

City of Reidsville

City Council Meeting

Monday March 14, 2022

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The regularly scheduled meeting of the Reidsville City Council was held on Monday March 14th, 2022 at 5:00pm. Members of Council present:

Mayor, Curtis Colwell

Councilwoman, Carolyn Crume-Blackshear

Councilwoman, Lindsay Bennett

Councilman, Doug Williams (absent)

Councilwoman, Verdie Williams

Mayor Curtis Colwell called the meeting to order and welcomed all guests to the Council meeting. The Mayor led the meeting attendees in a word of prayer followed by a the Pledge of Allegiance done in unison. The Mayor advised if there were no corrections needed that he would entertain a motion to adopt last month's minutes. Lindsay Bennett offered a motion to adopt the minutes.

Motion by: Lindsay Bennett

2nd by: Verdie Williams

Vote: carried unanimously

Department Reports were next on the agenda. Fire Department statistics were given by Mrs. Verdie Williams in the absence of the Fire Chief. No discrepancies noted. Police Dept report was given by Stacey Wilds. No discrepancies noted. The Building Inspector was absent. No report was given. Councilwoman Bennett advised the meeting attendees that baseball had began at the Recreation Dept and that basketball was complete. D. Renfroe was not present to give the report. R. Deloach was present to give the report on water-sewer, and street and lanes. Deloach, the Public Works Director reported that the limb truck was in need of repair. The part that is needed to fix the truck has not been able to be found.

An audience member interjected. Mr. Germano, who lives on Denson Street asked if he could voice his complaint. Mr. Germano stated that he paid \$400 to have the limbs and debris removed from his daughter's property that he had cleared to place a mobile home. Germano stated that he did not know that the City was imposing a charge for removing a surplus amount of debris. Councilwoman Bennett asked if there was an article placed in the paper notifying citizens of the charge? City Clerk, Nivea Jackson advised that there had been an article placed and that notifications to remind the public were printed on water bills as well. It was not verified whether Mr. Germano was charged prior to the article or after. Bennett asked if we could look into this matter for Mr. Germano and consider recompensating him upon review? The Mayor agreed we would look at the matter but also informed the meeting attendees that the City is paying to get rid of limbs. City Clerk, Nivea Jackson agreed with Mayor Colwell adding that the limbs were not allotted in any of the budgets and was becoming a costly issue. Councilwoman Blackshear made the announcement for the Administration Dept. Blackshear announced that contrary to what the City had hoped for, the City didn't receive the Local Fiscal Recovery monies that they had been hoping to receive. "That money is what the City was needing to upgrade water meters and follow through with several projects," Blackshear stated. Our First Responder grant is complete and the City is going to look at several ways to recover financially," stated Blackshear.

Next on the agenda are the Commission reports. Mrs. Vickie Nails was present to report for the Downtown Development. Nails stated that they would be adding two new members. Members would be sworn in at the next meeting. The DDA is still pursuing the sale of property on Industrial Drive. The realtor is working with the DDA for the sale. Meetings are still continuing.

Atkins-Surrency Playground's President and Treasurer were present to issue the Playground's plans for improvements. The Commission has been raising money and accepting donations in hopes of constructing a walking track and bathrooms/concession building.

Old business was next on the agenda. Derelict property was first listed on the agenda. A member of the audience interjected about a mobile home located on Huckabee Dr and asked the City to consider this home derelict. Bennett read a clause from the City of Reidsville charter concerning subdivisions stating that only one principal property could be on a lot within the City limits. The floor came open to citizens voicing their concerns about the property. Neighbors to this property are concerned that this mobile home will bring their property value down and is an eyesore to their individual homes. Bennett made a motion after several minutes of back and forth between opposing audience members. Bennett made a motion to cease any further work at this property on Huckabee until the City's compliance to the Code can be made. The City inspector was not present. Duann Davis agreed that the City should cease any further decisions until the Charter can be properly reviewed

Motion by: Lindsay Bennett

2nd by: Carolyn Blackshear

Motion: Carried

The Mayor asked for a motion to go into Executive session to discuss City property. Verdie Williams made a motion to go to Executive Session at 6:24pm

Motion Made to return from Executive Session at 6:42p