

Regular Council Meeting
October 7, 2014

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harley at 7:00pm.

Invocation given by Councilman Andrews

Pledge of Allegiance led by Boy Scout Chris Smith Troop 400

Welcome extended to all by Mayor Harley

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

Proclamations:

- Affordable Housing Month-Houston County Habitat For Humanity: (Treasurer-Board Member) expressed his thanks to the City of Centerville for the continued support. Councilman Andrews read proclamation and presented it to Jay Siegelman.
- 2014 Triple Ribbon Month- Robins Air Force Base: Mayor Harley read proclamation and presented it to Hope Hicks- Program Support Manager.

Adoption of Minutes: Motion made by Councilman Wright to adopt both sets of minutes as written; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

- September 2, 2014 Regular Council Meeting
- September 16, 2014 Council Work Session

Mayor Harley recognized Police Chief Andrews –Chief Andrews recognized Officer Stefan Hutchens and reported that he was named the top person in his class.

Old Business

Precious Metals and Gems Ordinance Amendment: Councilman Andrews made motion to approve ordinance with amendment; seconded by Councilman Wright. City Attorney Tydings stated that there is a new application process. While creating the application, noticed that there was a conflict in the approval language in the ordinance. This amendment clears up the conflict. Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried. See Ordinance 2014-3.

Garbage Container Ordinance Amendment: Councilman Wright stated that the amendment will replace language in current ordinance. Councilman Andrews stated that he felt the language in the old ordinance was weak and that the amendment-new language is clear. Ordinance with proposed adoption to be considered at the October 21, 2014 council work session.

New Business

Policy Regarding Public/Council Comments Rules of Procedures and Decorum: Mayor Harley talked stated that this is for discussion only tonight and that he wants the full council present before voting on item.

Ordinance Revision GMEBS Plan Documents: Councilman Andrews reported that these changes are as recommended by GMA staff in order to remain compliant with the Affordable Care Act.

Councilman Andrews publicly thanked City Attorney Tydings for being involved and serving on the GMEBS Board. Also, stated that he appreciates her work for the City. Motion made by Councilman Andrews to adopt GMEBS Ordinance with revisions; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Discussion –Draft Reserve Policy for Unrestricted Fund Balance General Fund and Unrestricted Net Position Enterprise Funds: City Accountant Harrison provided a copy of proposed policy for review. The idea is to establish a prudent level of reserve to protect the city. GFOA recommends a 2 month reserve in the General Fund and a 45 day reserve for the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund. The policy recommends a 6 month reserve for operating expenses for both the General Fund and Water and Sewer Fund. Also, the policy outlines how it would be monitored. Proposing to adopt at either the October work session or November council meeting. No motion or action taken.

Comments from Council

None

Comments from Audience

Guerry Smith, 221 Mason Dr- Comments-216 Mason Drive: Mr. Smith stated he has raised 3 children and is proud of his home. Reported that he came to the City Clerk's office some time ago and was instructed to contact the City Marshall Jennings. Mr. Smith stated that Captain Jennings was unable to locate who owned the property. Mr. Smith's daughter located who had paid for property taxes. Mr. Smith stated that he had spoken to Sergeant Jason Keller and he reported that Chase Bank was responsible for property. The last time the property managers were on site, Mr. Smith informed us that Sgt Keller stated that his hands were tied and couldn't do anything else about this property. Mr. Smith stated that he had contacted a landscaper and got an estimate of \$600.00 to clean up property.

City Attorney Tydings reported that she had spoken with someone at JP Chase Mortgage and filed a case with the REO escalation team, expects that they should be sending out someone to evaluate property. Mrs. Tydings confirmed that JP Chase Mortgage is responsible for this house. There is currently no funding for nuisance abatement included in the city's budget. The City cannot just go onto property and clean it up. The City can pursue abatement cases in municipal court and obtain a one-time order to go onto the property and clean it up. Mrs. Tydings stated if there is no success with the mortgage company then she would come to the Mayor and Council and request funds to move forward with a nuisance abatement action in municipal court. City Attorney Tydings acknowledged that this is more than just an unsightly property issue since Mr. Smith has reported that people have been going into the home and can do so undetected because of the overgrowth of shrubs and vegetation on the property.

Pastor Patricia Stanley-Comments-Rental Fee Centerville Community Room: Requesting that the City consider reducing rental fees associated with the community room. Councilman Wright stated that the staff and council worked hard on the policy and would like for it to remain the same. Councilman Andrews stated that the market price is comparable to surrounding areas, would like not to go back to making case by case exceptions. That was the reason for the new policy. Mayor Harley recommended finding sources that would donate to them or sponsor their group's use of the room.

Police Chief Andrews informed everyone that the Houston County Sheriff and Fraternal Order of Police will be selling \$10 .00, chicken dinner plates on October 18 from 12pm-2pm, all funds will go to the families of the Monroe County Sheriff's Department deputies who were killed/injured in the recent shooting; (one deputy was killed on duty and another one seriously injured and is recovering.)

Executive Session- Discussion Future Acquisition of Real Estate: Councilman Cameron Andrews made motion to enter into executive session at 7:56pm; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilman Andrews to enter back into regular council meeting; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Affidavit & Resolution: City Attorney Tydings read resolution. Motion made by Councilman Wight to adopt resolution as written; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilman Wright to adjourned meeting at 8:27pm. Seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date