

City of Reidsville  
Regular City Council Meeting

Monday June 13, 2022

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The regularly scheduled meeting of the Reidsville City Council was held on Monday June 13th, 2022, at 5:00pm. Members of Council present:

Mayor, Curtis Colwell

Councilwoman, Carolyn Crume-Blackshear

Councilman, Donald Prestage

Councilwoman, Lindsay Bennett

Councilman, Doug Williams (absent)

Councilwoman, Verdie Williams

City Attorney DuAnn Davis and Nivea Jackson, City Clerk were also present.

The audience was welcomed by Curtis Colwell, Mayor. Next, attendees were led by Councilman Mr. Joyce from the audience led the meeting in a word of prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, done in unison by the Council and audience. The Mayor announced at the start of the meeting that he would like to carry on a civilized meeting. To encourage the meeting going positively, Officer Snell from the Reidsville PD will be in attendance to carry out order. Officer Snell addressed the audience asking everyone to take turns speaking only when directed by the Mayor who is presiding over the meeting. The Mayor assured that everyone would be heard, but at the end of the meeting after business has been conducted.

Mr. Colwell announced he would entertain a motion to adopt the minutes from the last minutes if no corrections were needed.

Motion by: Verdie Williams

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Carolyn Blackshear

Vote: Motion carried unanimous

The Mayor announced that he would hear from Departments. He invited Chief Wilds to come make the report for the Police Dept. No discrepancies noted. Fire Chief Jimmy Brown gave the monthly report for Reidsville Fire Dept. No discrepancies noted. Rodney Deloach, Public Works Director, gave the monthly report for Water/Sewer and Street and Lanes. The Mayor asked were there any questions on the report. Councilman Prestage is inquiring the status of work orders that he has put in concerning limbs and drainage. Deloach responded that his crew was working all work orders but he was short staffed. Mr. Prestage asked if he would be hiring staff. He commented that he just hired someone with one potential person to follow. Recreation Dept was next. Councilwoman Bennett had nothing new to report other than ball season is in and in full swing. Next was Atkins-Surrency Playground. The A-K financials have not changed. The Playground Treasurer is ask we circle back around for the Chairman who had not quite made it yet. The Mayor agrees. Next, was Downtown Development Authority. Mrs. Janet Brewton began comments stating that Mike Caldwell would be there to report about the DDA's amendments. The old DDA was never abolished but all of the former members are deceased. The Secretary of States office has not processed the new DDA's paperwork because they needed to dissolve the older DDA. Duann Davis advised the Council she amended the paperwork to make the corrections with a vote of approval and signatures. The Council was presented the Resolution. The vote to install was completed last year. This step is just finishing the reestablishment of the DDA.

Dilapidated properties were next on the agenda. Davis provided Councilwoman Bennett with an updated list of properties as Bennett was left out receiving the previous list when she came on Council. The Council is working a list compiled in September 2020. The Council will like to update the list. The Williams property was added and updated. The Council will bring other properties to the next meeting to add. Also, they will need to update the properties that have become compliant.

Alexander Hotel is next on the agenda. Mayor Colwell has invited Bobby Kennedy to speak. Mr. Kennedy is coming to show his interest in the Alexander Hotel property and would like to know the City's current status with the property. The City's lease is believed to be up. Last year, The City found the last known heir to the property and that heir had a new deed drawn. Davis will conduct a title search to confirm the City's involvement is complete.

Chairman of the A-K Playground has come in and the Mayor has asked him to move forward. Armstrong, Chairman of Atkins-Surrency Playground is once again asking for permission to move forward with the construct of a building that would house concessions and bathrooms. The Playground has ascertained only one bid after running an ad in the Tattnall Journal for bids. The project would cost an estimated \$60k turn-key. Armstrong is also asking if a conclusion to the bathrooms cannot be reached if the Council could let them know what could be done. As of yet no progress is being made at all and is held up at Council level. Councilwoman Blackshear asked when their next meeting would be. The first Tuesday of every month is when their meetings are held. Blackshear is asking to attend the meeting before the next Council meeting.

Jacqueline Jones has been giving the floor. Ms. Jones is reading an informational investigation on the water. She is letting the Council know what studies and grants will be looked at on a State, regional, and local level. She is concerned that the City is not acting on any grants that she has recommended from the EPA and that she has not been responded to. Councilman Prestage has asked that the flooding be looked into. He wants the flooding on Chandler to be looked into. Councilwoman Bennett is asking that this be looked into as well. Bennett said she would be speaking to the new property owner of the former Elementary school to clean the ditch. Prestage is asking that the City engineer relook at the project. City Councilwoman Bennett offered a motion to look at grants and get back to Council.

Motion: Lindsay Bennett

2<sup>nd</sup> : Donald Prestage

Carried: Unanimously

Mike Caldwell is here and is making some announcements for the DDA. He is announcing that business are coming and the DDA is active in the City's growth.

The City adjourned the meeting at 5:59