



# City of Clay

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

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## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

*August 3, 2015*

The City Council of the City of Clay met in regular session on Monday, August 3, 2015, at 6:40 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. Councilor Small led in prayer and Mayor Webster led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of those present was answered by the following:

Councilor Baker, Councilor Becky Johnson Councilor Bo Johnson, Councilor Small, Councilor Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Absent: None

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve the Pre and Regular Council meeting minutes of July 20, 2015.

*Councilor Thackerson made a motion to approve the Pre and Regular Council meeting minutes of July 20, 2015, which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson and approved by unanimous voice vote.*

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve tonight's Meeting Agenda.

*Councilor Bo Johnson made a motion to approve tonight's Meeting Agenda, which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson and approved by a unanimous voice vote.*

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve tonight's Consent Agenda.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve tonight's Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson. The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:*

*Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Under **Mayor and Council Comments**, **Mayor Webster** announced an Open House at Fire Station 4 on Saturday, August 8, from 2:00-4:00 pm. Jefferson County is now offering virtual schooling. The career tech center should be open within a few weeks.

**Councilor Baker** had nothing new to report. Mayor Webster informed the Council that the City is purchasing radios in the schools for the Sheriff's Department.

**Councilor Becky Johnson** called on Dr. Gallant for a report from Clay Elementary School. Dr. Gallant and Ms. Daphne Dody informed the Council that the City donations have been



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used for technology upgrades such as Promethium Boards and Apple TVs. Councilor Johnson then reported that the High School and Middle School have used their funds for technology upgrades and projectors. She reminded the Council that the City donated \$17,349.50 to each school. Councilor Johnson opened discussion for purchasing a 25 passenger bus. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Council opted to add Resolution 2015-39, A Resolution Allowing the Mayor to Enter Into a Bill of Sale Contract with Clearview Baptist Church for \$10,000 for the Purchase of a 2001 Challenger 25 Passenger Bus, under Unanimous Consent. *Councilor Johnson made a motion to advance Clay Chalkville High School \$5,400.00 out of their \$17,000.00 October donation to pay for football transportation costs.*

Councilor Small asked the Council to consider moving the date of donation payment disbursements for all of the schools to August and January. Councilor Thackerson suggested increasing the amount of donation if the Council plans to remove the earmarks on the property taxes. Mr. Dixon explained that the City Council could determine the amount for each donation in the annual budget.

Councilor Johnson's first motion did not receive a second.

*Councilor Johnson then made a motion to reschedule the 1% tax money donation payments for Clay Elementary, Clay Chalkville Middle, and Clay Chalkville High School to be disbursed in August and January, via Resolution 2015-41 under Unanimous Consent. The motion was seconded by Councilor Small.* Councilor Johnson then called on Mr. Dixon to introduce Resolution 2015-40, which will be voted on during Unanimous Consent. Mr. Dixon explained that Clay Chalkville High School Principal, Mr. Michael Lee, has become an invaluable leader at the school and is highly sought after by other Boards of Education. Mr. Dixon then recommended that the City Council adopt a grant for \$1,500.00 per month to Mr. Michael Lee to supplement his salary for the remainder of his current contract. Mr. Lee will serve as an educational consultant for the City of Clay. Councilor Johnson then called on Ms. Linda Plummer for a report from the Senior Center. Ms. Plummer addressed growing membership and upcoming outings scheduled for the seniors.

**Councilor Bo Johnson** announced that the Community Development Committee will reschedule their meeting until August 17.

*Councilor Bo Johnson made a motion to amend Ordinance 2014-04 to amend the caption of Ordinance 2014-04 to remove the earmark and collect all funds for general fund use. Councilor Thackerson seconded the motion.*

Councilor Baker expressed his displeasure at not being made aware of this prior to Council. The Council debated the likelihood of a school system. Councilor Bo Johnson stated that he did not agree with earmarking the funds when the tax was passed and that he believes the funds can be put to better use to address immediate problems. Councilor Small stated that the Jefferson County Board of Education has not done enough to warrant removing the earmark and leverage of the City of Clay. He spoke of falling property values because of the schools. Mayor Webster informed Councilor Small that the Jefferson County Board of Education and



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the City of Clay have a built a great working relationship over the last year. The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

*Yeas: Councilors Johnson, Johnson, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: Councilors Baker and Small.*

The motion was approved by a 4-2 vote.

**Councilor Small** was recognized for a report. He recapped the library's Summer Reading Program. 267 registered for the program, 206 turned in reading logs, and 129 met the goal of reading 25 books over the summer. He also thanked the Public Works Department for their continued work.

**Councilor Thackerson** was recognized for a report. He announced that registration numbers have increased for football and cheerleading.

Under **Reading of Petitions, Applications, Complaints, Appeals, Communications, etc.**, Mayor Webster announced that there were none.

Under the **City Manager's Report**, Mr. Dixon reported that the Council has already discussed everything he had.

Under the **Public Hearing**, Mayor Webster asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak for or against the demolition of a nuisance at 6805 Elliott Road. There was no response.

Mayor Webster asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak for or against the weed abatement. There was no response.

Mayor Webster introduced the Public Hearing for Z-2015-02, subdividing and rezoning the property at 6856 Old Springville Road. Mr. Dixon summarized the application: an electrical motor company is interested in purchasing the old Boss Mechanical offices and zoning them special commercial. There will be only local delivery. The other parcel will be added to his existing farm and zoned agricultural. It is currently zoned Town Center Commercial which does not allow that type of business – nor did it allow Boss Mechanical to operate legally. The hearing comes with a unanimous recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mayor Webster asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak for or against this case and there was no response. The Council unanimously approved Z-2015-02.

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,*



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*which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson.* The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

*Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2015-32, A Resolution Authorizing the Demolition of an Unsafe Buildings and/or Structures, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Thackerson made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-32, which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson.* The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

*Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2015-33, A Resolution Authorizing the Elimination of a Nuisance Upon Private Property, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Thackerson made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-33, which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson.* The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

*Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2015-34, A Resolution Declaring Weeds to be a Public Nuisance, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Thackerson made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-34, which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson.* The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

*Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2015-35, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 7739 Clayton Cove Parkway, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Bo Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-35, 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, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2015-36, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 7763 Clayton Cove Parkway, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.



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*Councilor Bo Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-36, 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, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2015-37, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 8053 Lizmore Lane, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Bo Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-37, 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, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2015-38, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 8054 Lizmore Lane, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Bo Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-38, 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, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2015-39, A Resolution Allowing the Mayor to Enter Into a Bill of Sale Contract with Clearview Baptist, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-39, which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson. The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:*

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

*Nays: None*

*Mayor Webster abstained from voting.*

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2015-40, A Resolution to Supplement Mr. Michael Lee's Jefferson County Employment Contract in the Amount of \$1,500.00 per month, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-40, which was seconded by Councilor Bo Johnson. The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:*



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*Yeas: Councilors Baker, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2015-41, A Resolution Changing Payment Date for the disbursement of the sales tax donation for Clay Elementary, Clay Chalkville Middle, and Clay Chalkville High Schools to January 1 and August 1, which was read by City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-41, 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, Johnson, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster.*

*Nays: None*

Mayor Webster called an end to Unanimous Consent and called for **Public Comments** and there was no response.

Mayor Webster announced that the next City Council meeting will take place on Monday, August 17, 2015, at 6:30. Pre Council will begin at 6:00 p.m.

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

The City Council adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronnie Dixon  
City Manager