

AGENDA

FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 2, 2011

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND INVOCATION

Mayor Howard called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Mr. Hansford gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present for the meeting was Mayor Tye Howard, Councilmembers Mike Dodd, Jo Anna Banks, James Calloway, Desi Hansford, Eric Wilson, and Melvin Lawrence. Also present was City Attorney, Bobby Melton, and City Clerk, Janice Hall.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 5, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING

Mr. Wilson offered a motion to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2011 council meeting as written. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously.

AWARD DESIGN ENGINEERING FOR STREETScape PHASE III – JOHNSTON STREET/TIFT COLLEGE DRIVE

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to award the Design Engineering for Streetscape Phase III to Atkins. Mrs. Banks seconded the motion. Mrs. Rebecca Yawn, Atkins, thanked council for the award and reviewed some of the ideas the firm has for the project. Mrs. Yawn stated that Atkins has worked on over 25 other Streetscape projects. The motion carried unanimously.

TIFFANY ANDREWS – APPROVAL OF PLACEMENT OF WORK READY SIGNAGE

Mrs. Tiffany Andrews, Chamber of Commerce, came before council to request permission to identify the best location for the Work Ready signs. Mrs. Andrews stated that she would like to place them in close proximity of the city limits signs. Mrs. Andrews stated that she has 11 signs to place. Mr. Calloway offered a motion to allow Mrs. Andrews to work with city staff to come up with the best location for the signs. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, the motion carried unanimously.

LORAIN KHOURY – OPPORTUNITY ZONE

Mrs. Khoury came before council to review the Opportunity Zone and additional items that need to be reviewed and amended prior to the application for the Opportunity

Zone being submitted. Mrs. Khoury stated that a public hearing on the Urban Redevelopment Plan needs to be held on August 16th during the council meeting. Mrs. Banks offered a motion to hold the public hearing on the amendment to the Urban Redevelopment Plan on August 16th during the council meeting. Seconded by Mr. Calloway, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Melton requested Mrs. Khoury to verify that the one advertisement will be sufficient for the public hearing.

Mrs. Khoury reminded everyone of the concert on August 13th and September 10th. Mrs. Khoury stated that BHT is also working on the trick-or-treat on the square, the Christmas tree lighting and possibly a Christmas movie.

ACCEPT QUOTE FOR PARKING SPACE STRIPING FROM MID-STATE STRIPING FOR VARIOUS STREETS IN DOWNTOWN AREA

Mr. Dodd stated that the additional striping would be for the parking spaces right off the square in all directions that need to be restriped due to the Streetscape project. Mr. Dodd stated that Mid-State Striping won the bid for the State contract and they have agreed to provide the city with striping at that same cost. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to accept the quote from Mid-State Striping for the downtown striping. Seconded by Mrs. Banks, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY EPD DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE HAZARDOUS WASTE TRUST FUND

Mrs. Hall stated that the reimbursement is for 2009 expenses that were submitted for approval last year and funds have just become available for reimbursement. Mrs. Hall stated the amount to be reimbursed is \$42,232.46. Mr. Hansford offered a motion to approve the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the documents required by EPD for the reimbursement. Seconded by Mrs. Banks, the motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION REGARDING ELECTRONIC MONITORING FOR COURT

Mr. Wilson stated that this matter was discussed during the public safety committee meeting today and it was determined that additional study is needed before this can move forward for approval. Mrs. Banks asked if the information can be ready for review at the next council meeting and Mr. Wilson stated that he thought that it could.

Mrs. Banks offered a motion to postpone the discussion until the next council meeting on August 16th. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ON 2011 MILLAGE RATE

Mrs. Hall stated that information requested from the Tax Commissioners Office has not been received and that information is necessary for council to begin the review of the millage rate for 2011. Mr. Hansford offered a motion to postpone the discussion until the required information is received from the Tax Commissioner. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES

Mrs. Hall stated total accounts payable invoices for approval is \$505,219.42 which included \$383,544.95 from general operating funds and \$121,674.47 from SPLOST funds. Mr. Calloway offered a motion to approve the accounts payable invoices. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, the motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MR. DODD

Mr. Dodd offered the following report from the public works committee:

- Moving forward with Phase III of the Streetscape project with the selection tonight of the design engineering firm.
- Railroad Avenue project is moving forward. Mr. Melton stated that he has not received any response from Advance Auto.
- Need to get LMIG streets designated for next year, and will need to make sure that Frontage Road is #1 on the list with letter going to Atlanta. Mrs. Banks stated that DOT wants assurance from city that Patrol Road will be the only request that we make. Mr. Melton stated that the correct road name needs to be verified before the letter is submitted to DOT.

MRS. BANKS

Mrs. Banks offered the following report from the public affairs committee:

- Opportunity Zone is a good economic tool and thanked council for moving forward with that application.
- Reminded everyone of the meeting tomorrow morning with Representatives Susan Holmes and Robert Dickey

- Travis Blackwell has been named as the new director for Family Connection. Mr. Blackwell also serves as the director in Bibb County.

