

Council Minutes
December 3, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting

The Pinson City Council met in regular session in Council Chambers at 4410 Main Street on Thursday, December 3, 2009. Mayor Sanders led the invocation. Councilor Cochran, 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 Cochran
Councilor Shelnut
Councilor Churchwell
Councilor McCain

Absent:
Councilor Tanner

Mayor Sanders suspended rules to allow Ronnie Dixon, candidate for District 4, Jefferson County Commission to speak.

Mr. Dixon introduced himself and stated that he is pursuing the seat on the Jefferson County Commission that Bettye Fine Collins has held for 15 years. Mr. Dixon spoke to his qualifications for this position and asked for everyone's support at the primary in June 2010.

Mayor Sanders reinstated the rules.

Minutes:
Councilor Shelnut made a motion to waive the reading of the November 19, 2009, minutes. Councilor Cochran duly seconded the motion. Mayor Sanders called for all opposed to say "no", all in favor say "aye." Councilor Cochran made a motion to accept the minutes as written of the November 19, 2009, meeting. Councilor Churchwell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Sanders called for all opposed to say "no", all in favor say "aye." Mayor Sanders said "Let the record reflect that both motions passed unanimously."

Committee Reports:

Finance:
Councilor Cochran made a motion to pay miscellaneous bills in the amount of \$13,488.03. SWMA for \$877.10; AT&T for \$469.79; Dugger Tent, Inc. for \$664.00; Lyle Arrington for \$95.00; Trussville Utilities for \$62.22; B/W & Sons Lawn Maintenance for \$430.00; Nextel for \$339.24; Joy McCain-reimburse Christmas tree items for \$106.37; Payroll for \$5,665.65; B/W & Sons Lawn Maintenance for \$350.00; Call-A-Haul for \$515.70; Moore Coal Co. for \$121.00; Regions Mortgage for \$3,854.18. Councilor McCain 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."

Education:

Mayor Sanders reported that the P.V.H.S. Debate Team won 3 of 4 matches at Samford.

Enhancements:

Councilor McCain mentioned that the Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on, Friday, December 4, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., with Desmond Jennings, Grand Marshal, lighting the Christmas tree, and the Christmas Parade will be held on, Saturday, December 5, 2009, at 2:00 p.m.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Sanders mentioned that he had been approached by ABC 33/40 about their Hometown Focus segments. Mayor Sanders is awaiting pricing for this service from ABC 33/40.

Mayor Sanders announced that the next Planning Commission meeting will be held on, Monday, December 14, 2009, at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Sanders re-appointed Robbie Roberts to the Planning Commission effective January 2010.

Old Business:

Councilor Cochran offered a resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept a bid and submit to the Alabama Department of Transportation, regarding the Sidewalk grant. Councilor McCain duly seconded the motion. Mayor Sanders mentioned that the next step of this process will be the submission to ALDOT. Councilor Churchwell mentioned that on recommendation from Mr. Harrison, Consulting Engineer for this project, the low bidder was Powe General Contracting. Mayor Sanders called for any further discussion. As there was no further discussion, Mayor Sanders asked for a roll call vote on the main resolution with the following results: Mayor Sanders-yes; Councilor Cochran-yes; Councilor Shelnutt-yes; Councilor Churchwell-yes; Councilor McCain-yes.

Mayor Sanders, resolution adopted unanimously, as Resolution number 09-30

Councilor McCain commented on her attendance of the National League of Cities Convention stating that she visited over 300 booths and got a lot of new ideas by listening to other cities experiences.

Councilor Churchwell commented on his attendance of the National League of Cities Convention stating that there were approximately 3500 people from all over the United States. Councilor Churchwell added that he attended meetings about the pharmacy program for prescriptions not covered by insurance; this is a program that would not cost the individual or the city anything. Councilor Churchwell stated that with this program you can receive a 20% discount on prescription drugs. Councilor Churchwell will have the information to look at after the first of the year.

New Business:

Councilor Cochran offered a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract for copier maintenance. Councilor McCain duly seconded the motion. Mayor Sanders called for any discussion. As there was no discussion Mayor Sanders asked for a roll call

vote on the main resolution with the following results: Mayor Sanders-yes; Councilor Cochran-yes; Councilor Shelnutt-yes; Councilor Churchwell-yes; Councilor McCain-yes.

