

Council Work Session
November 18, 2014

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

Invocation given by Councilman Tucker
Pledge of Allegiance led by City Attorney Tydings
Welcome Extended to all by Mayor Harley

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

Mayor Harley explained the rules for public comments.

Public Comments

Geraldine Parker, 129 Ridgebend Drive, concerned about the safety of children, raccoons and opossums coming into the area; carry diseases, rabies and fleas. Would like for Mayor and Council to reconsider approving-Ordinance Keeping of Fowl –Urban Chickens.

Old Business

Adoption-Reserve Policy for Unrestricted/Unassigned Fund Balance General Fund and Unrestricted Net Position Enterprise Funds: City Accountant Harrison provided a copy of draft of financial policies to be considered for adoption. Mrs. Harrison reported that this had been discussed at a prior meeting. The General Fund balance recommendation to maintain 6 months of reserve, this would be monitored either quarterly or semiannually. Unrestricted net position would also maintain 6 months operating expenditures and 1.5 million for future water and sewer improvements. Motion made by Councilman Andrews to adopt reserve policy for unrestricted/unassigned fund balance general fund and unrestricted net position enterprise funds as written; seconded by Councilman Nichols.

Discussion: Councilman Andrews stated he likes policy and that it is being put down in black and white, very smart decision making. Appreciates City Accountant Harrison's hard work. Mrs. Harrison stated that at any time the Mayor and Council can come back and amend policy. Councilman Tucker stated that in the future if the city grows the figure could be increased in case of catastrophic events. Mayor called for vote. Motion carried.

New Business

Ordinance -Variance 305 Asbell Way: Councilman Nichols stated at this time he will recuse himself from agenda item stating that he knows Mr. Boss; no action or vote.

Director of Operations Brumfield stated that the Planning and Zoning committee met on November 13 and there were no opponents. Mr. Kennedy was not able to be at the tonight's meeting.

Recommendation from Planning and Zoning to approve variance request for 305 Asbell Way. Mr. Boss (contractor) is present tonight to answer any questions.

Motion made by Councilman Andrews to approve ordinance as written -variance 305 Asbell Way; seconded by Councilman Tucker. Motion carried. See Ordinance 2014-6.

Ordinance Amendment – Emergency Management: Councilman Andrews referenced the following language: CHAPTER 18 Emergency Management and Services, Article I Emergency Management, Section 18-2

Emergency management response powers, Subsection (4) Effect of declaration of local emergency, (d) additional emergency powers, sub subsection (b), shall be amended by striking the word “firearms” and shall now read as follows:

To suspend or limit the sale, dispensing or transportation of alcoholic beverages, explosives and flammable liquids and substances.

Councilman Andrews made motion to approve ordinance amendment; seconded by Councilman Tucker. Motion carried. See 2014-7.

Request from EAB to use Centerville Community Room 2015: Councilman Nichols stated that he has attended meeting and encouraged citizens to attend. There is a lot of information provided, making sure that RAFB is doing things the right way. Mayor Harley stated that this is a great opportunity for the city to work with RAFB and he has participated with the EAB Board for the past 11 years. Motion made by Councilman Nichols to authorize EAB to use community room and waive fees for 2015; seconded by Councilman Tucker. Motion carried.

Expenditure / Approval Radar Equipment Police Department: Chief Andrews reported that the current equipment is 6 years old at this time; the life expectancy is usually around 5years. The radar interacts with the current coptrax video equipment. The total cost is \$13,910 for (8) radars and \$840 for the installation of (8) units. Councilman Nichols stated that he has spoken with the Chief Andrews and Assistant Chief Cooley and this is a great opportunity to provide the Police Department with the necessary equipment. Councilman Andrews wanted to clear up with the media that Centerville is not a speed trap and have data to prove. Motion made by Councilman Nichols to approve expenditure for radar equipment; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

Ordinance – Municipal Court Failure to Appear and Warrant Fees: City Attorney Tydings stated that Court Clerk Caldwell had brought to her attention about fees. There has been some discussion on the list serve re: the fees for failure to appear and warrant fees. City Attorney Tydings stated that as an error of caution will add this language as a schedule of fees authorizing by ordinance to the municipal court fees as a provision to the code of ordinances Section 16-62, Failure to Appear fee \$50 and Warrant Fee \$100. Motion made by Councilman Andrews to adopt ordinance; seconded by Councilman Tucker. Motion carried. See 2014-8.

