Councilor Small rescinded his previous motion.

*Councilor Small made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-35 with the amended title of "Parks and Recreation Superintendent," which was seconded by Councilor Halstead.*



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The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson.

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-36 A Resolution Appointing Members of the Abatement Board, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Small made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-36, which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-37 A Resolution Designating Meeting Times for the City Council, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Halstead made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-37, which was seconded by Councilor Johnson.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Councilor Small clarified that the May 20, 2013 meeting would conflict with the League of Municipalities Conference. Mayor Webster stated that the Council would reschedule the meeting closer to that date.

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-38 A Resolution Designating Meeting Times for the Planning and Zoning Commission, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-38, which was seconded by Councilor Small.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-39 A Resolution Designating Meeting Times for the Board of Zoning Adjustments, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-39, which was seconded by Councilor Halstead.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None



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Mayor Webster called an end to Unanimous Consent and opened discussion of the previous City Clerk's compensatory pay. Mayor Webster announced that Mr. Christmas has submitted accumulated hours totaling 640 hours. He explained that this time is accrued vacation days beginning in 2004.

*After discussion of vacation time, sick time, and compensatory time, Councilor Baker made a motion to table a decision for further investigation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Johnson and approved by a unanimous voice vote.*

Mayor Webster stated that he would like for the Council to review the personnel manual.

Mayor Webster called for **Public Comments** and recognized Ms. Carol Foster who communicated that she submitted information regarding compensatory time to the prior administration. Mayor Webster asked Ms. Foster to submit the information again.

Mayor Webster recognized Mr. George Post who exclaimed, "Roll Tide!"

Mayor Webster called for any **Mayor / Council comments** and recognized Councilor Baker who asked Mr. Lynn Burch about a contractor doing business without a license in the City. Mr. Burch told Councilor Baker speak with Building Inspector, Donald Isbell.

Councilor Thackerson stated that he attended Dr. Hart's Christmas lighting.

Councilor Small recognized the City employees attending the meeting.

Mayor Webster discussed the cherry tree planting that took place at Cosby Lake on November 30. He also recognized Mr. Joe Gilliland and thanked him for the bench he presented to the City. The bench was crafted out of cedar debris from the tornado.

Councilor Johnson passed out applications for the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Alan Summers congratulated the High School football team for playing in the state quarter finals.

*Councilor Thackerson made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councilor Johnson and approved by a unanimous voice vote.*

The City Council adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ronnie Dixon  
City Manager