

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA  
April 20, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Columbiana, Alabama met in a Regular Session in the Council Chambers of Columbiana City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. Mayor David Mitchell called the meeting to order and asked City Clerk, Charlene Tucker, to call roll after the invocation and pledge.

**Present:**

Council Member Karen Lilly  
Council Member Vickie Mizzell  
Council Member Ricky Ruston

Council Member Kim King  
Council Member Ashley Phillips  
Mayor David Mitchell

**Absent:**

None

The Mayor declared that a quorum was present.

**Consent Agenda**

**A. Approval of Minutes 4-6-21 Regular Council Meeting**

Council Member Mizzell made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, which was seconded by Council Member King and followed by a unanimous show of hands vote of all members present. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

**Department Head Reports**

**Police** – Jeff Bowers reported the following:

- We currently have one on the job injury. This happened after the tornado when an officer was assisting a citizen.
- We are currently on course with our 2021 budget
- We have an open position for a fulltime officer.
- Picking up new vehicles tomorrow. They will have decals put on Thursday and then will have equipment installed.
- Flock camera to be installed by the end of March to assist with investigations and apprehension of wanted persons.
- Training continues for 2021
- Everyone needs to lock their vehicle doors

**Admin** – Charlene Tucker reported the following:

- No reports of safety issues. Continue to clean/sanitize due to COVID-19.
- March 2021 budget is on track.
- Fully staffed with 3 full time positions and 1 part time position.
- City Clerk is now a certified revenue officer.

- City Hall needs to be updated. No repairs are needed at this time.

**Public Works** – Allen Reynolds reported the following:

- No injuries during this fiscal year
- At this time our current budget is on track
- We are currently down three employees
- We are in need of two ¾ ton pick-up trucks long wheelbase for the sanitation department
- Some of our equipment is in need of replacement and some are in need of repairs
- We have monthly training meetings
- We are in desperate need of a shop and office building to work on equipment
- To date, we have picked up 13,976.95 cubic yards of brush from the tornadoes.
- Paving should start the first or second week of May and will take place at night.

**Court** – Liz Taylor reported the following:

- There has been no lost time due to injuries or other safety issues. Court staff needs police officers at every court to insure everything runs smooth and for everyone's safety. Everything in court has been running smooth.
- We are on track with our budget. Court receipts are up 24% since last month.
- Staffing is good
- No facility issues
- Court equipment is up and running
- The next court will be held on April 27 ,2021 @ 2:00pm
- Court has transferred all fine and court cost debts to the Municipal Intercept. We are hoping by doing this early we will get to collect more money this year.( Municipal Intercept is us taking some for our older cases and asking this program to help us collect our money by getting Alabama taxes.)
- We are still working on virtual hearings at the jail.

**Board Reports**

The Water Board is renewing their insurance and working on coverage. They are in the process of hiring one full time person. The City and the Water Board are working on the payment process to improve the system and to help citizens.

**Swearing In – Officer Alexis Rittenhouse**

Mayor Mitchell swore in Police Officer Alexis Rittenhouse.

**PROCLAMATION  
2021 Child Abuse Prevention**

Whereas, in fiscal year 2019, 52 States reported 371,060 victims of child abuse and neglect; and 1,840 children died as a result of abuse or neglect; and

Whereas, in fiscal year 2020, in Shelby County, **1,222 children** were the subjects of child abuse/neglect and prevention reports made to The Shelby County Department of Human Resources.

Whereas, in fiscal year 2020, over **6,183** children were provided services through The Shelby County Children's Advocacy Center (OWENS HOUSE)

Whereas, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone in our community; and

Whereas, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of Columbiana, Alabama; and

Whereas, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects for victims of abuse, and

Whereas, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the meaningful connections and partnerships created between child welfare, education, child advocacy centers, health, community-and-faith-based organizations, business and law enforcement agencies, citizens; and

Whereas, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, nurturing environment.

Now therefore be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Columbiana, Alabama recognizes April 2021 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month in Columbiana, Alabama. We pledge to dedicate ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families and to prevent child abuse.

**PROCLAMATION**  
**Proclaiming May 2021 as Mental Health Month**

**WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a strong research that diet, exercise, sleep and stress management can help all Americans protect their health and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

**WHEREAS**, each business school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen shares the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Columbiana, Alabama do hereby proclaim May 2021 as Mental Health Month in the City of Columbiana. As the City Council, we also call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Columbiana to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions.

**PROCLAMATION**  
**Proclaiming April 2021 as Fair Housing Month**

**WHEREAS**, April 11, 2021 marks the 53rd Anniversary of the passage of the United States Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which enunciated a National Policy of fair housing without regard to race, color, religion, sex, and national origin; and

**WHEREAS**, the effective implementation of the National Policy depends on affirmative action at all levels of Government;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council for the City of Columbiana, does hereby proclaim the month of April 2021, as Fair Housing Month in recognition of the importance of fair housing to our way of life, and I urge our citizens to obey the letter and the spirit of the Fair Housing Law as an expression of the individual rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution.