2014 Holiday Schedule: Councilman Andrews informed everyone that currently the city will be closed December 24 and December 25 and scheduled to be open on December 26 , non-essential and non-emergency personnel. Motion made by Councilman Andrews to close City of Centerville offices December 26 and recognize as a paid holiday; seconded by Councilman Nichols. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval 2015 LMIG Road List/Contract: Director of Operations Brumfield provided lists of roads that have been determined are in dire need of repaving. Seeking approval and designate Mayor Harley as the signatory on contract; Engineer Rick Saunders to develop plan. Motion made by Councilman Tucker to approve 2015 LMIG road list contract and designate Mayor Harley as signatory; seconded by Councilman Nichols. Motion carried. A copy of list is attached and made part of official minutes.

Ordinance Amendment Keeping of Fowl –Urban Chickens: City Attorney stated Councilman Wright had brought to her attention that the initial application fee should have been \$50 not \$25 due to labor intensive duties associated with the approval of application by all departments; this would revise the initial application and renewal fee to \$50. Motion made by Councilman Nichols to approve ordinance amendment; seconded by Councilman Tucker. Motion carried. 2014-9.

Fountain Design Expenditure and Discussion: Councilman Tucker stated as previously discussed stated that Centerville is always looking to improve a footprint in the downtown area of Centerville. Motion made by Councilman Tucker authorizing Director of Operations Brumfield approval to spend up to \$15,000 for the architectural plans for fountain at Houston Lake Blvd/ Gunn Rd and pays for expenditure out of the General Fund contingency; seconded by Councilman Nichols. Open floor for discussion.

Councilman Tucker appreciates everyone and is excited. Also, would like added feature representing the 5 branches of services. Would like to have the surveying engineering work done “a shovel ready project”.

Mayor Harley also pleased stated this will create a downtown environment.

Councilman Nichols stated he was glad to hear about the added feature representing the armed forces. He has been participating with Robins Region Leadership class and one of the initial project that starting off was a monument recognizing the 5 branches, have worked hard to bring this into fruition. There are 3 of his peers in the audience tonight. This would help to recognize these people who have served and would allow the representation along with the beautification. In closing, looking forward to the project coming into fruition.

Mayor Harley called for the vote. Motion carried.

Centerville Sanitation Contract Amendment: Director of Operations Brumfield stated that Mr. Coy had made verbal request for amendment. City Attorney Tydings stated if approved by Mayor and Council she would draft a letter amendment to run December 31, 2019, with (4) one year extensions, does not change length , just terminology.

Motion made by Councilman Nichols to approve contract amendment; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

Contracts for Purchase of Elberta Road Property: Director of Operations Brumfield provided a copy of (2) contracts. Seeking approval for Mayor as signatory on contracts. City Attorney Tydings authorizing City to enter into contract for purchase and sale of properties. This does not constitute a closing simply only to proceed in preparing documents for closing. Motion made by Councilman Nichols authorizing city to enter into contract to purchase of property and authorizing Mayor Harley as signatory; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried. City Accountant Harrison inquired about the funding source. City Attorney Tydings stated that the potential closing date is scheduled for December 3. Recommendation to add item to December 2, 2014 agenda this will give City Accountant Harrison time to look at potential funding source.

Comments from Council

Post 1, Councilman Andrews requested that the following item be added to the December 2, 2014 regular council meeting agenda: Employee Christmas Bonus

Post 3, Councilman Tucker stated he was thankful for the people that run the city. Live in an amazing town. This county works together better than any other in the state of Georgia. Thankful for where we are a lot to be thankful for.

Post 4, Councilman Nichols, stated that he sat in class today for the last time with 19 peers; he has grown to admire and appreciate. In a year’s time have taken a lot personality’s , created (2) projects, in this time saw the innards of Houston County and how it works, how it flows, who makes decisions on a day to day basis. Saddens him to think that this is his last class, ironic that today with ethics, Dr. Ford Mid Ga State College came and talked to them on their last day-ethics, how to proceed forward, places of influence. I am because we are, Northside motto, proud to be a part of “we are”. How we all get along, continue to

do the right and ethical things in Houston County. Proud to be part of the Council to serve and look forward to the next year.

Mayor Harley reminded everyone about the upcoming Christmas parade December 6, 2014 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 5:51pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date