

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, November 1, 2021, 6:00 PM

Members Present:

Mayor Steve Lawrence
Kirk Raffield
Anne Sneve
Jim Looney
Dr. Sonny Proctor

Staff:

Beverly Ragland
Lindsey Williams
Tara Benson
David Hall
Lonnie Waters
Matt Dawkins
Steve Roper

Guests in Attendance:

Sign in Sheet attached

Members Absent:

John Foust

Legal Counsel:

David Syfan

Press:

Know Pickens
Pickens Progress

Mayor Steve Lawrence asked Councilmember Anne Sneve if she recognized a quorum. Seeing a quorum, Mayor Lawrence recognized meeting as open. Mayor Lawrence stated Councilmember John Foust is not in attendance. He requested Development Director Lonnie Waters to provide the invocation. He requested Councilmember Dr. Sonny Proctor to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Lawrence entertained a motion to adopt the agenda. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to adopt the agenda. Councilmember Looney asked to add the street name change of Dixie Street to GG. Lovell to the agenda. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve the agenda with the added item. Councilmember Kirk Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve the minutes from September 30, 2021, Public hearing/Special called meeting and October 4th Regular Council meeting. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Under Old Business, Mayor Lawrence recognized the first item under old business (item A) Consideration and approval of bid for Sidewalk Repair Project. This item has been Tabled. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to Table. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to table passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under old business (Item B) Consideration and approval of Ordinance No. 2021–23 and Ordinance No. 2021–24 Request to annex into the City of Jasper Parcel 029B 061 consisting of 17.28 acres and rezone from County RR to R-2 Residential. This property is located off Gennett Drive in Jasper, GA. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to table. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to table. Councilmember Proctor provided a second. Motion to table passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under old business (Item C) Consideration and discussion of Variance request on existing lots that are currently zoned R-3. Parcels JA12 056.008, JA12 056.012, JA12 056.015, JA12 056.017, JA12 056.007 & JA12 056.019 located off West Sellers and Mineral Springs Road forward. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to Table this item. Councilmember Looney made a motion to table. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to table passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the first item under new business (Item A) Request to rezone Parcel 030C 001 & 030B 061.001 consisting of 50.33 acres from R-A & R-1 to a Planned Unit Development. This property is located at the Intersection of Highway 515 and Philadelphia Road. Mayor Lawrence called on Mr. Waters. Mr. Waters stated that staff recommends approval with conditions of the request to rezone the property from R-A & R-1 to planned Unit Development per the site plan. It is expected that the applicant will comply with the following conditions: If the current proposal does not meet the minimum standards, it is understood that the development plans will be altered to come into compliance. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provide a second. Mayor Lawrence asked for any discussion. Councilmember Raffield asked for any updates or changes being made by GADOT. Mr. Waters stated that after speaking with GADOT, if the city chooses to lower the speed limit on Philadelphia from 35 to 25, rumble strips can be applied to city street. If the City, chooses to do this, the expense would be the developer's responsibility. The developers and the GADOT will have a contract. The developers will have to pay \$1.00 per cubic yard for any dirt that is moved off the GADOT right away and any tree that is cut they will pay \$10.00 per linear foot. Councilmember Raffield amended his motion to approve and include any and all of GADOT suggestions if the city wishes. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

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Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item B) Consideration and approval of Hospitality Study agreement. Elyse Davis with Community Economic Development Manager with Georgia Power recommended our city to do a hospitably study. The cost is \$15,000, Georgia Power will pay ½ or \$7500. The remainder we will be split \$3750 from the City (Hotel/Motel Tax) and \$3,750 from the County. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve. Councilmember Proctor made motion to approve. Councilmember Looney provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item C) Consideration and approval for scope of work on Gennett Drive project. David Hall came forward to explain the change on the Gennett Drive project. Mr. Hall is asking for approval for T. Stanco to do the labor and installation. This was also requested by the engineer, EXP. Once repaired, city crews could do general cleanup and disposal, then rebid the bridge project. The expectations are that this will significantly reduce the excessive bid amounts. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Discussion was had on the state funding remaining to be available if a bid process (to replace water line) still takes place, per the engineer. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mr. Hall asked for approval of the lowest bid from Water Works at \$16,238.18 to purchase pipe material to do the project. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve the low bit for the pipe material for Gennett Drive. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item D) Consideration and approval of Redefining Scope of Work for zone meters. Mr. Hall provided background information on Zone meters, that is already an item approved in the budget. Mr., Hall is requesting the \$25,000 approved for Zone meters to be reallocated towards visual and sonar leak detection to be completed this year. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item E) Consideration and approval for Sewer Maintenance Smoke Testing. Mr. Hall provided background information on the smoke testing in the sewer lines. The testing will be done by McKim & Creed. Council has already approved the \$15,000 in the 2021 budget, Mr. Hall is seeking approval to move forward on the testing. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Looney provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously. Mr. Hall added that homeowners and Police & Fire will be notified.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item F) Consideration and approval of new Bank Account for DDA. Deputy Finance Director Lindsey Williams came forward to seek approval to open an account with United Community Bank. The DDA become a blended component unit with the general fund last year due to the debt relationship on the 2020 Bonds. They have the authority to spend the money, they will just forward any approved invoices to City for payment. Ms. Williams asked to add Councilmember Jim Looney as an additional signer. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item G) Consideration and approval to install 3,000 feet of C900 pipe in Hickory Cove. Mr. Hall is seeking permission to get bids for installation of 3,000 feet of 6-inch C900 pipe to be installed in Hickory Gove along with the purchase of two fire hydrants. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. After further discussion, motion to approve passed. This area is not in our service delivery area, it would fall under County.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item H) Consideration and approval of 2021 Audit Engagement Letter with Rushton CPA. Ms. Ragland is seeking approval of engagement latter with Rushton CPAs for Financial Audit not to exceed \$23,750.00. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item I) Consideration and approval of a wine specialty shop license for First Mountain Tasting Room. Mr. Williams provide background information on the change in location. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item J) Consideration and approval of Veteran's Day Parade. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item K) Consideration and approval for Engineering Services for Jasper Fire Department Additions. Mayor Lawrence stated that the amount is \$29, 400. to come from 2020 SPLOST funds. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

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Mayor Lawrence moved on to the added agenda idea to change the name of Dixie St. to G.G.Lovell St. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously

Mayor Lawrence recognized Committee Reports:

Development Committee

Street/Parks Committee

Administration Committee

Water/Waste-Water Committee

Finance Director Beverly Ragland provided the financial report.

Lonnie Waters provide the Development report.

Police Chief Matt Dawkins provided the Police report.

Fire Chief Steve Roper provided the Fire report.

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilmember Looney made a motion. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to go into Executive Session passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to come out of Executive Session. Councilmember Looney provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to accept and approve the Consent Order between the City and EPD. Councilmember Raffield provided a first and Councilmember Looney provided the second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Looney made a motion. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Steve Lawrence

Mayor

Beverly Ragland

Finance Director/City Clerk