Mayor Mitchell introduced:

**RESOLUTION 04-21-04**  
**AWARD OF BID – OLD MILL SQUARE LAWN MAINTENANCE**

**WHEREAS** the City of Columbiana advertised for lawn maintenance at Old Mill Square and received two qualified bids for said project, and

**WHEREAS** the low bidder for the project was Bones Lawn Care.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Columbiana, Alabama hereby awards the low bid in the amount of \$3400.00 monthly (\$40,800.00 annually) to Bones Lawn Care for lawn maintenance at Old Mill Square in accordance with the bid documents and specifications submitted and opened at 2:00 P.M, April 13, 2021. The contract shall be for a period of 12 months commencing immediately following the passage of this resolution, with the option to renew the contract for up to 36 months.

The Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the contract for services pursuant to the specifications of the bid.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon the completion of the execution of the contract by all parties, that a copy of such agreement be kept on file by the City Clerk.

**THEREUPON** Council Member King moved and Council Member Phillips seconded the motion that said resolution be given a roll call vote, and said resolution passed by majority vote of all members of the Council, and the Mayor declared the same passed. Results of the vote are as follows:

	Yea	Nay		Yea	Nay
Council Member Lilly	<u>X</u>	___	Council Member King	<u>X</u>	___
Council Member Mizzell	<u>X</u>	___	Council Member Phillips	<u>X</u>	___
Council Member Ruston	<u>X</u>	___	Mayor Mitchell	<u>X</u>	___

Mayor Mitchell introduced:

**RESOLUTION 04-21-05**  
**AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH BIG FRIENDLY**  
**PRODUCTIONS FOR LIBERTY DAY 2021**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City of Columbiana as follows:

1. That the City enters into a contract with Big Friendly Productions, to provide event management for the City's Liberty Day Festival, June 25-26, 2021, which contract is before this Council;
2. That the City will pay Big Friendly Productions a deposit of \$12,817.50 after the execution of the contract and the remainder of \$12,817.50 paid before the event, as outlined in the 2021 contract, in consideration for services provided according to the contract.
3. That the contract be executed in the name of the City, for and on behalf of the City, by its Mayor.
4. That it be attested by the Clerk and the seal of the City affixed thereto.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon the completion of the execution of the contract by all parties, that a copy of such agreement be kept on file by the City Clerk.

Council Member Ruston moved and Council Member Mizzell seconded the motion that said resolution be given vote, and said resolution passed by vote of all members of the Council present, and the Mayor declared the same passed.

	Yea	Nay		Yea	Nay
Council Member Lilly	<u>X</u>	___	Council Member King	<u>X</u>	___
Council Member Mizzell	<u>X</u>	___	Council Member Phillips	<u>X</u>	___
Council Member Ruston	<u>X</u>	___	Mayor Mitchell	<u>X</u>	___

### **Discussion – Karen Jensen, Lay Lake Home Owners & Boat Owners Association, Regarding Water Quality**

Karen Jensen addressed Council to make them aware of the issue with coal ash at the steam plant in Wilsonville. This needs to be moved to another location so it does not pollute Lay Lake. Mrs. Jensen is waiting on ADEM (Alabama Department of Environmental Management) to release their findings on the water quality of Lay Lake.

### **Discussion – Other City Business**

None

### **Mayor's Report**

- The City signed a contract with a debris removal contractor through Shelby County and they have been picking up debris.
- The Christ in Action group has been helping homeowners with the debris at their homes and have also helped with demolition, where needed.
- The Small Business Administration is providing emergency assistance, even though a disaster area has not been proclaimed. This is for the January tornadoes in North Alabama but they are trying to extend this to the March tornado that hit Columbiana. These are low interest rate loans that small businesses and uninsured homeowner's can apply for.
- The state has not been declared an emergency yet but Governor Ivy has requested a 30 day extension to access the damage.

### **Announcements**

- Art on Main Street is Saturday from 10:00am to 7:30pm
- COVID Clinics on Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup>; Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>; Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>; and Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup>
- Ted Metz sculpture reveal at Old Mill Square Park is Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>
- New City of Columbiana Website goes live on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>
- Music on Main Street returns on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>
- Liberty Day June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

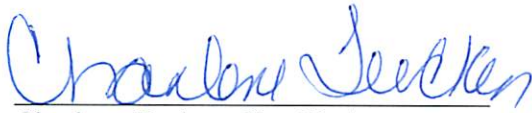
### **Public Comments**

Phyllis Porter reported that Dr. Nettles is sponsoring the Liberty Day car show and will be providing t-shirts for participants who enter the car show.

Council Member Ruston made the following announcements: Friday night, Shelby County High School will host the 5A Baseball State Playoffs. SCHS is in the process of interviewing for a principal. JP Dice with Fox 6 wants to do a weather radio event in Columbiana. There is a need for

a traffic light at the intersection of Highway 25 and Depot Street. ALDOT will have to do a traffic study to see if this is warranted.

There being no further business, Council Member Ruston moved that the meeting be adjourned which was seconded by Council Member King. The motion passed by vote of all members of the Council present. Mayor Mitchell declared the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.



Charlene Tucker, City Clerk



David Mitchell, Mayor

