**Minutes of the**

**Regular Council Meeting**

**Aliceville City Hall**

**February 12, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Gipson called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Council members present: Donald Allen, Warren Lavender, Robert Wilder, and Thomas Wilkins. Absent: Council member Terrence Windham.

**INVOCATION:**

City Attorney John Russell offered the invocation.

**MINUTES:**

Council member Wilkins moved for the approval of the January 22, 2020 Regular Council Meeting minutes, seconded by Council member Wilder. Motion carried unanimously with all present voting “yes”.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Mayor/Council Salary-** Council member Wilder moved for the approval of the Mayor and Council salaries to remain the same(Mayor - $1,200, Council members $500 a month) with attendance at meetings required to get paid, seconded by Council member Lavender. Motion carried with Mayor Gipson, Council members Allen, Lavender, and Wilder voting “yes” and Council member Wilkins voting “no”.
2. **Qualification Fees-** Council member Wilkins moved for the approval of setting the qualifying fee for the August 25, 2020 Election at $50. Motion was not seconded.

Council member Lavender moved for the approval of setting the qualifying fee for the August 25, 2020 Election at $25, seconded by Council member Wilder. Motion carried with Mayor Gipson, Council members Allen, Lavender, and Wilder voting “yes” and Council member Wilkins voting “no”.

1. **Use of Electronic Devices-** Council member Wilder moved for the approval of using electronic devices for all City of Aliceville Municipal Elections, seconded by Council member Lavender. Motion carried unanimously with all present voting “yes”.
2. **Establishing Procedures for Appointment of Additional Election Officers for Absentee Ballots in Municipalities Under 10,000 Population-** Council member Lavender moved for the approval of establishing procedures for appointment of Additional Election Officers for Absentee Ballots in Municipalities Under 10,000 Population, seconded by Council member Allen. Motion carried with Mayor Gipson, Council member Allen, Lavender, and Wilder voting “yes” and Council member Wilkins voting “no”.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Proclamation 2020-1 Janie Davis 103rd Birthday-** Council member Wilkins moved for the approval of Proclamation 2020-1 Recognizing Janie Davis 103rd Birthday, seconded by Council member Wilder. Motion carried unanimously with all present voting “yes”.
2. **End of Probation Increase-** Council member Wilder moved for the approval of new employees to receive a step pay increase after the probation period, seconded by Council member Wilkins. Motion carried unanimously with all present voting “yes”.
3. **Park Concession-** Mayor Gipson announced the park concession stand will be scheduled out by the week. Anyone interested needs to leave their name with the Clerk.
4. **Pay scale Adjustment-** Mayor Gipson stated Public Works Director Terry Hill recommended the newly hired Sanitation Driver has a Commercial Driver License and needs to be paid at a higher pay then Step 1 on the pay scale. Mayor Gipson recommended the new employee pay be adjusted to Step 7 on the pay grade schedule.

Council member Wilder moved for approval of the new Sanitation Driver with CDL pay be adjusted to Step 7 on the pay scale grade, seconded by Council member Wilkins. Motion carried unanimously with all present voting “yes”.

1. **Shane Spiller (Water coming through foundation of building)-** John Long CEO of Spiller Furniture Stores asked for the City to help with clearing the culvert of debris and any other repairs to ratify the problem of water coming through the foundation. He stated many repairs have been done to the building including replacing the roof to find out it was not the problem at all. This is making it almost impossible to do business at this location. Public Works Director Terry Hill stating “he has cut a trench and made a ramp to help with directing the water flow”. Also, Water Superintendent Brian Pearson has agreed to bring equipment to blow the culvert in hopes of resolving the issue.
2. **Baptist Line Sidewalk & Signs**- Mayor Gipson reported the sign has been replace and there is no update on the sidewalk at this time.
3. **Shack Town Hill-** Mayor Gipson reported the only problem she knew of on Shack Town Hill is the road caving in where a waterline burst.
4. **Walking Trail Issues-** Mayor Gipson reported the burnt-out light poles have been identified with a ribbon on them for Alabama Power to replace.
5. **Overtime Reports-** Mayor Gipson reported there is no overtime at the present time.
6. **Culvert Broken Behind B-Mart-** Mr. Hill reported he has spoken with Brian Pearson and he has agreed to blow the culvert to clear it from debris.
7. **Dumping Behind the Park**- Mayor Gipson reminded the public not to dump behind the park. Anyone caught will be ticketed.
8. **Old Cotton Mill Debris Removal-** Mayor Gipson reported the debris has been removed.
9. **Tax Increased Cigarettes ($.10)-** Tabled.
10. **Tax Increase Beer and Wine ($.10)-**Tabled.
11. **Tax Increase Motel (10%)-**Tabled.

Council member Wilder moved for the approval to table agenda items 13, 14, and 15, seconded by Council member Wilkins. Motion carried unanimously with all present voting “yes”.

1. **Travel Budget for Mayor-** After discussion, Council member Wilkins asked for this agenda item to be removed. (Council member Wilkins submitted this agenda item.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:**

Council member Lavender moved for the approval of the accounts payable, seconded by Council Member Wilkins. Motion carried unanimously with all present voting “yes”.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

Police Chief Tonnie Jones expressed a concern for all Police Officers safety around the nation. On yesterday, two (2) police officers were killed in the line of duty. Also, he commended the Aliceville Police Department on a job well done with patrolling the community. The Police Department has to inform the school system of the conditions of the roads in bad weather.

**STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

No report.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

Fire Chief Willie Dixon reported the City has not had any house fires this year. Also, the storm shelter can’t be open once a tornado is on the ground, therefore; he asked for people to come when a warning has been issued. Lastly, he asked who is responsible for keeping the storm shelters clean. City Clerk Dineki McCaa stated the Fire Department volunteers has assignments on who is responsible for the cleaning.

**UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCE:**

Chamber Director Edgar Pruitt reported the prison annexation project is moving along. Once annex, it will increase Aliceville population 1500-1800. Also, State Representatives for the area is working to get monies from the Set-A-Aside Program to construct a road from Highway 14 through to the Aliceville Municipal Park. He suggested the governing body consider hiring a lobbyist to look out for monies for the City.

John Russell reported the owners of the Old Churches Chicken agreed to replace the broken windows and doors, but asked for an extension to do the work until April 11, 2020. Everyone agreed to allow the extension.

Mr. Russell recommended the governing body proceed with the demolition of the Old McPherson Funeral Home. Once down, if payment is not received within a certain time frame, the City of Aliceville will become the owners of the property.

Lastly, Mr. Russell reported a lawsuit has been file against the City of Aliceville concerning a lady falling due to a broken culvert. He responded to the law firm stating the statute of limitation has expired on filing the paperwork. Also, after reviewing the documentation, she initially stated she fell against a car. He suggested the paper work be sent to the insurance company.

Sedelia Gaines expressed her dissatisfaction concerning lights around her home that Food Fare and the Housing Authority have placed on their buildings. She stated the lights have her property too lit up. Mayor Gipson stated she will be talked to her concerning the matter.

April 1, 2020 is National Wide Census Day.

Primary Election is March 3, 2020.

**ADJOURN-** With no other business, Council member Lavender moved for the approval of adjourning the regular council meeting, seconded by Wilder. Motion carried with all present voting “yes”.

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Marva Gipson, Mayor ATTEST:

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Dineki McCaa, City Clerk.

Note: Mayor Gipson only vote when noted.