



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

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
September 8, 2011

NOTE FOR THE RECORD: The regularly scheduled City Council meeting of September 6, 2011, had to be rescheduled for September 8, 2011, due to bad weather and power outages.

The City Council of the City of Clay, Alabama met in regular session on Thursday, September 8, 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 City Clerk Bobby Christmas opened in prayer.

City Clerk Bobby Christmas 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
Mayor Ed McGuffie

Councilwoman Jackie Hambrick
Councilman Charles Webster

Absent: Councilman Kevin Small

Mayor McGuffie called for a motion to approve the Pre-Council meeting and Regular Council meeting minutes of August 15, 2011. Councilwoman Hambrick made a motion to approve the Pre-Council meeting minutes and Regular Council meeting minutes of August 15, 2011, which was seconded by Councilman Feemster and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Mayor McGuffie called for a motion to approve tonight's Meeting Agenda. Councilwoman Johnson made a motion to approve the meeting agenda which was seconded by Councilman Webster 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 announced there were none.

Under **Reports from Standing Committees** Councilman Feemster was recognized for a report from the **Public Safety Committee**. He reported that ALDOT had given the city permission to solicit for letters of interest from engineers to do the preliminary engineering for the TIP project on Old Springville Road. He outlined the procedures to follow after an engineer has been selected.



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Councilman Feemster reported on a sample Ordinance for no smoking he had given to the Council. He made a motion to pursue putting together an Ordinance for no smoking for the city which was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Councilman Feemster reported that the Public Safety Committee emphasis in the past two years has been on education. He explained that the upcoming fall campaign would emphasize enforcement that may include some blitzes and running radar.

Councilman Feemster commended the Deputies for their assistance with Public Works during the bad weather and power outages. He reported that there were trees down with power lines in them that required watching to keep citizens away from them.

Councilwoman Hambrick was recognized for a report from the **Committee on Community Development, Environmental, Historical, Library and Seniors**. She thanked everyone for coming tonight and reported that Ms. Karen Moody, Library Director, had started a new evening of crafts that was a big success. She invited everyone to check for details and the future schedule for this event on the city website.

Councilwoman Hambrick announced that Mr. Clyde Bolton, well known sports writer, would be the feature speaker at the next Library Book Club meeting on September 20 at the Seniors Center. She reported that he would have one of his books for sale for \$25 that he would autograph.

Ms. Pat Feemster, Environmental Committee Chairwoman, was recognized and reported on the 20 gallon bags placed on the trees on Deerfoot Parkway to help water them.

Councilwoman Hambrick reported that three quotes had been received for the fence around the Wear Cemetery and Bullet Iron was the low quote at \$7,000. Councilwoman Hambrick made a motion for the City of Clay to match the Historical Society donation of \$3,500 to pay Bullet Iron \$7,000 for the fence around the Wear Cemetery. Councilman Feemster seconded the motion which was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Under **Committee on Annexation, Business, Census, Planning & Zoning and Schools**, Councilwoman Johnson was recognized for a report. She thanked the employees of the city for their hard work cleaning up after the bad weather on September 6. She stated she had a tree fall in front of her house that was cleaned up immediately. She reported the schools got through the bad weather pretty good compared to the building that was damaged at Pinson Valley High School.

Councilwoman Johnson congratulated the football team at Clay Chalkville High School for their big win over Hewitt Trussville High School last Friday night.

Councilwoman Johnson reported that the Butterbean Festival was a great success last Friday and Saturday and thanked the City Clerk, Bobby Christmas, and his wife for working the cities booth.



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Councilman Small was not present for a report from the **Committee on Building Inspections, Sanitation, Streets and Utilities**.

Councilman Webster was recognized for a report from the **Parks and Recreation Committee**. He reported that the monthly singing would be this coming Saturday night at 6 p.m.

Councilman Webster reported that the lowest bidders quote on the playground equipment was not up to the standard of the bid specifications. He made a motion to throw out the low bid and review the specifications from the next lowest bidder. Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion. Councilman Feemster reported on the problems with the lowest bidders quote and a meeting with the lowest bidder to discuss the problem. He stated there was a meeting with the next bidder as well and, after the low bidder adjusted his quote to meet specifications, the low bidders quote would still be around \$6,000 less. Councilman Feemster stated that the next bidder would meet the bid specifications because he wrote them and he feels the low bidder should be given the job. Councilman Webster questioned who was in charge of this project and questioned the low bidder's record for not reporting problems, to include fatalities on their equipment, to the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Councilman Webster questioned the legality of going back to the lowest bidder. Ms. Pat Feemster stated that the Park Board was scheduled to meet Monday night and this item was on their agenda. Mayor McGuffie recommended that the Park Board discuss this issue Monday night and come up with a recommendation to the City Council. Councilman Webster agreed and withdrew his motion.

Councilman Webster reported that work had started on the bridges on Cosby Lake but they had to stop work until the water level went down.

Mayor McGuffie introduced Ms. Susan Nelson as the new Bookkeeper for the City. Also, he presented a statue from Danbury Mint of the Twin Towers and told everyone to never forget there are people out there who want to kill us. He requested everyone remember those affected by the terrorist attacks September 11, 2001. Mayor McGuffie announced that the visit by Fox 6 news scheduled for September 6 has been postponed until December 6.

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 reported that the concession trailer at the athletic complex that the Council approved for sale was sold for \$14,000. He reported the account balances in the 4 & 5 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$58,675.00; 7 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$72,888.88 AmFund Account = \$141,395.52; Capital Improvement Fund = \$536,322.96; Concession Stand = \$4,654.06; Contractors Bond = \$43,375.76; General Fund = \$384,105.43; Library Fund = \$7,565.28; and Senior Citizens Fund = \$2,636.04.

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



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Mayor McGuffie called for Public Comments and recognized Mr. George Post. Mr. Post asks Councilman Webster about the singing scheduled for Saturday at 6 p.m. He informed Councilman Webster that some people may arrive late depending on the end of the Alabama vs Penn State game that starts at 2:30.

Mayor McGuffie recognized Mr. Joe Gilliland who passed out a formal complaint against Mr. Lynn Burch, Building Inspections Superintendent, and requested it be made a part of the minutes of this City Council meeting.

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

Mayor McGuffie announced that there would be a called meeting of the City Council on Monday September 12 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. He stated the purpose of the meeting will be to discuss a proposal by Mr. Don Sing and to discuss an agreement with Mr. Hal Kizzire for maintaining the concession stands at the athletic complex.

Mayor McGuffie announced that the next regular City Council meeting would be Monday September 19, 2011.

Councilman Feemster made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilman Webster.

The City Council meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bobby Christmas
City Clerk