

Council Minutes
February 19, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting

The Pinson City Council met in regular session in Council Chambers at 4410 Main Street on Thursday, February 19, 2009. Mayor Sanders led the invocation. 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 January 29, 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 January 29, 2009, meeting. Councilor Tanner duly seconded the motion. Mayor Sanders called for all opposed to say “no”, all in favor say “aye.”

Councilor Shelnett made a motion to waive the reading of the February 5, 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 February 5, 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.”

Mayor Sanders suspended rules.

Mayor Sanders introduced Commissioner Bettye Fine Collins.

Commissioner Collins congratulated Mayor and Council on their re-election and stated that she was grateful of the City of Pinson’s success.

Commissioner Collins took a moment to speak about the non-user fee for people on septic tanks. Commissioner Collins began by reading a letter that was placed into record on May 29, 2008.

“In recent weeks there has been widespread media coverage on the placement of fees on persons not connected to the county sewer system. The creation of such fee was proposed by the county sewer creditors and bond insurers as a means of generating additional revenue for payment of the county sewer debt. We the undersigned Commissioners of Jefferson County Alabama hereby express our opposition to and rejection of that proposal. We do not support the placement of a fee on persons who are

not connected to and do not use the sewer system”. Commissioner Collins stated that this letter was signed by everyone.

Commissioner Collins stated that every City can pass whatever they want to, but the Federal Courts of America take precedence over anything that would happen here and anything that would happen at the Courthouse. They have no power over Legislature to force them to do anything, but they certainly have power over us. Commissioner Collins added that she just wanted everyone to know where the Commission stands on this and this will only happen if we are forced into it by the Courts.

Commissioner Collins began her presentation to the City by explaining that when the City decided to buy this building, she told Mayor Sanders that she wanted to help with some of her District money. Council decided they needed a truck and a sound system, so Commissioner Collins presented Mayor Sanders and Council with a check in the amount of \$9,600.00, to help with those items.

Mayor Sanders reinstated rules.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Councilor Tanner made a motion to pay miscellaneous bills in the amount of \$7,031.49. Lyle Arrington for \$95.00; Jim’s Signs for \$320.20; Regions Visa for \$930.58; Momar for \$588.15; Security PVHS Basketball Tournament for \$240.00; Alabama Power for \$1,162.98; BJC Animal Control for \$677.50; B/W & Sons Lawn Maintenance for \$620.00; Birmingham Water Works for \$458.99; Best Ins. Agencies-adding new Tahoe to pkg. for \$1,333.00; Call-A-Haul for \$453.00; Alabama Power for \$152.09. 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: None.

Public Safety: Councilor Cochran mentioned that the PVHS Varsity Basketball team had done well this season and won The Jefferson County Tournament. Councilor Cochran stated that he was able to go to Jacksonville State University to attend the State Play-offs where unfortunately PVHS lost to Vestavia in overtime by 3 points. They finished with a 30 & 3 season record. Councilor Cochran mentioned that in light of the fight at the Montgomery Tournament, the City has supplemented security at the Basketball games throughout the year, and although it has cost the City a fair amount of money, there is no price that can be put on the safety of the students and parents.

Councilor Cochran made a motion to authorize the purchase signage needed at the Turkey Creek Nature Preserve in the approximate amount of \$2,423.00. 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 mentioned that we plan to recognize the Rudd Football Team at the next meeting.

Mayors Report: Mayor Sanders announced the new Planning Commission member is Ms. Johnnie Waid. Mayor Sanders explained that there is a bill pending to allow the Mayor to appoint 2 alternate seats to the Planning Commission that could fill those seats at the call of the chair for a quorum.

Mayor Sanders announced that the Planning Commission will meet, Thursday, February 26, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Mayor Sanders mentioned allowing the Planning Commission to occupy one of the offices to keep a filing cabinet, desk, etc. Mayor Sanders asked if there was any opposition to this. As there was no opposition, Mayor Sanders stated that we will make that available to the Planning Commission.

Mayor Sanders Stated that the Industrial Land purchase should be complete by next week.

Councilor Tanner made a motion to allow the City Clerk to attend Municipal Clerk Training at The University of Alabama and authorize the funds for expenses. 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”.

Councilor Tanner made a motion to authorize the expenses for the newly appointed Planning Commission member, Ms. Johnnie Waid, to go through the UNA Land Planning Curriculum. 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 passes with the Mayor abstaining”.

Mayor Sanders announced that, Saturday, February 21, 2009, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., there will be a prune and plant day at Tapawingo Springs, this will be hosted by the Fresh Water Land Trust.

Old Business: Mayor Sanders mentioned that at the last meeting discussion about the city paying for rides at CityFest was tabled. This is now up for discussion. Councilor McCain stated that the cities that pay for all the rides then offer the citizens an armband for \$5.00 to \$10.00 each and allow them to ride all and as much as they would like. This helps the city recoup some of their money. Councilor Cochran stated that due to the economic situation he still feels that we should offer this to the community for free to allow all to enjoy the day. Councilor Churchwell stated that he feels we should be frugal with our money, and we should continue as we are or go to one ticket for everything. Possibly in the future we could have sponsors to help pay for this. Councilor Cochran withdrew his motion for total payment of the rides. Councilor McCain duly seconded the motion.

Councilor Cochran made a motion for the city to pay for the rides and sell armbands in the amount of \$5.00 to those that will be riding the rides. 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”.

Councilor McCain announced that she has received bids for the printing, etc for the newsletter with the highest being approximately \$3,269.00 and the lowest being \$1,000.00. Mayor Sanders stated that this was approved at a previous meeting and if anyone has a question about this they can speak with Councilor McCain after the meeting

Councilor Shelnuttt stated that he will be having a meeting with the 4 principals of the area schools next week regarding the Teacher/Student Awards, and is in hopes that nominations for these awards would begin March 1, 2009 and end March 31, 2009. A Banquet is tentatively scheduled for April 4, 2009 at Pinson United Methodist Church. The name of the foundation is Pinson Education Foundation. Mayor Sanders stated that this is separate and apart from the City. The City will have information on the City web site.

Councilor Cochran stated that he had spoken with a representative of the property that is being considered for a walking/cross country track around the lake behind the high school. The representative stated that there is a possibility for purchasing the property but there is more discussion needed.

New Business: Mayor Sanders stated that he has given council a copy of the Community Center Rates and Usage Agreement to look over and will have Attorney Black look over and discuss if needed at the next meeting.

Councilor McCain mentioned the possibility of having the Movie in the Park nights again this year. Councilor Tanner would like to offer this again. Councilor Shelnuttt asked about buying our own equipment. Councilor Cochran stated that the equipment is very expensive and then you have to pay for the rights to show the movie. Mayor Sanders asked that the price be confirmed and we will discuss at the next meeting.

Mayor Sanders introduced Danny Williams, Reliable Signs. Mr. Williams gave a re-cap for the sign to be located behind City Hall.

Councilor Cochran made a motion to authorize the purchase of an Electronic Sign for City Hall. 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”.

Public Comment:

1. Wayne Hyche. Speaking for the disabled children of the community. Asked Council to reconsider charging for the armbands for CityFest.
2. Taylor Steel, Turkey Creek Nature Preserve. Reported that the information kiosk are almost ready and the park will be up and running before Spring Break.
3. Pete Chandler, 4450 Silver Lake Road. Mr. Chandler thinks that the price of the armband is too much. Maybe \$3.00 would be better.

Mayor Sanders stated that he will check on and discuss at the next meeting.

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

Adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Turner, City Clerk

February 19, 2009 Minutes Adopted _____