

Council Work Session

August 19, 2014

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harley at 5:00pm

Invocation given by Councilman Andrews

Pledge of Allegiance led by Police Chief Andrews

Welcome extended to all and Mayor Harley asked that we all keep Assistant Utilities Superintendent Ben Knight and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

Present were Mayor John R. Harley, Councilman Cameron Andrews, Councilman Randall Wright, Councilman Edward Tucker, Councilman Jonathan Nichols and City Attorney Rebecca Tydings.

Lucas Molina-Parrish Construction Presentation to Centerville Police Department: Mr. Molina stated that Parrish Construction was recognized for the building construction award honorable mention for the construction of the new Police Department. Mr. Molina presented plague-2014 AGC Build Georgia Awards; merit award, celebrating construction excellence to Mayor, Council and Chief of Police.

Old Business

Update/Discussion Old Police Department: Director of Operations/ Utilities Superintendent Brumfield reminded everyone at the August 5 Council meeting Mayor and Council had approved Preston Testing to begin the process on the old police station. Wanted to know if the city can continue to utilize the building as storage and training until we begin demolition of building. General discussion among Mayor/ Council.

Councilman Tucker stated that he fears the city will keep the building for 2-3 years. Need to be a decent hurry to get rid of it, wanted to keep it for as long as we need too, but look at another site to build something that will allow storage. Need to have a plan to build something that is professional looking, to store items at another location. Mr. Brumfield stated that he is looking into other locations, to upgrade storage situation. Councilman Tucker agrees with holding off on the building for storage at this time.

Councilman Andrews stated that we need to pay attention to Utilities and Fire Department. Agrees with Councilman Tucker. Respect the Fire and Utilities use for storage of the old Police Department at this time. In addition, would like to set a date for future planning retreat. Feels there are a lot of upgrades that need to be done at the Fire Department and Utilities Department.

Councilman Wright stated that he is in agreement to use for 1-2 years for storage.

Councilman Nichols recommended that a definite date needs to be set to have the building demolition. If the building is going to be used as storage and training for the Fire Department, use it for a minimal time not 1-2 years.

City Attorney stated that we should revisit in 6 months or less, after January 2015.

New Business

Contract Repayment-Police Department (Christine Welch): Police Chief Andrews provided a copy of payment contract request from the City of Cordele. Under Ga law if agency sends cadet through school that individual is required to serve 2 years with that agency. If they do not finish the term with that agency then the new agency wanting to hire that individual would have to reimburse the agency for time remaining on the contract; half of the contract. City Attorney Tydings has reviewed the contract; no issues noted. Chief Andrews stated that Mrs. Welch will sign a contract with Centerville Police Department.

Motion made by Councilman Nichols to approve repayment of contract in the amount of \$2,863.08; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

Discussion 2014 Millage Rate: City Accountant Harrison provided a copy of the PT 38 and 5 year tax levy for 2014. Recommendation made by Mrs. Harrison to keep current millage of 11.972 for 2014. Councilman Andrews asked if the roll back was chosen, 12.006, would this be considered a tax increase. City Accountant Harrison says taxes can still increase due to the assessment value of home.

Motion made by Councilman Tucker to accept recommendation and run 5 year tax levy with 11.972 proposed millage rates for 2014; seconded by Councilman Nichols. Motion carried.

Point of Information- Expenditure Confiscated Funds (Ultrasonic Gun Cleaner Firearm Trade in / Upgrade): Police Chief Andrews stated that they had originally budgeted 2 new GLOCK firearms. Chief Andrews reported that he had discussions with Assistant Chief Cooley in regards to trading in their older (15) GLOCKS-10 year old weapons. Total price \$3,796.00 (19 guns). Also purchased an ultrasonic gun cleaner, to help maintain guns; \$695.00. No motion or action taken. Point of information.

Comments from Council

Post 2 Councilman Wright, addressed Chief of Police Andrews and Director of Operations/ Utilities Superintendent Brumfield about various signs posted around city, ex: lost dog. Who is responsible? Chief Andrews reported that Sgt. Keller is currently doing patrol and code enforcement due to short patrol staff. Mr. Brumfield stated he would take care of removing signs.

Post 3 Councilman Tucker, Wanting the council's thoughts on moving forward with the city part of the entrance to the mall that was discussed 6-7 months ago. Councilman Tucker feels that if the city moves forward maybe the mall will do their part on the North end of mall. Councilman Tucker stated that he had dinner with a friend, Morgan Law, they ate at Meldino's, planted a seed, redo the corner (gazebo) that signifies Centerville, ex; water fountain, as a landmark. A focal point for Centerville, signify our city for the downtown development. Seeking comments from Council.

Mayor Harley stated that the Rotary Club maintains the gazebo.

Director of Operations/ Utilities Superintendent Brumfield reported that the city maintains the corner (gazebo); rotary club currently doesn't maintain.

Post 4 Councilman Nichols, discussion about building something to set Centerville apart from others: ex; beacon on the corner.

Director of Operations/Utilities Superintendent Brumfield recommended putting a fountain or a veteran's memorial.

Councilman Tucker stated that we need to start improving that corner and working towards the new entrance at the Northside of the mall. We need to develop the corner as a trademark signature for our city. This will show the mall that the city is economically vested in the community; vision for the downtown development.

Councilman Nichols stated not only making a new entrance to the mall, going ahead and putting a crosswalk, to get people safely across Houston Lake Boulevard.

Councilman Wright stated that he is favor to improve the corner.

Councilman Andrews, thinks this is an excellent idea, would make a landmark of the city. Defining the city, making us (Centerville) unique.

Post 3 Councilman Tucker, mentioned Perry implementing a fee to fund additional fire fighters, would like to see if this is successful and would like to see if Centerville citizens are receptive to this idea. Need to think about how we can fund additional fire fighters. Would like to have item pertaining to the corner (Gunn Rd/ Houston Lake Blvd/ North entrance of mall) on the Sept 2, Regular Council meeting

Comments from Audience

Police Chief Andrews introduced new police officer- Blake Bass, he is from Fort Valley. Welcomed Officer Bass to Centerville Police Department.

Geraldine Parker, 129 Ridge Bend, suggestion re: code enforcement. Has called several times that she has called and issues are not resolved. Would like to recommend 2 hours of each week dedicated to code enforcement. City Attorney informed Mrs. Parker that Sgt Keller will be back on code enforcement August 29 full time. Mrs. Parker wants to address issue about trash cans receptacles. Councilman Tucker informed Mrs. Parker that he actually had driven through her neighborhood and said he was offended.

Utilities Superintended stated that there is no ordinance that discusses garbage cans, this is her neighborhood covenant. Not regulated by the city.

Mrs. Parker stated that there is an ordinance under nuisances.

City Clerk Bedingfield found the ordinance under municode that states language pertaining to garbage containers.

Councilman Tucker stated that he will look at this area again on Wednesday.

Councilman Andrews recommended that the language should be re-evaluated.

Director of Operations/ Utilities Superintendent Brumfield stated that he will look at placing a reminder on the water bill to pull garbage containers up after pick up.

Mayor Harley adjourned meeting at 5:56 pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date