**Call to Order & Prayer:** Chris Peck

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of October 2nd Minutes**

Motion to Approve was made by Ray Thomas, and seconded by Chris Peck. All approved.

**Adoption of November 6th Agenda**

Motion to adopt was made by Michelle Cole, seconded by Ray Thomas. All approved.

**No Mayor Opening Remarks**

**Present:** Tim Wyatt, Roger Fortson, Chris Peck, Michelle Cole, Ray Thomas, Dale Perry, Tony Mattox, Bill Grimes, Kerri-Lynn Phillips, Elisa Grimes, attached list.

***NO PUBLIC INPUT AT THIS TIME.***

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resignation of Bruce Scogin, Elections Superintendent**

Mayor Wyatt and Clerk Kerri-Lynn Phillips have been notified by Bruce Scogin that he intends to resign his position as Elections Superintendent for the City of Colbert effectively immediately. Kerri-Lynn Phillips has been qualified and certified by the Secretary of State’s office to assume the responsibility. Mayor Wyatt has directed Bruce to provide the City with a final bill for his services, and encouraged Kerri-Lynn to consider compensation for the additional responsibilities, which will be determined later.

**Colbert Baptist Church Right of Way**

Mayor Wyatt provided the Council with a mapped drawing of how the Baptist church plans to alter the parking lot and driveways for the church’s expanding parking area. Chris Peck stated that the church owned the property, and Michelle Cole asked if there would be any concerns about the plan. Mayor Wyatt responded that there did not seem to be any issue with their planned use of property, and that their intention was to make sure that they were going forth appropriately. Attorney Dale Perry stated there was no need for a motion or vote, and Chris Peck will inform them that it is okay for them to proceed.

**Property at Air Service Building**

Resident Ralph Collier owns property at 4th Avenue and another property at 3rd Street South that he has offered to the City to purchase for a price of $10,000. Each lot is less than a half-acre and could not be built on. A citizen asked what the purpose of the land would be for the City, and Chris Peck addressed the question stating it would be used for the July 4th event and other purposes. Council member Ray Thomas made a motion to purchase the properties for $10,000. Michelle Cole seconded the motion; all approved.

***NO PUBLIC INPUT AT THIS TIME.***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Park Sign Quote**

Council member Michelle Cole presented the new park sign idea and quote for the Council. The design the Park was quoted, she stated, had a thirty-year warranty on the plastic and was weather proof. Councilman Roger Fortson asked where the new sign would be located. Michelle stated that the new sign would replace the aging granite marker that is hard to see that sits at the park gate. The sign would be single-sided and face the road. Chris Peck asked where the funds would be paid from, and Mayor Wyatt responded that there was still some money left in the Park’s budget, but he preferred a vote on the subject. Roger Fortson made a motion to accept the design and proceed with payment. Chris Peck seconded the motion; all approved.

**First Reading of Updated Zoning Ordinance**

The Council was presented with the updated zoning ordinance from David Syfan, attorney with Hulsey, Mahar, and Oliver, from Gainesville, which was voted on in January 2023. A property owner who had obtained the ordinance per request spoke regarding the nature of the ordinance contained in the 134-page document. Mayor Wyatt responded that they will take questions about ordinance at the next scheduled meeting. The property owner further expressed concern over the document being passed as-is, and urged the council to review the document at length. Council member Chris Peck addressed the property owner stating that it was only the first reading of the ordinance and that they as a Council will need time to review and make their considerations. Attorney Dale Perry discussed examples of what could happen to a small town without up-to-date zoning ordinances with the meeting attendees, and stated there has not been a Zoning Board established with volunteers to participate, and there would need to be. Mayor Tim Wyatt spoke to the Council members directly and instructed them to take the document home and spend time reviewing its contents.

**Post Office Tree Work Quotes**

The Council was presented with a total of seven bids submitted to the City for tree removal and other trimming at, and near, the post office that are on the City’s right-of-way. Chris Peck stated that it was understood that whomever received the bid was to be insured properly for a total of two million dollars, including holding a worker’s comp policy, and proof thereof be submitted to City Hall before the start of the project. After discussion, Chris Peck made a motion to accept Moore’s Tree Service’s bid for $2,460 and Michelle Cole seconded; all approved.

**Park and Cemetery Tree Work Quotes**

The Council was presented with a total of four bids submitted to the City and a mapping for the removal and mulching of several diseased pine trees along the property between the park and cemetery, as well as on the park grounds, that could be problematic if left unaddressed. Michelle Cole also met with two arborists who surveyed the trees and work to be done. After discussing the bids received ranging from $38,000 to $65,000, Ray Thomas asked how it would be paid for. Mayor Wyatt stated that the City will incur most of the bill, but that Red Canna Park would incur approximately twenty-five percent. Roger Fortson expressed safety concerns for park attendees. Chris Peck made a motion to accept the bid submitted by Sherwood Forest for $38,000. Michelle Cole seconded the motion. All approved.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Resident Amelia Taylor and her husband spoke welcoming any who may need emergency vet assistance, pet nail trimming services, medication for diabetic pets, or other such needs, to contact her and presented business cards. She has established a small mobile-run business where she attends to the animal in the comfort of its home.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Mayor Pro Tem – Chris Peck expressed his gratitude to the Maintenance Department for cutting the bushes at 5th and 5th back.

Park & Grass Cutting – Michelle Cole spoke regarding the recent trunk or treat hosted by Red Canna Park, other churches, and local businesses. She stated there was approximately 1,500 in attendance and the need of more overflow parking for large events of that nature.

Streets & Lighting – Roger Fortson had no new concerns to report.

Assisting Tony with Maintenance & Repairs – Ray Thomas had no new concerns.

Staff Reports: Tony Mattox and Bill Grimes spoke briefly about the job Jason Smith will be doing on the Park Road. Kerri-Lynn Phillips, City Clerk briefly updated the progress of the new library at City Hall, stating that the computers for the residents’ use are in and being set up, as well as completed training for the new library management program with Assistant Clerk, Elisa Grimes.

**Mayor Comments**

Mayor Wyatt reminded the public present about the upcoming dates of importance including:

*Red Canna Park Meeting: Thursday, November 9th and Thursday, November 30th*

*Christmas in Colbert Planning Meeting #2: Thursday November 16, 2023 @ 7 p.m.*

*City Hall will be closed on Wednesday, November 22nd through Friday, November 24th for Thanksgiving holidays.*

*Christmas in Colbert: Friday, December 1, 2023 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.*

*Open House @ The Colbert Benton House Saturday, December 9th 1:00-4:00 p.m.*

A motion to adjourn was made by Chris Peck and was seconded by Michelle Cole. All approved.