Mayor Sanders, resolution adopted unanimously, as Resolution number 09-31

Councilor Cochran offered a resolution pledging cooperation and support of the expansion of the Clay-Pinson Chamber of Commerce. Councilor Churchwell duly seconded the motion. Councilor Cochran mentioned that although the City is not a part of the Chamber, we can't participate, but we want to support the efforts of the Chamber.

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

Mayor Sanders, resolution adopted unanimously as Resolution number 09-32.

Councilor Shelnutt made a motion to direct the Mayor to amend the Public Records Policy. Councilor Shelnutt stated that he wanted to view a bill that was previously voted on and paid and when he asked to do so was told that he would have to fill out a Public Records Request in order to see the bill. Councilor Shelnutt added to streamline our efficiency where elected officials wouldn't have to do that, the League and the Mayor pointed out that with municipal law that's the correct way to do that but the league said we could amend that if the council directed the Mayor to allow members of council to see these types of documents in the future.

Mayor Sanders allowed for discussion.

Councilor Cochran stated that our basic policy states that no sitting member of this council has more authority or power than any other citizen in this community and he thinks the policy is appropriate. Councilor Cochran added that generally the bills are available 24-48 hours prior to a meeting to allow members of council to view before voting on them. Councilor Churchwell asked Councilor Shelnutt if that would mean that we would change the prior ordinance that we have? Councilor Shelnutt stated yes, we could view things without filling out the open request. Councilor Shelnutt added that he voted to approve but just wanted to see after the fact. Councilor Shelnutt stated that he voted on a bill and wanted to see it and that as an elected official it is our duty to do our due diligence and he was just trying to do so. Councilor Shelnutt stated that Alabama Law in that case is antiquated or unnecessary. Mayor Sanders called for any further discussion. As there was no further discussion, Mayor Sanders called for a second to the motion.

Mayor Sanders, Motion fails due to lack of second.

Mayor Sanders recognized Ginger Treglown, Stewart & Treglown, for the Audit presentation.

Mrs. Treglown stated that the city did very well financially this past year and the Mayor and Council are to be thanked for this, with a Cash Balance increase of \$25,000.00 and a Fund Balance increase of \$3,000.00. Mrs. Treglown stated that this was amazing considering our economic climate. Mrs. Treglown added that the City Clerk has received

additional training, as previously suggested by the auditors, and the auditors recommend that the City Clerk handle all of the accounting items that had been previously outsourced. Mayor Sanders stated that this report is for Councils review only and that we will approve the audit at the next meeting. Mayor Sanders asked Mrs. Treglown if we can approve the bills by schedule and list them individually in the minutes rather than calling each bill individually. Mrs. Treglown answered, yes. Councilor Shelnuttt asked if the bills will be brought to Council Chambers. Mayor Sanders stated yes, they are here at every meeting.

Councilor Shelnuttt asked Mrs. Treglown to comment on the Travel Expense policy draft. Mrs. Treglown stated that she saw nothing wrong with these procedures except you don't want to restrict the council so much that it would take a major vote to get something done. Mrs. Treglown added that the Mayor needs to have the flexibility to the expenses he needs. You just need to be sure you have accountability and flexibility. Councilor Shelnuttt stated that we don't have anything in place right now for us or future councils; do you suggest a maximum per diem per day? Mrs. Treglown stated that she would recommend what ever is most economical for the city, just don't detail so much that you restrict council. Councilor Churchwell stated that we need more time to go over these guidelines and understand them. Mayor Sanders stated that it would be taken up again after the first of the year.

Public Comment:

- 1.) John Harrison, 3709 Fitzgerald Mountain Road. Are we still planning on having a shredding company come for the community? Mayor Sanders stated that we are planning to have a company come in January. Mr. Harrison asked if people are donating books for the library. Mayor Sanders stated yes, but we will have to discard any old, out of date, income tax guides, etc. Mr. Harrison added that it will be after the first of the year before the start of the sidewalk project.

Councilor Cochran moved to adjourn. Councilor Churchwell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Sanders called for all opposed to say "no", all in favor say "aye". Motion carried.

Adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Turner, City Clerk

December 3, 2009 Minutes Adopted _____