

CITY OF PLEASANT GROVE, ALABAMA

COUNCIL MINUTES

NOVEMBER 06, 2023

The City Council of Pleasant Grove, Alabama, met in the Council Chambers on Monday, November 06, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Jerry Brasseale presiding. The following were present:

Mayor: Jerry W. Brasseale
Council Members: Ray Lassiter
Yolanda Lawson
Eric Calhoun
Kevin Dunn
Philip Houston

Also present: Recarda Cobb (City Clerk), Chief Daniel Reid (Public Safety Director) and John Williamson (Building Inspector).

Prayer by Mayor Jerry Brasseale.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston made a motion to approve the minutes from the last regular scheduled meeting held on October 16, 2023.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Yolanda Lawson.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilor Yolanda Lawson made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$279,768.10..

The motion was seconded by Councilor Kevin Dunn.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 BUDGET.

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston made a motion to approve fiscal year 2023-24 Budget.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Eric Calhoun.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2023-67. Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama approving a 3% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all classified and unclassified employees.

Councilor Kevin Dunn made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-67.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Ray Lassiter.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2023-68. Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama agreeing to have the next City Council meeting on November 13, 2023 instead of November 20, 2023. Also, agreeing to have the following two meetings on December 4 & 11, 2023, due to the holidays.

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-68.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Ray Lassiter.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2023-69. Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama approving to notify the Mayor and Council of all complaints (lawsuits) brought against the City of Pleasant Grove.

Councilor Yolanda Lawson made a motion to consider Resolution No. 2023-69.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Eric Calhoun.

Motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Yolanda Lawson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-69.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Eric Calhoun.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2023-70. Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama agreeing to pay Reid Lawnsapes \$1,200.00 for work performed at the sports complex.

Mayor Jerry Brasseale made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-70.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Kevin Dunn.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2023-71. Resolution of the City of Pleasant Grove, Alabama agreeing pay \$6,800.00 to Jefferson County Board of Education to be earmarked for Pleasant Grove High School Basketball Tournament.

Councilor Yolanda Lawson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-71.

The motion was seconded by Mayor Jerry Brasseale.

Motion passed unanimously.

OFFICERS OF THE CITY REPORTS

Recarda Cobb – None

Chief Daniel Reid stated that Pleasant Grove Police Department had 608 calls and made 34 arrest. Also, Chief Reid discussed the arrest made for drugstore robbery in which two pounds of meth, \$13,000.00 in cash, and weapons were confiscated. Lastly, he encouraged citizens not to burn leaves or trash, and to check their smoke detector batteries.

John Williamson - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Ray Lassiter thanked the Mayor and Council for moving Public Works part-time workers to full-time, and for providing incentives to all employees.

Councilor Kevin Dunn discussed current budget and the needs of Pleasant Grove, thanked everyone for attending the Fall Festival, and stressed how pleased he was with the turnout and contributions received. Also, Councilor Dunn discussed the Park and Recreation Board meeting, suggested reviewing all lease agreements with users of Sports Complex, and thanked Chief Reid and Pleasant Grove Police Department for the drugstore robbery arrest. Lastly, he inquired about the digital sign at City Hall. Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston said that he has two quotes and is looking to use ARPA funds to replace the sign.

Councilor Eric Calhoun congratulated Chief Reid for the arrest made in the drugstore robbery, and discussed a hiring fair at Bessemer Civic Center on November 08, 2023 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. The event is sponsored by District Attorney Lynneice O. Washington. Also, Councilor Calhoun commended Pleasant Grove High School Band for receiving a superior rating, and their performance at Tuskegee University Homecoming.

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston stated that a Medicare seminar will be held at Pleasant Grove's Library on November 07, 2023 at 10:00 am. Also, he said the library will be closed November 10 & 11, 2023 in observance of Veteran's Day.

Councilor Yolanda Lawson congratulated Councilor Kevin Dunn for coordinating Pleasant Grove Fall Festival, commended Chief Daniel Reid for doing a great job with National Night Out, and congratulated Pleasant Grove High School Band for receiving a superior rating. Councilor Lawson recognized Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston for cleaning in the community, gave an overview of the conference she attended in Montgomery, and talked about having a work session to discuss a variety of topics (summer workers, boards and commissions, contracts, and council policies and procedures). Councilor Lawson asked the Building Inspector for an update on permits. John Williamson, Building Inspector, said that the City processed three permits last week. Also, she asked for an update on the lawn service company that's been cutting Pleasant Grove's Sports Complex. Mayor Jerry Brasseale stated that past due bill was discussed with Reid Lawnscares. Lastly, Councilor Lawson stated that funds have been budgeted for Pleasant Grove high School and Pleasant Grove Elementary School.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Jerry Brasseale prayed for the Councilors attending National League of Cities City Summit and all of Pleasant Grove's kids.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Gregory Walker, 444 13th Street, gave a brief background of himself, and complained about an overgrown lot near his home being infested with pest. Mr. Walker asked the Mayor and Council for help with the problem by enforcing ordinance. Mayor Jerry Brasseale asked Mr. Walker to provide the information to Pleasant Grove's Building Inspector.

A Faye Calhoun, 417 13th Street, thanked Chief Reid for the arrest made in the drugstore robbery, talked about putting parliamentary procedure in place, asked Pleasant Grove representatives not to talk over each other, and inquired about council meeting agendas. Also, Mrs. Calhoun asked have the American Rescue Fund Act funds been spent. Councilor Yolanda Lawson said no.

Michael Jefferies, 11 8th Place, thanked Councilor Ray Lassiter for resolving a issue he had with Waste Management. Also, Mr. Jefferies stated that a new problem has risen with trash pickup. He suggested the City revisits its contract with Waste Management.

Shawanna Summerville, 807 1st Avenue, complained about cars speeding through the neighborhood. Ms. Summerville asked the Mayor and Council to have speedbumps and more lighting installed.

Tonya Collier, 805 1st Avenue, stated that her mailbox was replaced several times, due to speeders knocking it down. Ms. Collier asked the Mayor and Council for a solution.

Victor Jordan, The Plug, asked the Mayor and Council about filming the Job Fair in Bessemer. Councilor Yolanda Lawson said no.

Cornell Hall, 1209 17th Street, inquired about the process of becoming a member of Pleasant Grove Planning Commission. Mayor Jerry Brasseale said it will be announced soon.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro-Tem Philip Houston made a motion to adjourn.

Jerry W. Brasseale, Mayor

Attest: _____
Recarda Cobb, City Clerk