

Pinson City Council Minutes
August 16, 2007 - 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting

The Pinson City Council met in regular session at the Pinson City Hall on Thursday, August 16, 2007. Mayor Sanders led the invocation and Councilor Tanner led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call: Marie Turner, City Clerk, called roll of Pinson City Council with the following council members present:

Mayor Sanders
Councilor Tanner
Councilor Cochran
Councilor Shelnett
Councilor Churchwell
Councilor McCain

Minutes: Councilor Shelnett made a motion to waive the reading of the August 2, 2007, minutes. Councilor Cochran duly seconded the motion. Mayor Sanders called for any discussion. Councilor Shelnett submitted a request for revisions and additions to the August 2, 2007 meeting minutes. Councilor Shelnett briefly explained the requests with the other Council members. Councilor Cochran had objection to certain suggestions. Mayor Sanders made the suggestion that we postpone approving the August 2, 2007, minutes to give Council time to review the revisions and additions that had been submitted. Councilor Shelnett withdrew the motion to waive the reading of the August 2, 2007, minutes. Council moved forward with Agenda business.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Councilor Tanner made a motion to pay miscellaneous bills in the amount of \$1,550.71. Regions Visa for \$146.95; Alabama Power for \$19.44; Acceptance Janitorial Services for \$90.00; Lyle Arrington for \$65.00; BJC Animal Control for \$775.00; Birmingham Water Works for \$76.82; Call-A-Haul for \$360.00; Hoyt Sanders for \$17.50. Councilor Cochran duly seconded the motion. Mayor Sanders called for any discussion. As there was no discussion Mayor Sanders called for all opposed say “no”, all in favor say “aye.” Mayor Sanders said “Let the record reflect that the motion passed unanimously.”

Annexation: Councilor Churchwell presented an ordinance annexing certain territory into the Corporate Limits of the City of Pinson, Alabama. Owner, Jefferson County Commission, located in the Turkey Creek Nature Preserve. Councilor Churchwell recommends this property be annexed into the City of Pinson. Councilor Cochran duly seconded the motion.

Mayor Sanders asked for unanimous consent to consider with the following results:
Mayor Sanders-yes; Councilor Tanner-yes; Councilor Cochran-yes; Councilor Shelnett-yes; Councilor Churchwell-yes; Councilor McCain-yes.

Mayor Sanders asked for a roll call vote on the main ordinance with the following results:
Mayor Sanders-yes; Councilor Tanner-yes; Councilor Cochran-yes; Councilor Shelnett-yes; Councilor Churchwell-yes; Councilor McCain-yes.

Mayor Sanders, ordinance adopted unanimously as Ordinance number 2007-27.

Councilor Churchwell presented an ordinance annexing certain territory into the Corporate Limits of the City of Pinson, Alabama. Owner, Jefferson County Commission, located near Murphree Circle and Goodwin Road. Councilor Churchwell recommends this property be annexed into the City of Pinson. Councilor McCain duly seconded the motion.

Mayor Sanders asked for unanimous consent to consider with the following results:
Mayor Sanders-yes; Councilor Tanner-yes; Councilor Cochran-yes; Councilor Shelnett-yes; Councilor Churchwell-yes; Councilor McCain-yes.

Mayor Sanders asked for a roll call vote on the main ordinance with the following results:
Mayor Sanders-yes; Councilor Tanner-yes; Councilor Cochran-yes; Councilor Shelnett-yes; Councilor Churchwell-yes; Councilor McCain-yes.

Mayor Sanders, ordinance adopted unanimously as Ordinance number 2007-28.

Councilor Churchwell presented an ordinance annexing certain territory into the Corporate Limits of the City of Pinson, Alabama. Owner, Jefferson County Commission, located on Goodwin Road and Leigh Ann Gardens. Councilor Churchwell recommends this property be annexed into the City of Pinson. Councilor Cochran duly seconded the motion.

Mayor Sanders asked for unanimous consent to consider with the following results:
Mayor Sanders-yes; Councilor Tanner-yes; Councilor Cochran-yes; Councilor Shelnett-yes; Councilor Churchwell-yes; Councilor McCain-yes.

