

Council Work Session

January 21, 2020

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

Invocation given by Councilman Armijo.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Harley.

Welcome Extended to all by Mayor Harley.

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

Rules of Decorum: Mayor Harley went over Rules of Decorum.

Public Comments

None

Motion made by Councilman Wright to add the following item as # 6 on the agenda- Authorization of Purchase and Sale Agreement between Wilcox County Sheriff's Office and City of Centerville; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

Old Business

Resolution Hotel Transient Occupancy Tax (Hotel/ Motel): Councilman Andrews recognized Director of Economic Development Hogan. Mrs. Hogan reported that they all should have received an email with the proposed resolution. This is the first step in the process. The resolution specifies desired tax rate 7% sales; 3% would go into General Fund and 4 % will go into tourism projects through a DMO-Destination Marketing Organization. Seeking approval tonight. Motion made by Councilman Andrews to approve as written; seconded By Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

New Business

FY 2019 Audit Presentation, Nichols, Cauley & Associates-Todd Giddens: Mayor Harley recognized Todd Giddens & Greg Chapman-Government audit partners. Mr. Giddens stated all management staff of Centerville does an excellent job. Recognized City Accountant Harrison, stating she does a tremendous job, the city is very fortunate to her. Mr. Giddens stated that they provide audit services to many other entities and they don't hold a candle to Ms. Harrison. Appreciate the opportunity to serve the city of Centerville. Informed everyone that the city has a balanced budget. Provided the Independent Auditors Report and Management letter to Mayor and Council.

Councilman Armijo recognized City Accountant Harrison and staff for doing a great job. We do everything we need to do in order to stay within the approved budget. Hard work reflected in statement.

Mayor Harley stated it is important to hear how we (city) are doing.

Mr. Chapman stated that he began his career auditing coastal accounts, always important to keep extra in reserve for unexpected expenditures; hurricanes. Good practice to keep funds for the unexpected. City has 8 months in reserve for operating expenses if necessary; very impressive. Thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity.

Home Based Business -Happy Tails (owner: Hali Roddey, 206 Kathryn Place): Councilman Armijo made motion to approve; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Mobile Home Removal and Clean Up Demolition Permit Fee Rebate Agreement: Councilman Andrews recognized Director of Economic Development Hogan. Mrs. Hogan stated this was a team effort. It had been discussed earlier in the year with Housing Team. Planning on removing 12 trailers, ensures that this happens in a 90-day time line. City Attorney Tydings had drawn up agreement. Potentially 30 trailers to be demolished.

Motion made by Councilman Andrews to approve; seconded by Councilman Wright. Councilman Armijo stated he was glad they are doing this and it has been a long time coming. Councilman Wright stated this is good, the location is a high crime area, will be good to have lots cleaned out. They will be refilling lots with new mobile homes. Councilman Andrews stated we need to send a message, if you misbehave in Centerville you are not welcome. Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried.

Councilman Evans arrived at 5:25pm.

Approval of Fire Department Engineer Job Descriptions: Engineer & Engineer Rank: Councilman Evans recognized Fire Chief Jones. Chief Jones request approval for engineer job description stating it has been reviewed by City Attorney Tydings. Seeking to post (3) positions in house, very similar to the corporal positions in the Police Department. ISO ratings are required to have dedicated training - driver training. Motion made by Councilman Evans to approve; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

Authorization of Purchase and Sale Agreement between Wilcox County Sheriff's Office and City of Centerville: Councilman Wright stated this is for the sale of a specific Tahoe specific vehicle which is surplus property. Motion made by Councilman Wright to approve; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

Comments from Council

Post 1 Councilman Andrews, informed everyone that Mayor Harley has been voted in the Vice-Chair of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission and as the Executive Committee Chair.

Post 2 Councilman Wright, none

Post 3 Councilman Evans, Happy New Year to everyone that I haven't talked to.

Post 4 Councilman Armijo, the auditor made the comment "no one holds a candle" to City Accountant Carol Harrison, we have controls, checks and balances in place, you don't hear this every day, she does a phenomenal job. The team work we have in our city, proved itself again tonight, with Mrs. Hogan and Sgt. Welch with mobile home clean up, help the community, fix things. Great job on the Fire Department get those positions out there and the leg work and not

just hold people accountable but maintain city ISO ratings. Police Department making progress, protecting our city.

Mayor Harley stated Mrs. Hogan has developed a housing team, sat in on meeting, hosted an event along with Centerville United Methodist at Spring Lake Trailer Park. Provided food and passed out information about upcoming census. Everyone does a great job.

Mayor Harley adjourned meeting at 5:37pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date