

February 15, 2010

The Mayor and Council of the City of Calera met on February 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Calera City Hall with the following present:

Mayor: Jon G. Graham

Council Members: Ernest Montgomery, Mike Roberson, David Bradshaw, Chris Bunn, Ed Gentry, Bobby Joe Phillips

Department Heads: Doug Smedley, Sewer Operations Director
Chris Pappas, City Engineer
Sean Lemley, Police Chief
Janet Greathouse, Library Director
Mike Wood, Building Official
Mike Kent, Zoning Official
Sean Kendrick, Fire Chief
Roy Hadaway, Finance Director

Guests: Tommy Edwards, Bill Davis, Harold Cole, Fred Hoskins, Randy and Rebecca Krueger, Rusty and Wanda Ezekiel

Mayor Graham called the meeting to order. Council Member Bradshaw made a motion to approve the following minutes:

Regular Meeting – February 1, 2010
Work Session – February 1, 2010

Council Member Bunn seconded said motion which was carried unanimously.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Sean Kendrick, Fire Chief updated the Mayor and Council concerning House Bill 306. Chief Kendrick will continue to monitor the status of the House Bill and update the Mayor and Council as needed.

Sean Lemley, Police Chief presented a Vehicle Lease Program to the Mayor and Council.

Calera Police Department

Lease Vehicle Program

The Calera Police Department is currently operating with several outdated and unreliable patrol vehicles. We are currently operating with (1) 1998 model Crown Vic, (5) 2000 model Crown Vic, (1) 2002 Crown Vic, (2) 2003 Crown Vic, (5) 2004 Crown Vic, (4) 2005 Crown Vic and (3) 2007 Crown Vic. Several of these vehicles have between 150,000 – 250,000 miles. We have an immediate need to replace seven (7) of our oldest and poor conditioned vehicles.

The Calera Police Department has developed a vehicle replacement plan to be implemented as a Police Lease Vehicle Budget. The plan calls for leasing seven (7) new patrol vehicles every three-year. After a three-year lease the city pays \$1.00 per vehicle

and the vehicles becomes the property of the city. The plan is to lease seven (7) more new vehicles every three-years. Based on the current fleet of twenty-one (21) patrol vehicles the oldest vehicle will be retired after nine-years on this plan. The city will continue to lease seven (7) new vehicles every three-years until there is a need to increase vehicles based on the department's growth.

Annual Breakdown of Expenses

2010 Lease Vehicle Budget

(7) New patrol vehicles leased for three years. 2010 budget expense \$52,558.19
Total 2010 Vehicle budget expense \$52,558.19

2011 Lease Vehicle Budget

Continued lease expense for vehicles. 2011 budget expense \$52,558.19

2012 Lease Vehicle Budget

Continued lease expense for vehicles. 2012 budget expense \$52,558.19

Total three-year expense for (7) new vehicles \$157,674.57

2013 we will continue the Lease Vehicle Budget, leasing seven (7) more new vehicles for three-years.

Recommended Budget Revisal

1. Recommend that Council approves the creation of a Police Lease Vehicle budget.
2. The police department currently budgets \$55,000 annually for vehicle maintenance to keep our aging fleet operational. Replacing seven (7) of our oldest, poorest conditioned vehicles with seven (7) new vehicles with three-year/36,000 mile warranties will reduce our maintenance budget. Recommend that Council adjusts our current budget and move \$20,000 from the Police Vehicle Maintenance budget to the new Police Lease Vehicle budget.
3. The police department has fully implemented our driving school for traffic violations. We are currently conducting driving school once a month. Each driving school will normally have twenty (20) students. The cost of the driving school is \$125 per student. This school is currently going to generate \$30,000 annually on average. Due to the increased amount of interest in our driving school we are planning on increasing our driving school to two times per month when applicable. The driving school is expected to generate an average of \$40,000 annually. Currently, this revenue has not been accounted for as generated revenue for general funds. Recommend that Council approves for \$35,000 of this generated

revenue to be adjusted from general funds to the new Police Lease Vehicle Budget.

4. Due to the police department **not** having officers resign from employment we are currently saving money in our firearms budget. When new officers are hired we must shoot thousands of rounds of ammunition on the range training and qualifying those new officers. In addition to the ammunition we shoot qualifying those new officers we have to send thousands of rounds of ammunition to the police academy to training those officers. We have also reduced departmental qualifications to a minimum due to overtime restrictions and ammunition shortages because of the wars. With the reduced consumption of ammunition we can adjust our current budget and move \$5000 from Police Firearms budget to the Police Equipment Maintenance budget. This adjustment will cover the cost of transferring equipment from the old vehicles being replaced to the new vehicles being purchased.