Mayor Sanders asked for a roll call vote on the main ordinance with the following results:
Mayor Sanders-yes; Councilor Tanner-yes; Councilor Cochran-yes; Councilor Shelnett-yes; Councilor Churchwell-yes; Councilor McCain-yes.

Mayor Sanders, ordinance adopted unanimously as Ordinance number 2007-29.

Public Safety: Councilor Cochran reported that the Alabama Forestry Commission has gone into Level 4 on the drought conditions, which will prevent burning indefinitely. Councilor Cochran added that if you see any burning to contact the Fire Department.

Education: Mayor Sanders read the tentative list of the appointed Education Committee for the upcoming year.

Enhancements: Councilor McCain stated that the next Enhancements Committee meeting will be held, Wednesday, August 22, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall. The Enhancements committee will purchase 12 more flags and have all of the flags up before the Butterbean Festival. Councilor McCain mentioned that there will be a Clean up Day, Saturday, August 18, 2007, beginning at 7:00 a.m. for the Butterbean Festival.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Sanders recognized Councilor Tanner for her accomplishment of becoming a Certified Municipal Officer through the Alabama League of Municipalities. Councilor Tanner participated in a graduation ceremony in Montgomery and received a plaque for her accomplishments.

Mayor Sanders reported that he had received a bulletin from the District Attorney's office regarding Bingo. The bulletin states that Bingo varies by county in the State of Alabama. Jefferson County has a very strict set of rules. Mayor Sanders read through some of these rules. Copies are available for those interested.

Mayor Sanders stated that the audit is progressing.

Old Business:

Mayor Sanders stated that consideration of the additional Contract Deputy is now in order. Councilor Cochran made a motion to offer the Substitute contract, Councilor Churchwell accepted the amendment. Mayor Sanders called for discussion. Councilor Cochran stated that the additional Deputy should be in place by October 1, 2007. Mayor Sanders called for any additional discussion.

Mayor Sanders called for a Roll Call vote with the following results: Mayor Sanders-yes; Councilor Tanner-yes; Councilor Cochran-yes; Councilor Shelnut-yes; Councilor Churchwell-yes; Councilor McCain-yes.

Mayor Sanders, resolution adopted unanimously as Resolution number 2007-12.

Councilor McCain offered a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Contract for the Purchase of Property. Councilor Tanner duly seconded the motion. (This property is located at 4410 Main Street, and will be used as the City Hall Building.) Mayor Sanders called for any discussion. Councilor Churchwell stated that the price is good considering that we started at \$850,000.00 and have been able to negotiate to \$450,000.00. Councilor Churchwell added that this is a good location. Councilor Tanner stated that we will be able to take the building with only minor painting, etc. Mayor Sanders added that new construction is running minimum \$ 110.00 to \$120.00 sq. ft. right now with no property. This potentially is a good price in comparison to new construction. Councilor Cochran stated that the square footage is estimated at 13,000 sq ft. so there will be lots of opportunity for growth with this building. Councilor Shelnut asked, was this one of the top choices from RPC? Mayor Sanders replied that it was in the top two or three. Councilor Churchwell added the top two or three that was available. Mayor Sanders called for any additional discussion.

As there was none, Mayor Sanders called for a Roll Call vote with the following results: Mayor Sanders-abstain; Councilor Tanner-yes; Councilor Cochran-yes; Councilor Shelnutt-yes; Councilor Churchwell-yes; Councilor McCain-yes.

Mayor Sanders, resolution adopted unanimously as Resolution number 2007-13.

Councilor McCain offered a 1st reading on an Agreement between City Council and ALDOT for the Sidewalk Project between the High School and Innsbrook. Councilor Cochran duly seconded the motion.

Mayor Sanders stated that this will lay until the next meeting.

Mayor Sanders mentioned that it was agreed in an earlier ordinance to make an extension to Flight Drive. The adjacent owners have asked us to proceed with a reduced project. Mayor Sanders will have a report on this at the next meeting.

New Business:

Councilor Cochran made a motion authorizing the Mayor to increase the hours at City Hall and affect raises for the employees consistent with the budget. Councilor Tanner duly seconded the motion. Mayor Sanders called for any discussion. As there was no discussion Mayor Sanders called for all opposed say “no”, all in favor say “aye.” Mayor Sanders said “Let the record reflect that the motion passed unanimously with the Mayor abstaining.”

