

Council Work Session

August 18, 2020

Meeting held via Zoom.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harley at 5:04 pm.

Invocation given by Councilman Armijo.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Andrews.

Present were Mayor John R. Harley, Councilman Cameron Andrews, Councilman Justin Wright, Councilman J. Micheal Evans, Councilman Edward Armijo, City Attorney Rebecca Tydings, City Accountant Carol Harrison, Director of Operations Mike Brumfield, City Clerk Krista Bedingfield,

Welcome extended to all by Mayor Harley

Old Business

New Business

Public Hearing and Consideration/Approval Ordinance– re-zoning 6.06 acres – Gunn Road, KKLK Properties: Councilman Wright recognized Director of Operations Brumfield. Mr. Brumfield stated he had received and processed an application from the property owner. Proposed re-zoning was advertised and property posted as required by law. Planning and Zoning met on Thursday 8/13/2020. Questions and comments were accepted and answered via Face Book. Two questions were received as follows: Who are members of Planning and Zoning? This information was provided. Why is the property being re-zoned? Because the property owner applied for/requested the re-zoning. Director Brumfield also spoke with a couple of people prior to meeting and answered their questions about another parcel that was not part of this re-zoning/P & Z meeting. P & Z voted to recommend to approval. Re-zoning Ordinance proposed for consideration tonight by Mayor and Council.

Mayor Harley closed council meeting and opened public hearing at 5:08pm to allow public the opportunity to pose questions.

Councilman Andrews asked how the live feed of 12-13 people submits questions. Mrs. Hogan stated if they will make comment on live stream, then the questions can be addressed by Mayor and Council. Mayor Harley stated this was advertised on our web site and via Facebook. Mrs. Hogan confirmed the information was posted on social media for a period of 2 weeks. No questions were received during tonight's live stream.

Mayor Harley closed public hearing at 5:12pm and reconvened council meeting at 5:12 pm.

Motion made by Councilman Wright to approve ordinance as written; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried. See Ordinance 2020-5.

Home Based Business-CB Surveying, LLC (owner: Christopher A. Branscom), 220 Carrington Lane: Councilman Andrews made to approve; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Point of Information 2020 Millage Rate: Councilman Evans stated that it is the time of year to set millage rate. There are four documents in Council folders tonight relative to the 2020 millage rate.

The first document summarizes the change in value for the 2020 tax digest compared to the 2019 tax digest and the increase in the gross digest and net digest. City's net 2020 tax digest is \$193,378,068, an increase of \$1,696,038 from 2019.

The second form summarizes the history of the senior exemption. Senior exemptions for 2020 will be 411 at \$285,230. Other exemptions as listed in the 2019 exemption summary is Conservation, Newport Inventory, Personal Property less than \$7500, veterans' exemptions and non-profit and municipal buildings. A summary of the 2019 Exemptions is shown at the bottom of this form.

Third form is the 2020 tax digest and 5-year levy reflecting net tax digest of \$193,378,068 and total City taxes to be levied of \$2,309,708 using the 11.944 rollback rate. 2020 taxes to be levied reflects an increase of \$15,082 compared to 2019 and is \$24,423 more than FY 2021 budget tax revenues of \$2,285,285.

Fourth form is the PT 32.1. Based on the consolidated digest from the County and updated exemptions the City's rollback rate is 11.944 or .027 millage equivalent for reassessed value added vs. the 2019/current rollback rate of 11.971.

Discussion to propose rollback rate for 2020 Millage rate. Councilman Andrews stated he is very proud of Mayor and Council to be able to consider roll back rate. The senior exemption has been in effect since 1991 and it continues to grow each year. Our department heads, employees and governing authority have done an exemplary job. Hopes one day that the city does address this issue, millions of dollars that are not taxed each year. We do a really good job. Mayor Harley agrees, senior exemption has a significant impact.

Approval Resolution - Open Synovus Escrow and Project Fund Account: In your folder tonight there are two Bank Resolutions to approve the opening of two new bank accounts. One is the escrow account of which the Proceeds from the installment sale agreement with GMA has been deposited and the other is the Project fund account. As pay requests are processed funds will be moved from the escrow account to the project fund account and then disbursed to the contractor.

Motion made by Councilman Andrews to approve resolution; seconded by Councilman Evans. Motion carried.

Point of Information Announcement Fall Festival: Mayor Harley stated after much thought and discussion, the decision has been made to cancel the Fall Festival Scheduled for October to proactively promote public health and safety concerns related to COVID-19. It is with heavy hearts we must make this decision, but we want to ensure that our residents, visitors, and vendors are safe and healthy during this unprecedented time. We look forward to bringing back all our wonderful events in Centerville next year! Thank you all for your understanding as Mayor and Council, along with staff make this hard decision.

Point of Information-Police Department-Sale of Crown Vic: Councilman Andrews reported this serves as a point of information. Chief Hadden has spoken with Palmetto Ga-Police Department re: purchase of the last remaining Crown Vic for \$4,000.00. City Attorney Tydings reminded

everyone that this is one of 3 vehicles declared as surplus property approved by Mayor and Council. No motion or action taken.

Executive Session-Personnel Matters: Motion made by Councilman Andrews to remove item from agenda; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Comments from Council

Post 4, Councilman Armijo, wanted to “put a plug” in for Boy Scout Troop 400, looking for more leaders, scout meetings are held on Monday night from 7-8:30pm at Centerville United Methodist Church. Informed everyone that he was an Eagle Scout while living in Spain. Boy Scout Troop Master, Mr. Napolitano has done a lot for the troop and the community to get involved in scouting.

Post 3 Councilman Evans, Thank you to Mayor and Council, department heads and employees for continuing to do such a fine job to provide service. Keeping everyone safe during the pandemic. Reminder that always time goes by and time heals all wounds.

Post 2, Councilman Wright, no comment.

Post 1, Councilman Andrews, recycling center remains closed possibly to re-open Sept 5, encouraged everyone to go by Center Park and Fire Station and take a ride down Church St. There are (3) projects going on, it is a very exciting time going on in Centerville.

Mayor Harley, wanted to remind everyone that the ground breaking tomorrow at Fire Station at 4:30pm. Looking great, Center Park is going to be part of the downtown. Reminded everyone about the census, Centerville is leading in Houston County at this time with a 66.9% response rate. Would like to get it over 70%. Encouraged all to please respond. COVID 19 stay safe as you can and be wise in what you do, try to be conscientious of people around you. I wear my mask. Centerville has done a remarkable job during this pandemic. Thanked everyone.

Mayor Harley adjourned meeting at 5:32pm.

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Mayor John R. Harley

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Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

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Date