CITY OF PLEASANT GROVE, ALABAMA

COUNCIL MINUTES

JULY 19, 2021

The City Council of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama, met in the Council Chambers on Monday, July 19, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Jerry Brasseale presiding. The following present:

Mayor: Jerry W. Brasseale

Council Members: Philip Houston

Yolanda Lawson

Kevin Dunn

Ray Lassiter

Ken Hatfield

Also present: City Clerk Recarda Cobb, Chief Robert Knight, Captain Jason Sandlin, Building Inspector Doug Hyche, and Librarian Dian Kennedy.

Prayer by Doug Hyche.

Pledge of Allegiance by Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston

# APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Yolanda Lawson made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular meeting on July 06, 2021.

The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston.

Motion passed unanimously.

# APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilor Ken Hatfield made a motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of $188,202.47.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Ray Lassiter.

Motion passed unanimously.

# APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2021-27 Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama receiving $15,000 from the Jefferson County Community Service Fund to be used to update the Communication System and App. Funds requested by Alabama House Representative Louise Alexander.

Councilor Kevin Dunn made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-27.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Yolanda Lawson.

Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2021-28** Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama approving to purchase a bush hog in the amount of $1,795 from Cahaba Tractor.

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-28.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Yolanda Lawson.

Motion passed unanimously.

# OFFICERS OF THE CITY REPORTS

Doug Hyche stated that the paving project is almost complete. Also, he discussed the continued building of homes in Pleasant Grove.

Chief Robert Knight - None

Recarda Cobb - None.

Captain Jason Sadlin - None

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Kevin Dunn stated that he is in favor of providing Pleasant Grove employees with a pay premium from the American Rescue Plan Act. Also, he gave an update on the Park Board, and thanked Alabama House Representative Louise Alexander for requesting the $15,000 that will be used to update Pleasant Grove’s Communication System & App.

Councilor Ray Lassiter talked about the positive feedback he’s been receiving from citizens on the paving of roads, asked about increasing staff, and discussed break ins on 14th Way. Also, Councilor Lassiter inquired about installing lights on 11th Court, and placing a dead end in that area as well. Doug Hyche said he will talk with the builder and the Public Works Department about addressing the latter issues.

Councilor Ken Hatfield encouraged a work session to discuss the distribution of funds received from American Rescue Plan Act.

Councilor Yolanda Lawson inquired about the flats being caused by nails left behind by builders, asked if there’s someone checking behind the builders, and asked can the builders be fined. J D Terry, City Attorney, said that he will look into it. Also, Mayor Brasseale suggested that Doug Hyche construct a letter to the builders addressing these issues.

Councilor Lawson also gave an overview of her findings with the $2.5 million dollars Pleasant Grove invested with Hartline Investments. She stated that the value of money invested is showing approximately $2.3 million dollars, and approximately $18,000 paid in commissions. Lastly, she stated that the investments are currently showing a lost of approximately $172,000.

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston discussed putting lights on 8th and 10th streets, due to illegal dumping.

# CITIZENS COMMENTS

Alabama House of Representative Louise Alexander presented the $15,000 check to the City of Pleasant Grove for the purpose of updating its Communication System & App. She stated that the citizens needed to be informed of what’s going on in the City. Lastly, she stated that the City has been doing some great things and that more contributions will be coming in the near future.

A. Faye Calhoun, 417 13th Street, stated that the City of Pleasant Grove is just dumping money into investments that are not profitable. She asked about the estimated lost of $172,000 the City incurred initially. Councilor Ken Hatfield gave an overview of the financial condition of the City. He contends that the City has done well. Councilor Yolanda Lawson reiterated her breakdown of the latest investments. Mrs. Calhoun asked Councilor Ken Hatfield to explain the investments to her.

Eric Calhoun, 417 13th Street, inquired about the fees the City is paying on the investments. Also, he asked were the fees negotiated. Councilor Yolanda Lawson discussed the estimated $91,000 paid to invest an estimated $1.2 million dollars, and the longevity of the investments. Also, Councilor Lawson stated that the citizens need to know where the missing money is.

Julius Nelson, 800 Park Road, stated that it would be great to check the flooding around his house today, due to the enormous amount of rain. Mayor Jerry Brasseale stated that he will get the City engineer to check it. Councilor Ray Lassiter said the he will take a look at it as well.

Gary Williams, 1456 5th Avenue, asked for an update on rectifying the speeding problem on Forest Road. J D Terry, City attorney, stated that he is waiting on the Jefferson County engineer’s report on additional study being done.

# ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Ken Hatfield made a motion to adjourn.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Jerry W. Brasseale, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Recarda Cobb, City Clerk