Councilor Shelnutt stated that he would like to make some changes to the Agenda, and they are as follows:

- 1) We need a more detailed agenda to better inform the public of the upcoming meeting.
- 2) Have the agenda available to the public earlier.
- 3) Post the agenda on the website or create an email list on the website, or have a phone message to get the agenda.
- 4) On the minutes put a start and stop time of the Council meeting on the minutes.

Mayor Sanders ask for any comments. Councilor Cochran stated that he would have no problem with any of this it would just be the practicality of it. But this will always be contingent as to what the Mayor is able to do, but without any type of mandates. Mayor Sanders stated that he typically drafts the agenda per the 48 hr policy on certain items, but he is flexible to the thoughts of Council. Councilor Churchwell stated that his thoughts are that we are giving out as much or more information than any other Council, and that we are following and exceeding the guidelines. Does not think it's agreeable to send out emails or to make a phone call due to not knowing what the future may hold for the city. Councilor Churchwell does agree that when we prepare the agenda we can be more specific with the explanations of the items on the agenda. Councilor Shelnutt thinks that since we have just approved additional hours for the Mayors Assistant and the City Clerk that they would have time to handle this. Councilor Shelnutt asked Councilor Cochran if the webmaster could handle this? Councilor Cochran stated that we would probably be able to purchase the software and post it. Councilor Cochran stated that he

will make a phone call to see if it is something that can be done, and will let Council know what he finds out. Mayor Sanders asked for any additional comments. As there were none, Mayor Sanders stated that we will consider this at the next meeting.

Mayor Sanders stated that the regular Planning & Zoning Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 23, 2007, at 6:30, at City Hall.

Public Comment:

- 1) Patsy Shelnett, 8001 South Valley Road, Pinson. Where are the notices posted? Mayor Sanders stated on the front door of City Hall. Mayor Sanders continued that is where the Agenda is posted. Is that the question? Ms. Shelnett asked if we only have to post it in one place? Mayor Sanders replied that the Public Notices are posted in the Post Offices, Churches, etc. Ms. Shelnett stated that Pinson Post Office has the last posting as of 2006. Mayor Sanders stated that we are at the mercy of that Post Office because their case is locked and we do not have a key. Mayor Sanders stated that pending the purchase of a new City Hall Council might consider reviewing its posting places.
- 2) Pete Chandler, 4450 Silver Lake Road. Do we have an Ordinance on the property growing up? Do we enforce it? Mayor Sanders stated, yes, and if you will get the address to him (Mayor Sanders) he will have the Deputy check on this. Mr. Chandler complimented the mowing of Highway 75 median.
- 3) John Harrison, 3709 Fitzgerald Mountain Drive. Mr. Harrison stated that there seems to be a problem with the door bell and asked that we get a louder door bell. Mayor Sanders stated that we will investigate the door bell. Mayor Sanders commented that a different facility would better serve visitors.
- 4) Gary Moore, 6474 Old Bradford Road. Thanked the members of the Council for helping with the clean up at Turkey Creek.
- 5) Phil Sims, 8144 North Valley Road. Mr. Sims stated that the City of Pinson ad for the Butterbean Festival should be in front of all of the Councilors and wanted to know if they approved. Council stated that they were happy with the ad. Mr. Sims asked about the agenda being posted in 48 hours. Mayor Sanders that we have a self imposed 48 hr. requirement on resolution and we prepare the agenda on that same requirement. Mr. Sims stated that he wanted to encourage Council to be more open to the public. Would like to see the agenda to have more explanation. Mr. Sims added that he was asked by Councilor Shelnett if he (Mr. Sims) had received an email from Attorney Black, Mr. Sims stated that he had not received an email from Attorney Black. Mayor Sanders confirmed that the email was from City Hall. Mr. Sims requested that when there is a written request to the City for information that the City reply with a written response.

Councilor Tanner mentioned that the curbs on Highway 75 could be edged when it cools off a little.

Councilor Churchwell mentioned that Commissioner Betty Fine Collins attended the Seniors Meeting at Palmerdale First Baptist Church and was very supportive of our City.

Councilor Cochran made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Churchwell duly seconded the motion.

Mayor Sanders stated "Motion carries".

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Turner, City Clerk

August 16, 2007 Minutes Adopted _____