MR. CALLOWAY

Mr. Calloway offered the following report from the public utilities committee:

- Trees Unlimited crew has completed the tree trimming around town.
- New service to the old Wal-Mart building has been set

MR. HANSFORD

Mr. Hansford offered the following report from the administrative and telecommunications committees:

- A list is being compiled for a broker/management firm for the cable system

MR. WILSON

Mr. Wilson offered the following report from the public safety committee:

- Reviewed meeting held today. Mr. Wilson offered a motion to adopt the first 10 chapters of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the fire department. Seconded by Mr. Hansford, the motion carried unanimously.
- Matt Perry, EMA, attended the committee meeting and requested permission to work with the necessary department heads to develop a grant application for project for the City including water infrastructure buildings, safe room at the Public Safety Complex, additional sirens, etc. Mr. Wilson stated that the grant will be a 75-Federal/10-State/15-Local matching grant. Mr. Wilson offered a motion to allow staff to compile the listing. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, the motion carried unanimously.

MR. LAWRENCE

Mr. Lawrence offered the following report from the parks, recreation, & cemetery committees:

- Golf Camp was the last summer camp held and was well attended.
- The merry-go-round and slide at Country Club park have been removed due to age and damage and need to be replaced.
- One engineering firm responded to the RFP for engineering for the Kynette Park grant.

- Mrs. Banks asked about numbers for attendance to the camps to include in any future grant applications. Mr. Hansford stated that the numbers are available and he will get them from Mrs. Walker.

CITY CLERK REPORT

Mrs. Hall stated that qualifying will be August 29th through September 2nd.

Mrs. Hall stated that a fund raiser will be held this weekend between the city and county fire departments against the city and county law enforcement. Chief Herndon and Chief Corley came forward and reviewed the fund raiser stating that the money will be used for Christmas presents for local children.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Melton had nothing further to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Hansford offered a motion to adjourn in to executive session to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by Mrs. Banks, the motion carried unanimously and council adjourned in to executive session at 7:55 pm.

Mayor Howard called the meeting back in to open session at 8:20 pm.

APPOINTMENT OF CITY JUDGE

Mr. Hansford offered a motion to appoint Kristi Lovelace as Chief Judge for the Municipal Court. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, the motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Hansford offered a motion to appoint Thomas White as City Administrator. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, the motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mrs. Banks stated that concerns regarding Tift College Drive and Patrol Road intersection have been voiced in the past. Mrs. Banks stated that there are no speed limit signs from Forsyth Landing to the Monroe County Depot. Mrs. Banks stated that signage needs to be put up and the speed needs to be reduced.

Mr. Calloway offered a motion that effective Monday only three city vehicles be allowed to go outside the city and those are chief of police, fire chief, and Steve Sikes; the savings from this will go toward enhancement of the retirement for city employees. Mr. Hansford seconded the motion. Mr. Wilson asked for clarification of the motion

stating that this is only for overnight, not for city business outside the city limits. Mrs. Banks asked if this would mean that city employees would drive their personnel vehicles to and from work or office and Mr. Calloway agreed. Chief Corley stated that his chief investigator, Major Dennis Piper, lives outside the city limits in Lamar County but comes in when called. Mr. Calloway asked how many times he is called in and Chief Corley estimated 10. Mayor Howard asked if he goes to the police department or straight to the scene and Chief Corley responded straight to the scene. Mrs. Banks amended the motion to include Chief Investigative Officer. Mr. Melton stated that the motion should be the titles and not the name of the individual. Mayor Howard asked if there are others that must be available to come in. Mayor Howard stated that Steve at the garage has always responded during the night when needed. Mr. Calloway offered a motion to allow four vehicles to be driven home each night and those four are police chief, fire chief, Steve Sikes, and Major Piper. Mr. Melton asked for Steve Sikes title and Mr. Calloway stated he is a meter reader. Seconded by Mrs. Banks, the motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Banks asked if this is effective this upcoming Monday, and Mr. Calloway agreed.

Mr. Calloway offered a motion to change some department heads and listed those as Steve Jones as department head over street and sanitation; Steve Sikes as department head over the meter readers; Steve Butler as department head over the garage; and move Alvin Randall to the electric department as department head. Mr. Hansford seconded the motion. Mrs. Banks asked if these department heads would report to the city administrator and Mr. Calloway stated that they would. Mrs. Banks asked if these department heads would be allowed to restructure their departments if need be with approval from council and Mr. Calloway agreed. Mr. Dodd asked if Steve Jones would be over the street and sanitation along with the landfill and Mr. Calloway agreed. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Banks asked that a directive be sent out to all employees on the changes for the vehicles and department heads and Mr. Calloway asked that Mrs. Hall send that out.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Submitted by:

Janice L. Hall, City Clerk