



Meeting Minutes City of Midfield, Alabama City Council

The City Council of the City of Midfield, Alabama met in regular session on Monday, January 14, 2013 with Mayor Gary Richardson presiding.

Councilmember Terry Adams gave the invocation and led attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Renita Martin, acted as clerk and conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Councilmember Terry Adams, Councilmember James Reasor, Councilmember Jimmie Robinson, Councilmember Janice Anderson and Councilmember Velma Johnson.

Approval of payment of bills: Councilmember Velma Johnson made a motion to suspend the rules for immediate consideration of January No. 1 Bills \$121, 446.67. The motion was seconded by Councilor Janice Anderson. A roll call vote resulted in unanimous consent. Councilmember Velma Johnson made a motion to approve payment of bills for January No. 1 Bills \$121,446.67. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Janice Anderson. A roll call vote resulted in unanimous consent.

Approval of Resolution 2013-2, a resolution directing the City Clerk of Midfield, Alabama to separate and segregate all ad valorem taxes due to the Midfield Board of Education in Excess of the Funds due to pay off the outstanding series 2003 General Obligation School Warrants. Councilmember Velma Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-2. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Janice Anderson. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Approval of Resolution 2013-4, a resolution authorizing a travel advance of \$945.86 for Police Chief Frank Belcher to attend the Alabama Police Chiefs Winter Conference and Expo in Montgomery, Alabama. Councilmember Velma Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-4. Councilmember Terry Adams seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2013-4. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Approval of Resolution 2013-5, a resolution authorizing the extension agreement for garage services between the City of Midfield and BFI Waste Services, LLC. Councilmember Jimmie Robinson made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-5. Councilmember Terry Adams seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2013-5. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Approval of Business License for J & T Tax Service, 202 B.Y. Williams Sr. Drive. Councilmember Adams entered a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Janice Anderson.

Approval of Bingo License for ARC Outreach Center, Inc. 546 Bessemer Super Hwy. Councilmember Jimmie Robinson entered the motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Janice Anderson.

Report from the Mayor: Mayor Gary Richardson read his response to a citizen who had concerns regarding the 14 mills ad valorem taxes the Midfield Board of Education claims is due them from the City of Midfield. Mayor Gary Richardson stated that the bulk of the funds were used to service the debt on series 2003 General Obligation School Warrants incurred to finance the building of the Fine Arts Center and funds were not allocated for enrichment and other school programs. The Mayor stated that the bond will be paid off this year.

Mayor Richardson noted that this administration has always supported the schools and will continue rendering its support for the schools, as well as its support for the Midfield community at large. Mayor Richardson stated that community improvements are expected in the near future, including walking trails, and new businesses such as Walgreens.

Report from the Council: Councilmember Terry Adams pledged continued support for the school system and greater community, including Little League and other sports programs. Councilmember Terry Adams asked for volunteers and mentors to assist the youth in becoming productive citizens.

Councilmember Janice Anderson reminded attendees to support the Neighborhood Association and Beautification Board.

Councilmember James Reasor stated that he supports the school system and would do nothing to hurt the schools, especially since he has a son in the school system.

Councilmember Jimmie Robinson stated that education is very important and that he wholeheartedly supports the schools.

Councilmember Velma Johnson looks forward to the City's continued support of the schools and Midfield community.

Report from Department Heads:

Fire Chief Larry Manning reminded attendees that we must practice fire safety to avoid loss of life and property. There was a recent fatality that was caused by the use of candles during a power outage. Also Midfield Fire Department is in need of new fire trucks. FEMA grants have provided money for new equipment but more is needed.

Police Chief Frank Belcher stated that the Midfield Police Department needs more police officers to meet the community's growing needs. For instance, the Midfield Police Department recently discovered a juvenile burglary ring. Chief Belcher asked attendees for their continued prayers and support for the Midfield Police Department.

Jeff Zisette, head of Street and Sanitation and the Park Board stated that high grass on properties in Midfield has caused the city undue expense. The Pavilion and Splash Pad have been good for the city and make Midfield a better place to live. The Safe Routes to School Grant will also be great improvement. Sidewalks will be provided to make the area safer for pedestrians.

William Baylor, the Mayor's Administrative Assistant stated he is working on getting grants to promote art programs and to remove dilapidated properties in an attempt to revitalize the community, attract new businesses and take advantage of corporate partnering.

Clara Prevo, Community Development/Grant Writer stated that phase two of the effort to renovate the community center is in the works with a \$200,000.00 grant.

Open to the Public: Various members of the community spoke to voice their concerns that funding was being taken from the schools that would result in a loss of programs that are important for the children.

Adjournment: Councilmember Velma Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Terry Adams. All members present voted aye passing the motion unanimously. Councilmember Terry Adams led prayer at adjournment.