



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

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
October 17, 2011

The City Council of the City of Clay, Alabama met in regular session on Monday, October 17, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at the Clay Community Center. Mayor McGuffie presided and City Clerk Bobby Christmas served as recorder.

Mayor McGuffie called the meeting to order and Councilman Charles Webster 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 Jackie Hambrick
Councilwoman Becky Johnson	Councilman Kevin Small
Councilman Charles Webster	Mayor Ed McGuffie

Absent: None

Mayor McGuffie called for a motion to approve the Pre-Council meeting and Regular Council meeting minutes of October 3, 2011. Councilwoman Johnson made a motion to approve the Pre-Council meeting minutes and Regular Council meeting minutes of October 3, 2011, which was seconded by Councilman Small 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 Webster and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Under **Scheduled Public Comments**, Mayor McGuffie introduced Diana Hale, Sherriff Hale's wife and breast cancer survivor, in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Mrs. Hale shared her experience and reminded women to regularly screen for breast cancer. Mrs. Hale also presented the Mayor and Council with her team t-shirts from the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

Mayor McGuffie introduced a Public Hearing for prohibiting smoking in public places and providing penalties for the violation thereof. City Clerk Christmas read a synopsis of Ordinance 2011-06, an Ordinance Prohibiting Smoking in Public Places and Providing Penalties for the Violation Thereof. The Mayor called for anyone to speak in favor of this Ordinance. Mr. Tom Blake was recognized and spoke in support of the ordinance. Mr. Blake explained his family's history of smoking, and his belief that the ordinance will have a positive impact on the City of Clay. He also urged the Council to continue efforts to educate the community about the effects of smoking.

The Mayor called for anyone wishing to speak in opposition to this Ordinance and there was no response.



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Under **Reports from Standing Committees** Councilman Feemster was recognized for a report from the **Public Safety Committee**. Councilman Feemster spoke of the opportunities for displays by the City of Clay and discussed the need for a professional display. Councilman Feemster made a motion for the city to buy a professional display, not to exceed \$2,000.00, which was seconded by Councilwoman Hambrick and approved by a unanimous voice vote. Councilman Feemster recognized Deputy Terry Scott who reported that October 16-22 was Teen Safe Driving Week. Deputy Scott urged teen drivers to slow down, turn down their radios, and not text while driving. Deputy Scott also encouraged parents to talk to their teens about safe driving habits.

Councilwoman Hambrick was recognized for a report from the **Committee on Community Development, Environmental, Historical, Library and Seniors**. She reported that the Adult Reading Club meeting would be held October 18, to discuss the book *Leaving Gee's Bend* and encouraged everyone to visit the Clay Library's website and facebook page. Councilwoman Hambrick also announced the Library's Craft Night and encouraged everyone to attend. She invited anyone interested in helping with the Veterans' Luncheon to a meeting at the Senior Center on October 18. She also reported on the Ware Cemetery stating that the fence was not ready to be erected but the city has done a great job cleaning up the area in preparation for the fence.

Under **Committee on Annexation, Business, Census, Planning & Zoning and Schools**, Councilwoman Johnson reported on the following: (1) The Chamber of Commerce luncheon would be held on October 18. (2) Conrad's Grill planned to open in 7-10 days. (3) Clay Chalkville High School won again Friday night. (4) Clay Elementary School was hosting a book fair October 24-28, and would also wear red on October 24 to observe Red Ribbon Week which promotes a drug free lifestyle.

Councilman Small was recognized for a report from the **Committee on Building Inspections, Sanitation, Streets and Utilities** and stated that he had nothing new to report.

Councilman Webster was recognized for a report from the Parks and Recreation Committee. He discussed the Concession Stand Agreement and made a motion for approval which was seconded by Councilman Feemster and approved by a unanimous voice vote. He also reported on the walking trails at Cosby Lake and stated that the bridges being built should be completed in a few weeks. Councilman Webster also encouraged attendance for the Community Singing on October 29.

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 introduced a "War on Obesity" application packet for the Alabama League of Municipalities Quality of Life Award. He requested the City Council approve this packet as required by the Alabama League of Municipalities. Councilman Feemster made a motion to approve the application which was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

City Clerk Bobby Christmas reported the account balances in the 4 & 5 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$68,155.01; 7 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$83,237.20 AmFund Account = \$141,395.52; Capital Improvement Fund = \$454,016.21; Concession Stand = \$3,634.21; Contractors Bond = \$43,375.76; General Fund = \$299,812.10; Library Fund = \$7425.94; and Senior Citizens Fund = \$9,039.46.



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Under **Resolutions, Ordinances, Orders and Other Business** Mayor McGuffie moved the second reading of Ordinance 2011-06 to the next Council Meeting. Mayor McGuffie called for **Public Comments**. Mr. George Post was recognized and further encouraged attendance at the Community Singing on October 29, stating that as an added incentive to attend neither Alabama nor Louisiana State was playing that evening. He also recommended posting announcements of City Council Meetings on the marquee outside City Hall.

Mr. Joe Gilliland was recognized and asks about the status of the complaint he had made before the City Council in the September 8, 2011, City Council meeting. Mayor McGuffie stated that Mr. Gilliland should follow the procedures of the personnel policy. Mr. Gilliland stated he is not an employee and is making this request as a citizen of Clay. Mayor McGuffie affirmed he would look into the matter

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

Mayor McGuffie announced that the next regular City Council meeting would be Monday November 7, 2011.

Mayor McGuffie called for a motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Councilman Small made a motion to enter into an executive session which was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson.

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

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

Nays: None

Mayor McGuffie announced that the Council would be in executive session for approximately 45 minutes and would reconvene the regular council meeting at that time. The City Council entered into Executive Session at 7:40 p.m., returned at 8:25 p.m. and adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bobby Christmas
City Clerk