

City Council Meeting
January 5, 2009
6:30pm

Members Present: Mayor William Isley Jr., Herbert Toles, Hugh Marlin, Wayne Tucker, Katrina Hennings, John Coyne, David Jones and Brian Skinner

Visitor: Patricia Surrent, Metro Mail Services

Mayor Isley gave the invocation and John Coyne led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing for Mapco Express

The first order of business was to hold a public hearing to consider the off premise beer and Wine license application from Mapco Express (previously operating as Discount Food Mart/Exxon at 6158 US Hwy 11. Mayor Isley opened the public hearing for public comments. There was no one present that spoke for or against the application. Mayor Isley closed the public hearing at 6:35pm. Council agreed unanimously.

Patricia Surrent – Emergency radios thru EMA

Mayor Isley suspended the regular order of business to recognize our visitor Patricia Surrent, Project Coordinator for Metro Mail Services addressed the council to make everyone aware of a community safety program thru EMA for free emergency alert radios. She explained cards will be mailed to every address in St. Clair County and must be returned by residences and businesses to request the emergency radio or they can apply through the website. The deadline date will be March 31st to request radios and all distributions should be delivered by April 30th.

Off Premise Beer / Wine application from Mapco Express

Mayor Isley called for a motion to approve the sale of off premise beer and wine for Mapco Express. John Coyne stated the owner(s) should be present to introduce themselves to the council before the application is approved. Council briefly discussed and Brian Skinner made the motion to approve, second by Katrina Hennings. Motion carried with John Coyne and David Jones voting nay.

Banner requests

The following banners were presented for the city council to consider.

1. Simply Slender and More display dates January 5th until January 30th Motion to approve was made by David Jones, second by Wayne Tucker. Motion carried.
2. Nice as New Consignment Boutique display dates January 10th until January 31st. Motion to approve was made by Wayne Tucker, second by Herbert Toles. Motion carried.
3. Ron Howell presented two banner requests; Gold and Silver Station to display as long as he is in business and H & R Block from January 5th until April 15th.

After discussion, Ron Howell's request for the gold and silver banner was approved until February 5th to be displayed until a smaller sign be made to be in compliance with the cities sign ordinance. Council discussed approving the H & R Block banner to be displayed until March 5th then reapply if needed. Motion to approve as made by Herbert Toles, second by Katrina Hennings. Motion carried unanimously.

Contribution for ClasTran

Council reviewed a contribution request from ClasTran in the amount of one thousand dollars. This is a public transportation provided for the elderly and disabled residents who need transportation within the county. Motion to approve was made by John Coyne, second by Hugh Marlin. Motion carried unanimously.

Library activity report for November was presented for the council to review.

Financial statement for the month of November 2008 was presented. Brian Skinner addressed expenditures and had questions concerning temp service employees. Mayor Isley explained why and what department uses temp employees and called on Earl Peoples who explained the work temps provide in his department and how the program works. After discussion, a motion to approve the financial statement as presented was made by David Jones, second by Herbert Toles. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Isley made a recommendation to change the next council meeting from January 19th to January 20th at 7:00pm due to Monday being a holiday. Motion was made by David Jones, second by Wayne Tucker. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Isley reported on the following:

1. He advised applications for Police Chief have been received and suggested the council hold a meeting on January 12th at 3:00pm to review about 19 resumes.
2. He reported the renovations to the VFW building are underway.
3. Someone vandalized the restrooms at Big Springs Park and requested citizens to report if they see anything going on that should not be.
4. He expressed his concerns that the library building does not meet ADA approval. He requested Bill Weathington, City Attorney to review the lease with the Preservation Society to see who is responsible in bringing this building to ADA approval. Also check other buildings the city owns or leases for ADA requirements.
5. He stated a volunteer in district 4 agreed to provide garbage bags and cans for those who wish to assist in cleaning up Mountain View Road. Mayor Isley advised the date will be on a Saturday and will inform those interested when the date is set, but suggested the age of 18 or over.

Chief Richard Harvey presented an activity report for the month of December for the council to review and was available if anyone had any questions.

Earl Peoples reported on behalf of Mike Terry concerning the removal of the mobile home in The Colony has been delayed due to heavy rains.

Officer Roy Spann reported the police department had 58 cases from December 23rd thru January 2nd consisting of drugs, felonies, dui's, theft at CEICO Pipe and Quick Lube. The thefts are still under investigation.

Brian Skinner, District 7 reported;

1. The library building needs emergency lighting.
2. He requested a meeting with Earl Peoples to look at the 26 acres the city purchased for Sport Complex to have a cost analysis on an access road to get to this property.
3. He supplied the Council with Ashville and Moody park budget figures and feels the City should budget more money for the city budget.

David Jones, District 6 reported;

1. He thanked Earl Peoples for filling the pot holes and cleaning the ditch on Oak Grove Road and Pawnee Street.
2. He asked Peoples to please keep the Council informed about the mobile home status in The Colony.
3. He hopes the water restrictions can be lifted soon and maybe consider technology to review water usage, before setting restrictions on water customers.

4. He participated in the Ride-A-Long program with Police officers; Doss, Mullinax and Hayes and was impressed and proud of their performance and thanked them for the opportunity.

John Coyne, District 5 had no report;

Katrina Hennings, District 4 reported;

1. She suggested an outside light be installed at the VFW building.
2. She has requested information concerning the turn lanes at the Gardens.

Wayne Tucker District 3 advised the also participated in the Ride-A-Long program and enjoyed it. He requested to meet with Earl Peoples to discuss some street issues.

Hugh Marlin, District 2 reported complaints about the road going up to the water tank in MacDonald farms washing out onto the roads and driveways. He suggested a sign be put on the road to keep vehicles off the road.

Herbert Toles, District 1 reported;

1. He requested Alabama Power be contacted to advise them the street light at 210 Mountain Drive needs to be turned towards the road and away from the resident's home.
2. He requested a street light be installed on Old Mill Terrace. Earl Peoples replied the city has a policy on street lights, but will check into it.
3. Suggested someone with the City make sure the gates at Big Springs Park are locked at 11:00pm to keep the facility from being vandalized.
4. He asked City Attorney Bill Weathington the status of the title search for Elaine Street. Mr. Weathington stated it has been ordered and he will have his office check on this.

Mayor Isley allowed comments from citizens present at the meeting.

Faye Kinstler presented a flyer posted in Ashville offering free transportation for senior citizens.

David Fields suggested a street light be installed at the intersection of Hwy 23 and Hwy 11.

Art Segal suggested a lantern be placed at the top of the stars at the library for emergency lighting.

Doug Morrison thanked the city for making repairs on Oak Grove Road.

David Lashore apologized for not being available to give the invocation.

Motion to adjourn was made by Wayne Tucker at approx 8:35pm.

Attest:

Brenda Roberts, City Clerk

William Isley, Jr.