

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA
March 7, 2023**

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, March 7, 2023. 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 Ricky Ruston
Council Member Ashley Phillips
Mayor David Mitchell

Absent:

Council Member Vickie Mizzell
Council Member Kim King

The Mayor declared that a quorum was present.

Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes 2-21-23 Regular Council Meeting

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

Department Head Reports

Fire – Mayor Mitchell reported the following:

- There has been no loss time injuries
- Slightly over budget but will level out
- New employee has been hired
- Possible second station location in discussion
- Admin vehicles are in service
- Routine maintenance on apparatus ongoing
- EMS training complete
- February 10 submitted FEMA grant application for new pumper truck

Library – Jennifer Combs reported the following:

- No safety issues.
- Budget looks good.
- We've had some staffing changes, but we are still good on the staff we that we have.
- Traffic in the Library is good. We had an estimated 803 visitors for the month of February.
- I have not received the stats for February yet.
- I was invited to visit Elvin Hill Elementary for Read Across America on March 3rd. I read to 5 first grade classes.
- We will have a table for Family Reading Fair at Elvin Hill on March 18th.

- We are doing a shift at the Homeschool Expo in Hoover on March 25th. This is a collaboration of several Shelby County Libraries to share our resources for homeschoolers.

Environmental – Charlene Tucker reported the following:

- No injuries during this fiscal year.
- Budget is ok.
- We are still advertising for a Grade II Operator.
- We are currently working on upgrading some of our collection system.
- No change in compliance.
- We are getting ready to start our 2023 training.
- The Goodwin Street project has started.
- The Hwy 70 sewer rehab is completed and it came in under budget.
- Robert Clark has finished his collection system classes and we are setting him up to take the exam.
- We are also replacing the sewer lines on Center Street before it is repaved.

Community Affairs & Senior Services – Ali Payne reported the following:

- Community Services:
 - Main Street & Exit Realty hiding eggs March 29-31
 - Beautification Board Bunny Tea, April 1st
 - Main Street Columbiana Carrot Chase Fun Run, April 8th
 - Blue Agave is now open
 - Looking for volunteers for Liberty Day!
- Senior Services:
 - Served 1000 meals in February.
 - Speed Bumps/Parking issues.
 - Senior Center looking for volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels on Wednesdays. Other days are covered!
- Grande Hall:
 - 5 Rentals in March (including a trade show and SCHS Prom)
 - Finishing work to the building.

Board Reports

The Library Board needs to fill Beth Glasgow's vacant seat. They will meet again in April.

The Beautification Board hosted an Arbor Day tree giveaway. They had 15 varieties of trees and gave away 200 trees. They ordered four more benches and two more planters. They will have a clean-up day on April 22, which is Earth Day. They are waiting on spring flowers to come in and those will be planted in the planters. Easter decorations will be put up this week.

Discussion – Food Truck Locations

The current city ordinance only allows food trucks to operate in areas specifically designated by the City Council. Sean Ryan with the Provincial Pub asked that food trucks be allowed to park at his business. He does have a letter of approval from the property owner. Council Member Ruston made a motion to approve this request, which was seconded by Council Member Lilly. All members present voted yes and approval was granted.

Discussion – Columbiana Main Street Farmer’s Market and Street Closure

Columbiana Main Street requested that South Main Street be closed for Farmer’s Market on Fridays from May 26 until August 11. This will be from 5-9 pm. There may be music at the Farmer’s Market but it will be on a smaller scale.

Discussion – Other City Business

The Mayor asked Lisa Davis to talk about the location of the city Christmas tree. Lisa explained that the large tree would look better in Old Mill Square. That is where the smaller are and it would make a great photo op with the sleigh. If we do that, the Beautification Board would buy a live tree for the corner of Main Street and College Street and they would decorate it. The Mayor suggested surveying the public to get everyone’s opinion.

Council Member Ruston raised a concern about people driving on the track at the sports complex. He suggested we get a “no vehicles beyond this point” sign and create a city ordinance for citations to be written.

Mayor’s Report

- Spectrum/Charter Communications Broadband Grant:
 - Spectrum awarded Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund Grant for Shelby County
 - \$18.3 Million Buildout Would Connect More Than 4,400 Homes and Small Businesses
 - Columbiana, Ala. (March 3, 2023) — Spectrum today announced it has been awarded a \$2.9 million Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund (ABAF) grant to bring gigabit high-speed internet access to more than 4,400 unserved homes and small businesses in Shelby County. Spectrum has committed to invest more than \$15.4 million on the expansion project, bringing total investment to more than \$18.3 million.
 - ARPA Storm Water Management Study/Cost Estimate
- Residential street paving – Rebuild Alabama Act (RAA) Grant application was submitted February 10
- March 2 - Recreation Economy for Rural Communities Update (EPA/ARC Planning Grant)
- Mayor’s Monthly Video will be produced by Video Vision and posted on the City’s web-site and Facebook Page.

Announcements

- March 28-31 – Main Street Easter Egg Hiding
- April 1 – Beautification Board Bunny Tea
- April 8 –Main Street Carrot Fun Run

Public Comments

None

There being no further business, Council Member Ruston moved that the meeting be adjourned which was seconded by Council Member Lilly. The motion passed by vote of all members of the Council present. Mayor Mitchell declared the meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.



Charlene Tucker, City Clerk



David Mitchell, Mayor

