

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA
February 15, 2022**

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, February 15, 2022. 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 2-1-22 Regular Council Meeting

There being no changes or amendments to the minutes, the Mayor declared the minutes approved.

Recognition of Jonathan Harrison – Next Level Chef Contestant

The City Council wanted to recognize Jonathan Harrison, Next Level Chef contestant, for his representation of the city. His presence on the show has been a great marketing opportunity for our city.

Board Reports

The Planning Board met last Thursday and approved a pre-zoning application for Springs Crossing. There will be a public hearing March 10 and if the pre-zoning is approved, there will be a public hearing with City Council for the re-zoning. The annexation will also be voted on by City Council at the time of re-zoning.

The Beautification Board decorated Main Street for Cowboy Day. They have tickets on sale for the Easter Bunny Tea on March 13 at 2:00 at the Grande Hall.

Department Head Reports

Police – Jeff Bowers reported the following:

- We currently have one on the job injury
- We are currently on course with our 2022 budget
- We are currently down two officers. Cpl. Orth is on sick leave (cancer) and Officer Mabus is out with a hand and back injury
- New vehicle should arrive in February
- All equipment is in good shape
- Training for 2022 APOST is beginning in February
- Community outreach for Senior Citizens
- As we welcome in the New Year, our officers are focused on traffic control as well as property crimes and business checks. Speeding in school zones is an issue. We had an officer struck by a vehicle while directing middle school traffic.

Administration – Charlene Tucker reported the following:

- No reports on safety issues
- Admin revenue is up and expenses are down
- We are down one full time employee. The Assistant City Clerk turned in her notice. We will be promoting from within and posting the vacant position online.
- No repairs at City Hall are needed at this time
- Training is up to date
- 2022 business license renewals have been mailed. Today was the last day to pay without a penalty.

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 five 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
- Vandalism to the softball fields and the rec center was an issue but those suspects have been caught.
- The fountain at Old Mill Square is not running. The pump went out but has been ordered and is on back-order.

Court – Terri Reynolds reported the following:

- Court attendance was above average for the first court date of January 2022.
- Budget is on track for the FY 2022 year.
- The next court will be held on February 22, 2022 @ 2:00pm
- Lisa and Terri started training 1-28-2022 and at this time are halfway complete.
- Having only one prior visit to a court session, Lisa and Terri, handled January 11th court well. I do not anticipate future problems

Discussion – Other City Business

None

Mayor's Report

- Small Business Administration loans are available for the severe storms and flooding that occurred on October 6-7, 2021. Businesses and residents can apply for these loans through the Small Business Administration (SBA).
- The storm water drainage survey will begin the end of February.

Announcements

- Cowboy Day is Saturday, February 26. We have 54 vendors and have no extra spaces.
- Friday, March 3 – Little Jimmy Reed with the Debbie Bond Band at the Shelby County Arts Council Black Box Theater.
- Sunday, March 13 – Easter Bunny Tea at the Grande Hall/
- April 23 – Touch a Truck
- May 7 – Art on Main

Public Comments

Chris Sutton has an issue with his water bill and was redirected by the Water Board. The Mayor apologized but informed Mr. Sutton that the Water Board is a separated entity. He asked Mr. Sutton to stay after the council meeting so he could get more information on the situation.

Council Member King asked Lisa Davis if she wanted to give details on the upcoming Beautification Board projects. Lisa mentioned pressure washing and painting the gazebo in front of City Hall, new welcome signs coming into the city and veteran banners.

Susan Conn mentioned that she is having trouble with her garbage cans being thrown into her ditch. She is also concerned about cans being left at the road all the time and not being taken back to residents home. Allen Reynolds said that he would follow up on these concerns.

Council Member Lilly asked Sasha Johns to introduce herself. Sasha is the new Main Street Director who started that position on February 7.

There being no further business, Council Member King moved that the meeting be adjourned which was seconded by Council Member Phillips. The motion passed by vote of all members of the Council present. Mayor Mitchell declared the meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.


Charlene Tucker, City Clerk


David Mitchell, Mayor