Budget Revisal Breakdown

- Create Police Lease Vehicle budget
- Move \$20,000 from Vehicle Maintenance to Police Lease Vehicle budget; Total \$20,000
- Move \$35,000 from general funds from driving school to Police Lease Vehicle budget; Total \$35,000
- Total amount available after adjustments in the Police Lease Vehicle budget; Total \$55,000 annually. This amount will cover the annual payment for police leased vehicles and paint/decals.
- Move \$5,000 from Police Firearms budget to Police Equipment Maintenance Budget; Total 5,000 onetime expense to cover expenses for transferring equipment from the old vehicles to the new vehicles

Closing Remarks

The police department will install new LED light bars on all seven (7) of the new purchased vehicles. The old strobe light bars have become extremely expensive to maintain and the strobe bulbs blow out routinely. A grant has been secured for \$6,200 through the Shelby County District Attorney's office that will cover the cost of adding these new LED light bars to the new vehicles.

Administrative and Investigations vehicles will be treated as capital requests. We currently have three administrative vehicles and two Investigations vehicles. These vehicles are not driven as often as patrol vehicles and will be replaced as needed by capital budget requests.

With the recommended adjustments the police department will maintain a good patrol fleet at no additional cost, or without increasing the city's overall budget. With the addition of seven (7) new patrol vehicles every three-years the oldest vehicles in the fleet will only be nine (9) years-old. This plan allows the city to get all the vehicles at once

while only paying 1/3 of the cost each year. With the addition of new patrol vehicles our department will be able to better serve our community with more professional and reliable vehicles and will increase officer's morale and the public perception of our city.

Council Member Bunn made a motion to allow Chief Lemley to sign the agreement concerning the Vehicle Lease Program. Council Member Gentry seconded said motion, and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

Chief Lemley requested approval for Roy Hadaway, Finance Director to move \$5,000 in his police budget from the firearms line item to police equipment line item.

Council Member Bradshaw made a motion to allow the line item change in the police department budget. Council Member Gentry seconded said motion, and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

Roy Hadaway, Finance Director presented the Mayor and Council with the current Budget Amendments.

Council Member Gentry made a motion to adopt the Budget Amendments presented by Roy Hadaway. Council Member Bradshaw seconded said motion, and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

Doug Smedley, Sewer Operations Director requested approval from the Mayor and Council to purchase additional lab supplies in the amount of \$1,862.90.

Council Member Bradshaw made motion to authorize the additional lab supplies purchase. Council Member Gentry seconded said motion, and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

Janet Greathouse, Library Director presented the following Proclamation for adoption.

PROCLAMATION
Big Read Months

WHEREAS, reading drives home the need for literacy at every age; and

WHEREAS, parents recognize the importance of having strong reading skills for school and adult activities; and

WHEREAS, watching a movie that is based on a book one has read gives children and adults an opportunity to discuss the content, moral and social interpretation of the story.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor Jon G. Graham, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Calera, do hereby proclaim the months of February, March, and April 2010 at **Big Read Months** in Calera, Alabama.

FURTHERMORE, I join with the Calera Public Library to support their efforts to help revitalize the role of literary reading and to encourage everyone to read “The Adventures of Tom Sawyer” by Mark Twain.

ISSUED: This 15th day of February, 2010.

Mayor, Jon G. Graham

Council Member Bunn made a motion to proclaim February, March, and April as Big Read Months. Council Member Gentry seconded said motion, and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

Janet Greathouse, Library Director presented the Mayor and Council with a copy of The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain to support Big Read Month. Mrs. Greathouse advised the Mayor and Council that the Fairy Tale Ball was a great success. Thanks to everyone who attended and helped make the event such a success.

Mike Wood, Building Official advised the Mayor and Council that we have 159 outstanding vacant lots that need to be cleaned up. Mr. Wood is working closely with the owners of these lots. If the lots are not cleaned up in a timely manner, the next step will be the nuisance complaint process. When the City implements the Code Enforcement Officer position, this individual will be able to handle these complaints quicker and at a lower cost. The cost associated with the nuisance complaint process can reach as high as \$1,200.00 per lot.

Mike Wood, Building Official requested approval for continuing education. Mike Wood and Roy Hogg will be attending the AAPGMI Annual Educational Conference, March 31 – April 2, 2010 in Auburn, Alabama. The total continuing education request is for \$557.96.

Council Member Bunn made a motion to approve the education request by Mike Wood. Council Member Montgomery seconded said motion, and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS:

Council Member Montgomery advised that the Encouragement Learning Center had requested to use a Pavilion located at Oliver Park for their Summer Reading Program.

Council Member Montgomery made a motion to authorize the usage of a Pavilion located at Oliver Park for a total of two times at no charge. Council Member Bradshaw seconded said motion, and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

Council Member Montgomery requested Fire Chief Kendrick check the status for a controlled burn of a residence located on Highway 213.

