

Regular Council Meeting

March 5, 2019

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

Moment of Silence –Honoring Houston County Director Emergency Management Chief Jimmy Williams

Invocation given by Councilman Andrews.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chief Hadden.

Welcome extended to all by Mayor Harley, recognized Houston County Commissioner Jay Walker.

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

Rules of Decorum: Mayor Harley read rules of decorum.

Public Comments

None

Adoption of Minutes: Motion made by Councilman Evans to adopt both sets of minutes as written; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Councilman Wright called for amendment to February 19 minutes, they state his name by Pledge of Allegiance; he was absent. City Clerk Bedingfield to review notes and make correction. Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried.

- February 5, 2019
- February 19, 2019 Council Work Session

Old Business

Plan First Designation Update: Mayor Harley, Director of Marketing/Economic Development Hogan and Councilman Wright traveled to Atlanta last week to receive Plan First Designation Award. Centerville was recognized as one of 18 communities designated as a Plan First Community. There were 9 new communities and 9 designated communities. Mrs. Hogan informed everyone that cities are recognized for being fiscally responsible and how they implement their comprehensive plan.

New Business

Website Update: Councilman Wright recognized Director of Marketing/Economic Development Hogan. Mrs. Hogan reminded everyone of previous discussions about marketing plans, budgeting for a new website. The city website is currently hosted by Middle Georgia Regional Commission. In order to streamline the process, Director Hogan is recommending that the City transition its webpage hosting, hopefully in June, to M&R Marketing. Mrs. Hogan informed everyone that she had reached out to Laura Mathis, MGRC, Executive Director, however; hasn't spoken with her. Motion made by Councilman Wright to draft letter to Middle Georgia Regional

Commission and authorize Mayor Harley as signatory to request termination of contract. City Attorney Tydings stated the reason Mrs. Hogan reached out to Laura Mathis, is to discuss process to terminate contract. Councilman Evans seconded the motion. Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried.

Resolution Opposing House Bill 302, Preemption of Local Building Design Standards:

Councilman Andrews stated one of the things, when the state legislature meets, is that they may be clueless about some of the bills. House Bill 302 would preempt local government regulation of many aspects of residential construction. Councilman Andrews stated he opposes the bill and has read it from the beginning to end. GMA, ACCG are also against the bill, it clearly takes away home rule authority from the local government. The bill targets residential buildings, however, regulation of commercial and historical buildings would stay the same. Have had some heated discussion with Rep Heath Clarke. Rep Clarke signed the HB302, however; did not read the bill. Councilman Andrews stated he thinks HB302 is dead in the water.

Motion made by Councilman Andrews to pass resolution opposing HB 302; seconded by Councilman Evans.

Councilman Wright added HB302 is broad and need to look beyond the subject matter of the bill to who is behind the bill. Stated that one can look at the bill and who is mad about local regulation and then follow the money. This is a bad bill.

Councilman Evans stated he also had an opportunity to talk with Representative Heath Clarke and his response was "sometimes legislatures agree with things because they are working on other issues". Asked Representative Clarke the question "why are you trying to punish us all if you are wanting to punish one community"?

Councilman Andrews informed everyone that the house committee would hold hearings on the bill today and that "cross-over" day is Thursday.

Mayor stated he also contacted the representatives and gave his opinion.

Councilman Armijo stated he is in full support of Mayor and Council with the resolution, we need to take a stand and unite to protect our community. Agrees with this 200%.

City Attorney Tydings stated that one a vote to adopt the resolution occurs and it is signed, she will transmit it Tom Gehl (Head of Government Relations, GMA) tomorrow.

Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Comments from Council

Post 1 Councilman Andrews, no comment.

Post 2 Councilman Wright, mentioned the website, stating the appearance is old and if you are moving to the area, you look at this when relocating to new area. Also, security of website data, safety is a concern.

Post 3 Councilman Evans, recognized Centerville Police Department for all of their hard work, being visible and enforcing laws. Informed everyone that he had spoken with a gentleman at the bowling alley re: ticket the man had received. Keep up the good work. The PD is not writing tickets to increase revenue.

Post 4 Councilman Armijo, Thanked Director of Marketing Hogan, Councilman Wright and Mayor Harley for their hard work with Plan First Award. Went to the market on Saturday, enjoyed it and got to see vendors. Encouraged everyone to get out and be a part of the events.

Mayor Harley, stated he appreciated all that the Fire Department and Police Department did recently for Chief Williams's service. Proud of everyone at the city, they all are doing a great job.

Executive Session Future Acquisition of Real Estate & Personnel Matters: Councilman Andrews made motion to enter into executive session at 7:25pm; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Mayor and Council reconvened at 7:41pm.

Affidavit & Resolution: City Attorney Tydings read resolution and Mayor Harley entertained motion. Motion made by Councilman Evans to adopt resolution as written; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried. Affidavit executed by Mayor Harley and notarized by City Clerk Bedingfield. Affidavit and resolution attached and made part of official minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 7: 42pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date