

Council Work Session

February 20, 2018

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

Invocation given by Councilman Armijo.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Fire Chief Jones.

Welcome Extended to all by Mayor Harley.

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

Public Comments

No comments

Old Business

Resolution: Rescission of Resolution 2017-11: Mayor Harley entertained motion. Motion to rescind made by Councilman Armijo; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried. See Resolution 2018-1.

Discussion –Planning Retreat Reschedule Date: Councilman Wright proposed June 28-29, 2018; possible target dates for planning retreat. Mayor Harley asked everyone to view their calendar for possible conflicts. Councilman Wright stated he will send out an email to everyone to check their availability and confirm date. City Attorney Tydings mentioned that Municipal Court trials are on Friday, June 29th. Municipal Court Clerk Sara Caldwell will be preparing for court on Thursday, June 28th, and will be in Court on Friday, June 29th. No motion or action taken.

New Business

Authorization of Expenditure-Bullet Proof Vest: Councilman Armijo recognized Chief Hadden. Chief Hadden stated they budgeted \$3000 and have a 50/50 federal grant with \$5072.50 remaining in FY 2016 grant. Total cost \$6,454.91. Seeking approval tonight for the total expenditure of \$ 6,454.91. Councilman Armijo made motion to authorize expenditure; seconded by Councilman Evans. Motion carried.

Point of Information-Presentation-Promotions-Corporal: Councilman Armijo recognized Chief Hadden. Chief Hadden stated that they went through an internal hiring process. Officer Damir Mehmedic, formerly a part time officer with CPD and currently an investigator with the State Court Solicitor's office, will join the department full time and Officer Jeremy Mashuga will be promoted to the rank of Corporal. Both show great capability and promise in their leadership ability. Chief Hadden stated that he wished he could "cookie cut" more police officers like Officer Mashuga. Chief Hadden stated that Officer Mashuga is very dedicated and is a great officer, offering congratulations on his promotion to Corporal. Chief Hadden stated that he has known Officer Mehmedic for several years. Officer Mehmedic approached Chief Hadden inquiring about getting back into full time law enforcement. Captain Hadden noted that Officer Mehmedic is well spoken, highly educated and is a very promising force leader. Chief Hadden

welcomed him from leaving his part time position with CPD to the full time to Corporal position. A pinning ceremony followed with each officer's wife pinning their husbands with their new Corporal bars.

Approval Budget Preparation Calendar FY 2019 and Appointment of Budget Sub Committee: Councilman Andrews thanked City Accountant Harrison for preparing the FY 2018-2019 budget calendar. Councilman Andrews made a motion to approve the proposed budget calendar and to appoint Councilman Evans and Councilman Wright to serve as the budget committee; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

Discussion-Independence Day Celebration: Councilman Evans recognized Director of Marketing/Economic Development Hogan. Mrs. Hogan mentioned the calendar of events and stated she would like to begin a discussion for potential dates for the City's Independence Day Celebration. Director Hogan made a recommendation to hold the event on July 2 (Monday night). Neighboring cities have set dates for their event as follows: July 3 – Warner Robins & June 24- Perry. Motion made by Councilman Evans to have the event on July 2; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Councilman Wright began a discussion about holding the event on Saturday, June 30th. Councilman Andrews withdrew his motion. Councilman Armijo made a motion to table this item until the March 6, 2018 regular council meeting; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

Police Incentive Program: Councilman Armijo recognized Chief Hadden. Chief Hadden stated that he would like to discuss some issues re: Centerville PD. Recruitment and retention (R & R) continues to be an issue. Chief Hadden stated that one of his selling points when hiring is the amount of training the City provides to its police officers. Chief Hadden has prepared a plan to improve recruitment and retention and provided a copy of the R&R document to Mayor and Council prior to the meeting. Councilman Armijo suggests that Mayor & Council take the proposal into consideration as part of the budget review and preparation process with the budget committee and department heads. Councilman Armijo stated that, as the city grows, it is important to know that there will be an increased need to provide expanded services. He would like to continue providing a top of line Police Department and the same goes for all departments. Councilman Armijo expressed appreciation to Chief Hadden for bringing this forward. Councilman Wright stated that he understands the Chief's frustration and moved to establish a committee to review the proposal in depth; motion seconded by Councilman Andrews to contact Middle Georgia Regional Commission to get feedback and costs of having a pay scale audit and a comparison to police salaries in other cities of similar size and budget and to table action on the R & R document until these processes are completed; seconded by Councilman Evans. City Clerk Bedingfield was instructed to reach out to the MGRC and move forward accordingly. Motion carried.

Comments from Council

None

Mayor Harley adjourned meeting at 5:38pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest, City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date: _____