

City of Reidsville
City Council Meeting
Monday July 13, 2020

Draft Copy- Not approved by Council until August 10, 2020

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Reidsville City Council was held on Monday, July 13th, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Members of Council present:

Verdie Williams
Carolyn Crume- Blackshear
Bruce Conner
Donald Prestage
Jim Waters

City Attorney DuAnn Cowart-Davis was present.

The meeting was brought to order by Mayor Sydney Clifton at 5:11 pm. The prayer was given by Mayor Clifton, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dan and Lindsey Bennett were present. Mr. Bennett stated on May 22, 2020 that he had a fire call to his property, the historic Johnny Shuman home. Mr. Bennett said the house was minutes away from disaster when Assistant Chief of Police Michael Jarrell arrived on scene, grabbed the water hose and began putting water on the fire. Seconds later the Fire Department arrived and did a phenomenal job keeping the structure safe and preserving a historic piece of Reidsville. Mr. Bennett stated that he wanted to thank the City of Reidsville on behalf of his family.

The Mayor advised the meeting minutes from last month's meeting were provided to the Council for review. If there are no questions/corrections a motion is needed to accept as written. A motion was made to accept the minutes as written.

Motion made by: Carolyn Crume- Blackshear

2nd by: Jim Waters

Vote: Approved - Unanimous

Each Department Supervisor turned in their monthly reports to the Clerk. At this time, Mayor Clifton shared the Fire, Water-Sewer and Street and Lane, Police Departments monthly reports. There were no comments or discussion at this time. Motion was made to accept the monthly reports as written:

Motion made by: Carolyn Crume – Blackshear

2nd by: Jim Waters
Vote: Approved - Unanimous

Under Old Business, the dilapidated buildings were the next item on the agenda. Attorney DuAnn Cowart-Davis stated that the only property of concern at present was the Burn's property. Attorney Davis asked if the City would like to proceed or allow more time for the property. Mayor Clifton advised Attorney Davis to move forward. Council Member Jim Waters asked that the Council look into the property located across from the community center in the Housing Authority as it dangerous and needs to be boarded up for safety. Council Member Carolyn Crume-Blackshear stated that she believes the property is owned by a gentleman from Savannah, but, that Mr. Summersett knows the owner and she would ask him to reach out to the owner. Council Member Verdie Williams stated that she has several properties of concern on Williams Street and other locales. Council Williams stated that she would forward the list on to the Attorney.

With no further Old Business to discuss at this time the Mayor addressed New Business with the Council. The first item under New Business one the Agenda addressed Capitalization of Assets , as well as, an increase in the dollar amount that the Mayor and Department Heads are allowed to approve for any given project or purchase. Council Member Bruce Conner requested that these items be tabled until the Council can meet in person.

Motion made by: Bruce Conner
2nd by: Jim Waters
Vote: Approved – Unanimous

The Mayor then updated that Council on the current CDBG project. Mayor Clifton stated that the sewer lines have been relined and the crews are now working on the laterals. Council Member Crume-Blackshear asked when the project should be completed. Mayor Clifton stated the project should be completed by September or October 2020.

Mayor Clifton then notified the Council that the Motorized Cart Decals are in and that the Public Notice of Enforcement would go in the paper. Application, Decals and a copy of the Ordinance are available at City Hall.

Mayor Clifton then discussed with the Council the letter of resignation from Officer Coursey. Officer Coursey will be retiring as of July 19,2020. Motion was made to accept Officer Coursey's resignation and POST will be notified that he retired.

Motion made by: Bruce Conner
2nd by: Donald Prestage
Vote: Approved - Unanimous

The Assistant Public Works Director position was the next item on the Agenda. Mayor Clifton advised the Council that only one application has been turned in at this time. The Council agreed

that the ad should be run for another month and that advertisement should be placed in surrounding county and city publications with a deadline of August 15, 2020.

The Tattall County Board of Education submitted Memorandum of Understanding with regard to proposed sewer system for the new elementary school to be located between Reidsville and Collins. Carl Hofstadter of Hofstadter and Associates negotiated on the City's behalf. Council Members Jim Waters and Donald Prestage addressed concerns over responsibility, construction and oversight. Mayor Clifton assured that Council that Mr. Hofstadter would represent the City's best interest. At this time a motion was made to accept the Memorandum of Understanding as written.

Motion made by: Carolyn Crume - Blackshear

2nd by: Verdie Williams

Vote: Approved – Unanimous

Mayor Clifton stated that he had no additional items at this time and asked each Council Member if they had anything that needed to be discussed. Council Members Donald Prestage and Jim Waters stated that they had nothing further. Council Member Bruce Conner advised the Council that Public Works Director Rodney Deloach was out sick and that while he had tried to come back to work it was in his best interest to continue to rest at home. Council Member Conner reminded the Council that they will have a Workshop on July 21, 2020 at 9am at Chatters Restaurant. Council Member Carolyn Crume-Blackshear said that she had spoken with County Manager Frank Murphy about the overgrowth at the Library. Mr. Murphy said the County will be working on this. Council Member Verdie Williams asked Mayor Clifton where the City stood on the concerns over the ditch near Mr. Edgar Johnson's property. Mayor Clifton stated that the Board of Education is working on taking down the fence, trees and getting the ditch properly taken care of.

Mayor Clifton advised the Council that a temporary Prison Detail will return to the City out of Long County and that once the Detention Center in Claxton is back in operation the Detail from that facility will return. Mayor Clifton also advised the Council that the City is anticipating CARES Act Funding in the amount of \$138,460 total with the initial 30% in the amount of \$41,538 expected by the City within the next few weeks. Mayor Clifton also advised the Council that the Reidsville Airport had been awarded \$426,000 funding for a fueling project with \$6,906 of the project being funded by the City.

With no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 5:43pm.

Motion made by: Carolyn Crume - Blackshear

2nd by: Jim Waters

Vote: Approved - Unanimous