City Hall

August 4, 2020

The regular Council Meeting was held on Tuesday August 4, 2020 at 6:00 pm with Mayor John J. Rabun, Jr. presiding.

Those present were Councilmembers Edward Rabun, David Hannah, Marty Amerson and Michelle Weatherford-Usry. Councilmember Stephanie Hannah was unable to attend.

Others present were City Administrator Arty Thrift, City Clerk Cassie Bartlett, City Attorney Chris Dube, Police Chief Jamey Kitchens, Officer Justin Rowland and Police Department Administrative Assistant Amy Muhammad.

Citizens present were Joann Shelton, Jackie Nero, Daniel Eubanks, Sandra Robinson, Annie Walden and Sharena Vaughn.

City Administrator Arty Thrift gave the invocation. Council Member David Hannah led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Edward Rabun made a motion to adopt the Agenda as printed. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

Minutes of the July 1, 2020 work session meeting and July 7, 2020 regular council meeting were approved as printed with a motion made by Michelle Weatherford-Usry. Marty Amerson seconded the motion; all in favor.

Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to approve the General Fund, Water & Sewer Fund, Gas Fund and Landfill & Sanitation Fund Summary Financial Statement as presented. Edward Rabun seconded the motion; all in favor.

In staff reports, Police Chief Jamey Kitchens and City Administrator Arty Thrift presented Council with a report on activities of their respective departments.

Mayor John J. Rabun, Jr. made a recommendation to advertise in the newspaper the holding of a public forum to allow citizens to speak about the proposed installation of speed humps in the City. A motion was made by Michelle Weatherford-Usry to advertise and conduct the public forum. Marty Amerson seconded the motion; motion carried with three voting in favor and one (David Hannah) voting against.

Unfinished/Old Business – None

In new business, Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to renew the Humana Medical Insurance Plan for employees with a 2.9% increase in the City’s premium. Marty Amerson seconded the motion; all in favor.

Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to implement the Humana GO365 Wellness Program for employees. Edward Rabun seconded the motion; all in favor.

Following discussion, Marty Amerson made a motion to table consideration of changes to the City’s GMA/GMEBS Retirement Plan for employees. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

Edward Rabun made a motion to approve the Landfill Letter of Credit with First State Bank in the amount of $907,762.00 as required by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD). David Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

Cynthia Farmer Hill and Sandra Farmer were on the agenda. They were unable to attend.

In Committee Reports, Michelle Weatherford-Usry reported that Wrens Hometown Partnership will resume their meetings in September of 2020.

Edward Rabun made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss **Personnel**.Marty Amerson seconded the motion; all in favor.

1. That this Mayor and Council now enter into closed session as allowed by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4 and pursuant to the advice by the City Attorney, for the purpose of discussing the following: **Personnel**.
2. That this body, in open session adopt a resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor or presiding officer to execute an affidavit in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4 and that this body ratify the actions of the council taken in closed session and confirm that the subject matters of the closed session were within exceptions permitted by the open meeting law said resolution form to be in separate notebook kept with the minute book.

David Hannah made a motion to return to regular session. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

Back in open session, Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to accept the recommendation of City Administrator Arty Thrift to promote Christopher Holdeman to the position of Water/Sewer Certified Operator 1 with an hourly rate increase to $16.65 (Grade 8, Step 9) to be effective August 6, 2020. Edward Rabun seconded the motion; all in favor.

David Hannah made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.

Cassie Bartlett

City Clerk