Council Member Bradshaw requested updates on the following issues: Rail Road Car located on Highway 31, Rail Road Crossings, Highway 31 Paving Project, and the Meriweather Paving Project.

Mr. Wood, Building Official advised Council Member Bradshaw that his office is still waiting for the Certified Mail Card to return on the Eddie Cosby property.

Connie Payton, City Clerk advised Council Member Bradshaw that a response has not been received from neither CSX nor Norfolk Southern concerning the conditions of the rail road crossing.

Chris Pappas, City Engineer advised Council Member Bradshaw that he has spoken with Gary Ray from the Highway Department and we are hoping for a spring letting on the Highway 31 paving project. Mr. Ray will advise his office when the contracts have been awarded. Mr. Pappas is currently working on prices for the Meriweather paving project.

Council Member Bunn requested a list from Chris Pappas, City Engineer on roads scheduled to be repaired by Reamer Development. Mr. Pappas advised that a meeting was held with Mayor Graham and Reamer and the following roads would be scheduled for repairs: Village Trail, Village Lane, the 1st Sector of Townhomes, Highland Way, and Waterford Cove Drive. Reamer Development will also be required to have a construction entrance in the back of the subdivision.

Council Member Bunn has received a telephone call concerning individuals using the street in front of Head Start during school hours. If this street is used during school hours this causes a safety problem for the children crossing as they go to the play ground. After discussion concerning this problem, the City will authorize the Calera Elementary School to close the gate located on Whippoorwill.

Council Member Gentry congratulated Police Chief Lemley on his plan to bring his department new vehicles.

The Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging donation request was tabled.

The Mayor called a Finance Work Session for February 23, 2010 at 6:30 pm.

The Mayor advised the Council of an estimate received from Ambit Solutions concerning a new telephone system.

Council Member Phillips made motion to allow Mayor Graham to authorize the purchase of the telephone system. Council Member Bradshaw seconded said motion, and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

GUESTS:

Brenda Zufelt was on the agenda to discuss a problem she and her neighbors are having with other residents using a private driveway. Mrs. Zufelt was not present during the council meeting however; the Mayor and Council discussed her concerns.

After discussion concerning Mrs. Zufelt's issues the Mayor and Council made a decision to allow Mrs. Zufelt to place a gate at the rear entrance to the private driveway. This would decrease traffic from exiting the subdivision. Mrs. Zufelt will be required to place an A 5 Key Lock on the gate and provide keys to the city for emergency vehicles to enter the gate if necessary.

Council Member Montgomery made a motion to allow Mrs. Zufelt to place a gate at the rear entrance of the private driveway. Council Member Roberson seconded said motion, and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

PUBLIC HEARING:

This portion of the meeting was a Public Hearing concerning the following two Ordinances for consideration:

Ordinance No. 2010-01 Zoning Ordinance
Ordinance No. 2010-02 Sign Ordinance

A public hearing on these issues were held at a Work Session dated January 12, 2010
at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Graham introduced the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-01

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALERA, ALABAMA:

(1)**WHEREAS**, the Code of Ordinances of the City of Calera, Alabama is hereby amending by deleting the current Zoning Ordinance and substituting therefore the following:

Council Member Roberson moved that unanimous consent of the Council be given for the immediate action upon said Ordinance. Council Member Montgomery seconded said motion and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

The Mayor declared said motion carried and unanimous consent given. Council Member Bunn moved that Ordinance No. 2010-01 be adopted, which motion was seconded by Council Member Phillips and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

Adopted this 15th day of February 2010.

Mayor Graham declared Ordinance No. 2010-01 adopted.

Connie B. Payton, City Clerk

Jon G. Graham, Mayor

Mayor Graham introduced the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-02

WHEREAS, the number and nature of signs along public rights of way have endangered the health and safety of the citizens of the City of Calera by interfering with drivers' vision, distracting drivers from concentrating; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALERA, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

Council Member Montgomery moved that unanimous consent of the Council be given for the immediate action upon said Ordinance. Council Member Bradshaw seconded said motion and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

The Mayor declared said motion carried and unanimous consent given. Council Member Bunn moved that Ordinance No. 2010-02 be adopted, which motion was seconded by Council Member Gentry and upon vote, the results were as follows:

AYES: Graham, Montgomery, Roberson, Bradshaw, Bunn, Gentry, Phillips

NAYS: None

Adopted this 15th day of February 2010.

Mayor Graham declared Ordinance No. 2010-02 adopted.

Connie B. Payton, City Clerk

Jon G. Graham, Mayor

Council Member Phillips made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Approved this 1st day of March, 2010.

Jon G. Graham, Mayor

ATTEST:

Connie B. Payton, City Clerk