

**PELHAM CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

Date: September 18, 2006
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Pelham City Hall
Present: Mayor Bobby Hayes
Ms. Karyl Rice, Council President
Mr. Mike Dickens, Council Member
Mr. Willard Payne, Council Member
Ms. Rosemary Metcalf, Council Member
Mr. Robert Sullivan, Council Member

Council President Karyl Rice called the meeting to order. Willard Payne led the invocation.

Karyl Rice asked that the record show all members of the council present.

Rosemary Metcalf moved to waive the oral reading of the September 11, 2006 minutes and approve as presented. Willard Payne seconded the motion. Karyl Rice asked for a vote on the motion to approve; on voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hayes addressed the council regarding his proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2006-2007. He stated that the budget includes three new firemen to help meet staffing needs at Station 5, a 3 % COLA for employees, 5% for upper management in the Police and Fire Departments and 7% for the Chief of Police and the Fire Chief. He explained that higher percentages for public safety divisions would help bring their pay scales closer to surrounding communities.

He reported that the Pelham Tennis Center and Pelham Racquet Club would be placed under Billy Crandall's area of responsibility with the title Director of Parks and department head salary.

Mayor Hayes reported that his proposed budget included \$220,500 for schools with Pelham High School receiving \$200,000 to retire the debt on the stadium and all four of the schools receiving \$5,125 each. Mayor Hayes noted that the city contributes over \$462,000 annually to schools within Pelham city limits for free garbage, crossing guards, police/fire support and free water and sewer.

Mayor Hayes stated that the budget was fiscally sound and revenues conservatively projected and attainable.

There was no old business to come before the council.

During new business, Rosemary Metcalf nominated Willard Payne for President Pro-Tempore. There were no other nominations. Karyl Rice declared Willard Payne President Pro-Tempore by acclamation.

Ordinance No. 426 was presented annexing Greg Metcalf property located off SC35 adjoining Emerald Lakes subdivision. Willard Payne moved to suspend the rules for immediate consideration. Mike Dickens seconded the motion. Karyl Rice called for a roll call vote. The clerk recorded the following votes.

<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Mike Dickens		Rosemary Metcalf
Karyl Rice		
Bob Sullivan		
Willard Payne		

Thereupon, Willard Payne moved to approve **Ordinance No. 426** as presented, and Mike Dickens seconded the motion. Karyl Rice asked for a vote on the motion to approve; on voice vote the motion passed 4-0, with Rosemary Metcalf abstaining.

A resolution was presented raising fees at Ballantrae Golf Club, Pelham Racquet Club and the Pelham Tennis Center effective October 1, 2006. Detailed fee structures were attached to the resolution and will be kept as an official record in the clerk's office. Rosemary Metcalf moved to approve the resolution as presented, and Willard Payne seconded the motion. Karyl Rice asked for a vote on the motion to approve; on voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

A resolution was presented approving the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 budget. Willard Payne moved to approve the budget as presented. Rosemary Metcalf seconded the motion, but then made a motion to amend the budget by adding \$36,015 in expenditures for the following: Alabama Symphony \$10,000, Birmingham Regional Emergency Medical Services System \$2,486 and the promotion of Tom Seale to department head for an impact of \$23,529. Willard Payne seconded the motion to amend the budget. The council considered the amendment to the budget first. During discussion, Bob Sullivan stated that he would not support making Tom Seale a department head due to the amount of the salary increase. Mike Dickens disagreed with Mr. Sullivan's comments. Karyl Rice asked for a vote on the motion to amend the FY2006-2007 budget by adding \$36,015 in expenditures; on voice vote the motion passed 4-1 with Bob Sullivan voting no.

Willard Payne moved and Rosie Metcalf seconded the motion that the budget be approved as amended. During discussion, Mike Dickens stated that he would vote no on the budget and gave several reasons for his vote, among those, lack of communication and knowledge of the budget due to format of budget presentation, flat sales tax revenues, and his opinion that the mayor should not receive a salary increase. During his comments he expressed appreciation to the police and fire departments for the work they do.

Mayor Hayes responded stating that as Council President Mr. Dickens could have called a special meeting of the council for further consideration of his proposed budget and also could have called him for additional information or to answer any questions he may have had about the budget. Mayor Hayes emphasized that the revenues were conservatively projected and very attainable as they have been throughout his administration.

Mr. Dickens said he did not know he could call the council together to discuss the budget. Karyl Rice asked for a vote on the motion to approve; on voice vote the motion passed 3-2 with Mike Dickens and Bob Sullivan voting no. Karyl Rice expressed her gratitude to the employees of the city for the work they do on a daily basis and the many hours they devoted to preparing the budget for the coming year.

A resolution was presented approving bond expenditures for capital improvements totaling \$1,153,631.00 from the proceeds of the General Obligation Warrants, Series 2005, dated October 1, 2005. A detailed list of the expenditures was attached to the resolution. Rosemary Metcalf moved to approve the resolution as presented, and Willard Payne seconded the motion. Karyl Rice asked for a vote on the motion to approve; on voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

A resolution was presented approving a settlement of \$42,500 to Barry Davis, Architect. Rosemary Metcalf moved to approve the resolution as presented, and Willard Payne seconded the motion. Karyl Rice asked for a vote on the motion to approve; on voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

Mike Dickens moved to have the council meet to review the process by which the budget is developed and presented to the council, and Bob Sullivan seconded the motion. Karyl Rice asked for a vote on the motion; on voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Mike Shaw addressed the council and encouraged unity.

With no other business before the council, Rosemary Metcalf moved to adjourn. Willard Payne seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.