

## Regular Council Meeting

March 3, 2020

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

Invocation given by Councilman Andrews.

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 Edward Armijo and City Attorney Rebecca Tydings.

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

### Public Comments

None

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

- February 4, 2020
- February 18, 2020 Council Work Session

### Old Business

None

### New Business

Approval - Apply for and Submit FY 2019 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG): Councilman Evans recognized Fire Chief Jones. Chief Jones is seeking approval to apply for a 5% matching grant. The grant application is a request for \$ 500,000.00 for a fire truck; therefore, the city's estimated 5% match would be approximately \$ 24,000.00. Motion made by Councilman Evans to approve grant application and to fund matching portion if awarded; seconded by Councilman Wright. Mayor Harley inquired about when the city would receive funds if awarded the grant. Chief Jones reported sometime between May 2020 or May 2021; stating that it can take up to a year to receive the grant funds. Motion carried.

Rescission of Resolution (2020-1) Hotel/Motel Tax: Councilman Andrews recognized Director Hogan. Mrs. Hogan reminded everyone that the City had previously adopted resolution 2020-1. She was not able to obtain agreement from the Chamber or other organizations to serve as a DMO (Designated Marketing Organization) as required by state law. Tonight's agenda is a recommendation to rescind Resolution 2020-1. Motion made by Councilman Andrew to

rescind; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried. Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried.

Transient Lodging Tax Ordinance (3.0%): Councilman Andrews recognized Director Hogan. A copy of a proposed ordinance establishing a 3% Hotel/Motel – Transient Lodging Tax has been provided to Mayor and Council for review. The ordinance would authorize the imposition of a 3% sales tax on lodging as outlined in the ordinance. The City is hopeful to have one or more lodging establishments in the future. Any tax collected under this proposed ordinance can go directly into the City’s General Fund. Motion made by Councilman Andrews to adopt Ordinance as written; seconded by Councilman Wright. Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried.

Point of Information “Beards for Brandon”: Councilman Wright recognized Chief Hadden. Chief Hadden informed all that for the month of March, Centerville PD will be participating in a fund raiser “Beards for Brandon”. Sgt Brandon Miller has been with Houston County Sheriff’s office for 20 years. He was recently diagnosed with Non-Hodgins lymphoma. Proceeds from a benefit raffle will assist Sgt Miller and his family with medical expenses. Chief Hadden stated he would sponsor Mayor and Council if they wish to participate.

#### Comments from Council

Post 1 Councilman Andrews, none

Post 2 Councilman Wright, reminder Farmers Market returns this coming Saturday 9-1 here at city hall (13) vendors, rain or shine.

Post 3 Councilman Evans, no comment.

Post 4 Councilman Armijo, informed all that the City Clerk’s Office has ongoing collection of 2019 property taxes with payments being made in person and online. To date, they have collected \$ 2,157,271.63 in revenue; exceeding the budgeted amount (\$ 2,124,136.00) for FY 2019-2020.

Recurring tasks in the City Clerk’s office include: Ongoing issuance of building permits and business licenses. The City issued 249 business licenses in January - renewals and new businesses and 1 annual chicken coop permit renewal. The City issued 32 permits for February, bringing a total of 70 construction permits issued since of January 1; permits include misc. projects (new roofs, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and commercial projects), demolition permits and new residential construction.

Reminder for anyone that will be attending the GMA Annual Conference in Savannah, online registration (hotel/ classes) opens March 10 at 9am. Please get paperwork back to Mrs. Bedingfield right away. Reminder Fire Department annual boot drive for Muscular Dystrophy is coming up. Police Department-FB has been blowing up with arrest, good publicity for Centerville – letting people know that the City does not put up with any bad actors. Lions Club BBQ fundraiser coming up March 27; contact me if you would like to purchase a plate.

Informed all that he was invited to a Kiwanis event on Feb 21 by the Mayor of Reynolds, spoke at the Kiwanis club, they published an article. Councilman Armijo recommended that they go out to the City of Centerville’s website and check out the calendar of events - goat yoga. He also talked about the plans for the City’s new Fire Department and efforts in Police Department. This invitation came about was due to networking at GMA’s Mayors (Cities United) Conference in Atlanta that was held in January. Members of the Reynolds’ Kiwanis were very receptive – they treated him to lunch He hopes to see them at our events.

Mayor Harley, mentioned a copy of old newspaper Daily Sun Centerville headliner “Centerville Police Department finds quirk in state law”. Mentioned the RFP for Centerville Fire Department; possibly will be on the work session agenda. Yesterday was Dr. Seuss day, a lot of fun in all locations, kids had a good time, a lot of great kids in our City.

Executive Session-Potential Pending Litigation: Councilman Wright made motion to enter into executive session at 7:22; seconded by Council Evans. Motion carried.

Mayor and Council reconvened at 7:37pm.

Affidavit & Resolution: City Attorney Tydings read resolution. Motion made by Councilman Evans to adopt 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.

Mayor Harley adjourned meeting at 7:38pm.

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Mayor John R. Harley

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Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

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Date