

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2012**

Present: Mayor Joe Jerkins
Kirsten Anderson
Trudie Causey
Virginia Reagan
Martin Standard
Scott Thomas
Suzanne Thomason

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was held on Monday, March 5, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall.

Also present were: Scott Kimbrough, City Attorney; Carolyn Duncan, City Clerk; Sandra Farmer, Deputy City Clerk; General Administration Department.; Randy Bowens, Public Works Director; Jim Graham, Community Affairs Director; Bob Starrett, Police Chief and Tim Williams, Fire Chief.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jerkins called the meeting to order. Pastor Malcolm Lewis, Beacon of Light Christian Church gave the Invocation and Mayor Jerkins led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Jerkins asked the Council if anyone had any items to add to the Agenda. Ms. Reagan stated she would like to add 9D. – Patrol Vehicle Purchases. Ms. Anderson stated she would like to add 11F. - Proclamation – Severe Weather Awareness Week. Mr. Thomas stated he would like to add 12A. – SPLOST Capitol Improvement Projects.

Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to approve added items to the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Causey.

2. CONSENT AGENDA – INFORMATION AND UPDATE

(No Action Required by Council – See Specific Department Director before Meeting.)

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Bills
- B. Approve Legal Bills \$1,395.60
- C. Approve Minutes of Regular Council Meeting February 6, 2012

Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Reagan. Motion passed (6-0).

4. EXCEPTION TO CONSENT AGENDA

5. CITIZENS REPORT

Mayor Jerkins asked if anyone would like to speak. No one spoke.

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**6. GAS SYSTEM REPRESENTATIVE
JOE JERKINS**

Mr. Kimbrough stated he attended the Gas Board meeting three weeks ago. We addressed and adopted the rate schedule applicable for this billing period. Also, I have mentioned this several times before Austell Gas System has come in as the lowest marketer for natural gas in the deregulated market. I think it has been twenty-five months in a row they have been the lowest according to Rob Register. They are doing a very job of buying gas when it is the proper time to buy gas and keeping the cost down.

**7. FINANCE DEPARTMENT
VIRGINIA REAGAN, CHAIRPERSON
Denise Soesbee, Director**

A. Financial Report

**8. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
KIRSTEN ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON
Carolyn Duncan, Director**

A. No Report

**9. POLICE DEPARTMENT
VIRGINIA REAGAN, CHAIRPERSON
Bob Starrett, Police Chief**

- A. Police Report
- B. Code Enforcement Report
- C. Wrecker Fee Schedule

Ms. Reagan stated in the past Austell has patterned the Wrecker Fee Schedule and other requirements after Cobb County's. The Police Committee was requested by Council Members to update our current schedule.

Attached are our current Fee Schedule, our proposed Fee Schedule, and Cobb County's current Fee Schedule and Wrecker service requirements.

Council may review the current and proposed fees, along with Minimum Equipment Specifications set by Cobb County.

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The Police Committee recommends Council adopt the proposed Fee changes. The Fee changes are in your packet and I would like them to be made part of the minutes. (Please see attached Fee Changes).

Ms. Reagan moved to follow the recommendation of the Police Committee to adopt the proposed Fee changes and make them part of the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Motion passed (6-0).

D. Patrol Vehicle Purchase

Ms. Reagan stated at this time she would like to turn this over to Chief Starrett. Chief Starrett stated we have had a study in our Police Department to find out what is the safest vehicle. We have determined the Crown Vic and I agree with them. They are not making any more Crown Vic's and there is only a hand full left. Prater Ford is supposed to get thirty of them in the dealership within the next few days. There are several cities trying to get them. We will do whatever the Council approves. I spoke with salesman at Prater Ford five minutes before this meeting started and allowing me to go through the Mayor to approve and to make sure there are no problems with the vehicles. We want to purchase three (3) 2010 Patrol vehicles and they will put the black bar, siren, strobe, console, partitions, bumpers and stream light. We will have to transfer the radios and the camera systems in them. These come with a seven (7) year, one hundred and twenty-five thousand (125,000) mile warranty. Total cost will be eighty-nine thousand fifty-one dollars and fifty-two cents (\$89,051.52). This money will be coming from the SPLOST fund. We had appropriated two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the next four year out of the SPLOST money to purchase the patrol vehicles. We may not actually use the entire amount of that money because we have received fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) from the Insurance Company from a Police car that was in an accident. We are using the fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) as a down payment on the new vehicle. The two payments will be thirty-seven thousand (\$37,000) for each of the remainder of the cars. Mayor Jerkins asked if this would include some of the lights and extras for the vehicles. Chief Starrett stated the vehicles will come with the lights, strobe and everything on them. We will however, transfer the radios and the cameras. We should have additional money from the SPLOST fund if we need it for anything extra for the new vehicles.

Ms. Reagan moved to follow the recommendation to give Mayor Jerkins the authority to purchase the patrol vehicles. Seconded by Ms. Anderson. Motion passed (6-0).

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**10. FIRE DEPARTMENT
SCOTT THOMAS, CHAIRPERSON
Tim Williams, Director**

A. Fire Report

**11. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
KIRSTEN ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON
Randy Bowens, Director**

A. Purchase of Wide Format Plotter/Scanner

Ms. Anderson stated the City of Austell purchased its first large format plotter in 1999. This plotter is used frequently for printing large maps such as our street maps, zoning map, and for other projects that requires paper up to 36 inches by 53 inches. Since the plotter no longer works it will be surplusd.

We would like to replace the current plotter with a ColorWave 300 Printer. This unit is equipped with a large format scanner. This will further enable us to scan development plans and other related documents to be saved to our network and accessed through our desktop computers.

Ms. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to approve the purchase of one new ColorWave 300 printer at a cost of \$446.40 per month and to authorize the Mayor to execute corresponding documents. Seconded by Ms. Reagan. Motion passed (6-0).

Mr. Standard asked if this cost was an on-going fee every month. Mayor Jerkins stated, yes, it is like renting but if you buy it and you have a problem or repair specifically with it they would charge you so much to fix it. It is better to rent it than own it. I guess where some of that cost comes in if you use more than allotted every month they can charge you more. Mr. Standard asked does this include the ink and paper. Mr. Bowens stated, no, we have already bought the ink and the paper and we have x amount of copies we can make up to a certain point which is about two thousand and if we exceed that amount they will charge us extra. Mayor Jerkins stated we purchased one a long time ago and it didn't work out so it is better to rent it. Mr. Bowens stated it will also allow us to scan a lot of our current maps that we have and it goes into a digital format and then we can access at anytime. Some of the maps we have are very old and this will help us to scan them before they deteriorate.

- B. Purchase of Street Sweeper
- C. Surplus Sale
- D. Road Closure – Brooks Drive
- E. Cemetery Street Sidewalk Project
- F. Proclamation – Severe Weather Awareness Week

12. PARKS DEPARTMENT

SCOTT THOMAS, CHAIRPERSON

Jim Graham, Director

- A. SPLOST Capitol Improvement Projects

13. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

SUZANNE THOMASON, CHAIRPERSON

Jim Graham, Director

- A. Approval of City Hall Messaging Sign

14. ATTORNEY – DUPREE & KIMBROUGH

- A. No Report

15. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. CMA MEETING

TIME:

LOCATION:

MARCH 13, 2012

6:30 P.M.

HOSTED BY SMYRNA @ COBB CHAMBER

16. ADJOURN