

Special Council Meeting
February 18, 2016

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harley at 4:30pm.

Present were Mayor John R. Harley, Councilman Cameron Andrews, Councilman Randall Wright, Councilman J. Micheal Evans, Councilman Edward Armijo and City Attorney Rebecca Tydings.

Police Chief Appointment: Councilman Evans began his comments by stating that we have been through a long process; briefly mentioned the application, interview and selection procedures. We have been through ups and downs. Today we can be happy that we are going up. The person selected, we feel is capable for managing and making our city a safe one. There was an executive session held at the Council Work Session, Tuesday, February 16, 2016. The Mayor and Council discussed the 2 top, final candidates from the applicants for the Police Chief position. Councilman Evans stated that they (Mayor and Council) wanted to make sure that their decision would be the best fit for the job. Councilman Evans stated this person is a 22 year law enforcement veteran. He received his Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice from Fort Valley State College and his Master's Degree in Public Safety Administration from Columbus State University. He is a 2014 graduate of the Columbus State Command College, a school that has prepared many State of Georgia Police Chiefs for 21st Century policing. This gentleman has worked in many areas of law enforcement. He began his career with the City of Macon in 1993 to 2009. From late 2009 to 2016 he served as Chief Investigator and Accreditation Manager for Fort Valley State University; then briefly as the Chief of Police in Marshallville, Georgia and currently serves as the Captain of the Bibb County School District Police Department Support Services Unit. He is married and has three lovely children, Jani, Ryan, and Londyn. He and his family are members of the Greater Lizzieboro Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia.

Councilman Evans said that Mr. Rodgers has strong leadership and management skills and great ideas. The search and selection committee panel members, Chief Strickland; Chief Lynn and Councilman Evans, sat down and interviewed five finalists/applicants. They found Mr. Rodgers to be very personable and able to communicate well with everyone (co-workers, governing authority and media).

Motion made by Councilman Evans to appoint Ronald Rodgers as Chief of Police at a starting salary of \$60,000.00 annually with a one year probation. After satisfactory completion of that probation period, his salary will be raised to \$62,000.00 annually and from that point forward will follow the merit system; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 4:34pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Date

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield