



# City of Clay

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

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## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

### June 21, 2010

The City Council of the City of Clay, Alabama met in regular session on Monday, June 21, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center with Mayor Ed McGuffie presiding and City Clerk Bobby Christmas serving as recorder.

Mayor McGuffie called the meeting to order and Councilwoman Jackie Hambrick opened in prayer.

Councilman L. B. Feemster 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 and regular council minutes of June 7, 2010. Councilman Small made a motion to approve the pre-council and regular council minutes, which was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

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

Under **Scheduled Public Comments**, Mayor McGuffie recognized Mr. Theo Lawson who introduced himself as a candidate for Jefferson County District Attorney. Mr. Lawson gave some background experience and his qualifications for seeking this position.

Mayor McGuffie recognized Mr. Jason Kincaid who introduced himself as a coach and as a parent of a child who plays ball at the cities ballpark. He stated the parents were frustrated with the way things were being run at the ballpark. He stated they had been run off by police officers from practicing at the ballpark; lights have been turned off on them; and travel ball tournaments are being allowed over local tournaments. Mr. Kincaid stated he felt like the children of Clay were being run over and some were leaving to go play elsewhere.

Ben Thackerson, Chairman of the Park Board, stated that the previous baseball Director could answer all these questions for him.



## City Council Meeting

June 21, 2010

Page 2

Councilman Webster stated that he did not want to see any kids go elsewhere to play ball and there had been a lot of miscommunications. He stated things were improving since last year. He announced that the Park Board meets every second Tuesday of the month and invited those present to begin attending these meetings for answers.

Councilman Small recommended a town hall meeting with Councilman Webster, the Park Board and concerned citizens to get these issues out in the open and resolved. He pledged to help work on getting answers to these questions. Those present agreed to attend this meeting.

Under **Reports from Standing Committees** Mayor McGuffie recognized Councilman Feemster for a report from the **Public Safety Committee**. Councilman Feemster reported that speed cushions had been placed on Somersby Parkway to help slow traffic. He stated that these cushions were designed to slow traffic to 25 or 30 miles per hour. Also, he stated there was a two foot gap to allow for emergency vehicles to travel over them.

Councilman Feemster requested that anyone seeing any of the radar speed signs not working to call and let him know. He stated he could reset them and get them to working again. Ms. Cheryl Stewart thanked Mr. Feemster for the radar speed signs and stated she could tell they were slowing people down.

Mr. Philip McCary, 6057 Steeple Chase Drive, stated that speed cushions were needed on Steeple Chase Drive and requested that someone look at this possibility.

Councilwoman Hambrick was recognized for a report from the **Committee on Community Development, Environmental, Historical, Library and Seniors**. Councilwoman Hambrick recognized Ms. Cheryl Stewart of the Historical Society who announced that they were working on a memorial for veterans in Clay. She stated they wanted to start by posting veterans names at the Library and presented a sample package for veterans to complete. She stated these packages would be available at City Hall, the Library and local churches and give instructions to mail them to the Clay Historical Society.

Mr. Guy Scott was recognized for a Seniors report and stated they took a one day trip today. City Clerk Bobby Christmas announced that they took a three day trip last week to Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Councilwoman Hambrick invited all Senior Citizens to check out our Senior Citizens Center and take part in all of their activities.

Councilwoman Hambrick announced that the Farmers Market Coupon Books would be distributed July 7 at 10:00 a.m. at the Seniors Center. She stated the qualifications of 60+ years old, live in Jefferson County and the income levels to qualify.

Ms. Feemster was recognized to speak about the welcome sign on Deerfoot Parkway. She announced that it was near completion and Danny Keith with Keith's Landscaping was working on the lighting. Everyone agreed that it looked great.

Under **Committee on Annexation, Business, Census, Planning & Zoning and Schools**, Councilwoman Johnson was recognized and reported on some new businesses open in Clay. She announced that a new consignment shop called Second Chances; the Houndstooth Café and a new Dollar Store in the Piggly Wiggly building would be opening soon.



## City Council Meeting

June 21, 2010

Page 3

Councilman Small was recognized for a report from the **Committee on Building Inspections, Sanitation, Streets and Utilities**. Councilman Small reported that the City had recovered money on a bond on a couple of roads in Steeple Chase that had not been completed by the developer. Based on this, Councilman Small made a motion to put out a bid for surfacing Harness Circle and Harness Trace. Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion which was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Councilman Small reported that Public Works was busy replacing storm drain covers and repairing roads.

Councilman Webster was recognized for a report from the **Parks and Recreation Committee**. Councilman Webster invited everyone to check out the walking trail behind Cosby Lake and all the work that has been done. He stated the distance from Steeple Chase Drive to the dam and return is one mile. He stated they were working on a master plan to connect walking trails with bridges. He stated Mike Stanley, Park Director, was working on prices for a playground and water park behind the Library and possibly getting grants to help pay for it.

Mike Stanley reported on work over the weekend at Bryant Park by the Soccer Club.

Jason Kincaid asks about places to practice and Mike Stanley stated everything was scheduled through clayrecsports.com. Councilman Webster stated they had been working on places for teams to practice.

Councilman Webster announced there would be a Community Wide Singing on Saturday night June 26 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center. He invited everyone to come out and enjoy the singing. He announced that there were about 60 people at the last singing.

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

Under the **City Clerk's Report**, City Clerk Bobby Christmas announced there would be a city wide yard sale at Bryant Park on Saturday July 17. He invited everyone to come and participate and stated the city would provide the property for the yard sale and anything anyone sales would be their money to keep.

The City Clerk reported on the balances in the 4 & 5 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$150,947.46; 7 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$99,079.92; AmFund Account = \$1,054,561.07; Capital Improvement Fund = \$216,956.74; Concession Stand = \$13,884.61; Contractors Bond = \$43,287.72; General Fund = \$612,487.94; Library Fund = \$10,754.96; Park and Recreation Fund = \$76.16; and Senior Citizens Fund = \$7,113.23.

Under **Resolutions, Ordinances, Orders and Other Business** Mayor McGuffie called for a motion to enter into Unanimous Consent. Councilman Small made a motion to suspend the regular rules of order and enter into Unanimous Consent which was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson.

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

Yeas: Council members Feemster, Hambrick, Johnson, Small, Webster and Mayor McGuffie

Nays: None



**City Council Meeting**  
**June 21, 2010**  
**Page 4**

Mayor McGuffie introduced Resolution 2010 – 20, A Resolution Authorizing the Elimination of a Nuisance Upon Private Property, which was read by City Clerk Bobby Christmas.

Councilman Feemster made a motion to approve Resolution 2010 – 20 which was seconded by Councilman Small.

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

Yeas: Council members Feemster, Hambrick, Johnson, Small, Webster and Mayor McGuffie

Nays: None

Mayor McGuffie called for any **Public Comments** and recognized Mr. Jason Kincaid who asks how weed abatements were handled in the City. The Mayor explained the rules for notifying the property owners and going through the legal procedures to get grass cut. Also, Councilman Small stated that the city will cut the grass and then bill the property owner for the work done. Councilwoman Johnson asks when the grass would be cut for the properties approved for tonight. Councilman Small explained the priority process.

Mayor McGuffie called for any other comments and there was no response.

Mayor McGuffie announced that the next City Council meeting would be Tuesday July 6 at the Clay Community Center.

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

The City Council meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bobby Christmas  
City Clerk / Treasurer