

Council Work Session

October 20, 2020

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

Invocation given by Mayor Harley.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Armijo.

Welcome Extended

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.

Old Business

East Coast Pyrotechnics, Inc. Agreement: Director of Marketing Hogan provided a copy of contract that had been signed on Feb 19, 2020. Looking for guidance from Mayor and Council. Would they like to push fireworks to a later date next year? Informed all that the event committee suggested to postpone fireworks for 2021 Independence Day.

Councilman Evans arrived at 5:03pm.

Councilman Evans stated that it is getting close on time to make decision. Since we do not have an opening date for Center Park it would be appropriate. Councilman Evans made motion to approve; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

New Business

Proclamation-Red Ribbon Week: Mayor Harley read proclamation.

Discussion-Centerville Lighted Christmas Parade: Mayor Harley recognized Director of Marketing Hogan. Mrs. Hogan reported that the event committee met last week to discuss the changing of events due to COVID. Recommendation made by committee to cancel parade, for the safety of citizens and participants. City Attorney reminded everyone that the Governor's Executive Order still prohibits gatherings of more than 50 people. There have been other entities that have canceled parades. Councilman Armijo thanked the committee for taking time to meet and make recommendation. Motion made by Councilman Evans to cancel Christmas Parade; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Councilman Andrews opposed. Motion carried.

Point of Information (Fire Department Donated Funds): Councilman Armijo recognized Chief Jones. Provided a copy of items the Fire Department wants to purchase with donated funds. Chief Jones advised that the Fire Department would be utilizing the donated funds to accomplish several things within the department. As in the past, the department has utilized donated funds to purchase equipment and has also utilized funds to help with the construction of the training facility. Currently, the department has approximately \$20,000 in donated funds.

This year, the Fire Department plans to spend a portion of the donated funds to replace of two Conex buildings at the training facility. The two boxes will be utilized at the training grounds, one will be a replacement of the current building which houses the confined space simulator, and the other will be used as an addition to the facility burn building. The box used to expand the burn

building will allow for more area inside the burn building for Firefighters to be able to train. The box that will house the confined space simulator will provide better protection for the simulator from the weather and other elements. Chief Jones stated that the Fire Department has located one Conex box at RAFB at an approximate cost of \$900 and Warner Robins Wrecker will deliver it to our training facility for \$75. A Conex box purchased from a dealer is approximately \$2800 with an additional delivery charge. This will be a huge savings if the department is able to acquire the Conex box from RAFB DRMO. Department personnel will be looking for other Conex boxes from the DRMO site as well.

Another use of the donated funds on is the replacement/addition of a utility trailer. The trailer will be a heavy-duty trailer which will be used to haul the departments' mowers and UTV. Currently, department personnel must borrow the Police Departments trailer to transport the lawn mower to the training facility so as that the grass can be cut. The department purchased a UTV from the Georgia Forestry Commission. If the UTV ever has to be transported further than the City limits, the Fire Department currently has no way to do this. Therefore, purchasing a utility trailer will provide the capability for transporting the lawn mowers as well as the UTV. A cost estimate for the utility trailer is approximately \$1800.

Finally, the Fire Department is considering a future project consisting of the construction of an external stairwell on the training tower at the training grounds facility. Currently, the training tower has a set of stairs up to the first floor and ladders from the first floor to the second and third floors. Adding an external stairwell will allow department personnel to be able to perform more realistic training while on the tower. Currently, there is no cost estimate for this project, however fire department personnel will complete the construction of the stairwell themselves. The cost will include concrete, lumber and other materials for the build.

Discussion Trellis Walk Reconstruction Project: Mayor Harley recognized City Accountant Harrison. Mrs. Harrison provided an estimate of the Trellis Walk construction. A lot of conversation took place regarding the condition of road. It is in dire need of repairs. Mrs. Harrison stressed that Director of Operations wanted her to mention that this is an estimated cost and that Mr. Rick Saunders is preparing plans. The final cost will be known when the project is bid and awarded. Funds will come from WS and SPLOST which were set aside for road projects. Motion made by Councilman Andrews; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

City of Centerville Workplace Wellness Policy: Councilman Evans stated that health and wellness is a discussion everywhere, recognized Director of Marketing Hogan. Ms. Hogan stated that for the second time, the City of Centerville has received a Wellness Grant from GMA, which will allow the City to implement health and wellness programs. The City has received our its first check in the amount of \$2,500.00. The policy has been reviewed by City Attorney Tydings and City Clerk Bedingfield. Motion made by Councilman Evans to approve; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilman Andrews to add Resolution Surplus Property; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Resolution Surplus Property: Declare property as surplus-2015 Chevrolet Tahoe-VIN 1GNLC2EC7FR25283. Motion made by Councilman Andrews to approve resolution; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried. See Resolution 2020-7.

Motion made by Councilman Wright to add item to agenda Discussion Regular Council Meeting Date; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

Point of Information/Approval – Police Department Expenditure (3) Vehicles: Councilman Andrews recognized Captain Harlowe. Captain Harlowe recognized Corporal Chris White. Cpl White provided (3) quotes that were included in Mayor and Council packets for review. Cpl White stated they are requesting to purchase (3) vehicles from Brannen Ford. There are (2) for patrol \$ 58,092.00 out the door with equipment and (1) for CID \$ 23,352.00. Have spoken with City Accountant Harrison regarding funds available in SPLOST \$ 50,000 for vehicles. The total cost for (3) vehicles would be \$ 81,444. Motion to approve made by Councilman Andrews; seconded by Councilman Wright. Cpl White informed all that Brannen would outfit the vehicles with equipment. Motion carried.

Captain Harlowe recognized Cpl White for his hard work in preparing the packet for tonight's meeting. He is an excellent officer and employee. Councilman Andrews thanked Cpl White for doing a good job presenting the information tonight.

Captain Harlowe informed Mayor and Council that there is a new hire coming on board November 4-Lakalah Harris. Officer Harris will be officially sworn in by Mayor Harley that day. Captain Harlowe reported that he will provide to the Mayor each day with a briefing of Police Department daily activity. Also, wanted to offer this as well to council. Can send email with daily updates. It is important that the Mayor and Council are involved with what's going on in the city. Thanked Mayor and Council for having the opportunity to build command staff with the department. Have a solid department with good officers.

Discussion Regular Council Meeting Date: Councilman Wright stated that there had been a discussion earlier today. Due to the upcoming election, it would be prudent not to have any other distraction, number of people coming in and out of the building. Motion made by Councilman Wright to change regular council meeting from November 3 at 7pm to November 5 at 5pm; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Mayor agrees. Motion carried.

Comments from Council

Post 1, Councilman Andrews-no comment.

Post 2, Councilman Wright-no comment.

Post 3, Councilman Evans-no comment.

Post 4, Councilman Armijo-updates on the new fire station, Flint Energies is working on moving power poles, construction crews are working on foundation. Fire Prevention week, visited FBC, Centerville Head Start. 9th Annual golf department great success. The Department's 9th annual fundraising golf tournament was held on October 9 and was a success. The Department raised over \$5000 during the event for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). Excellent newspaper article published. Thanked HHJ for reaching out to the community.

Mayor Harley mentioned census 72.3 % Houston County #1. Thanked the residents for their participation.

Executive Session-Personnel Matters & Potential Pending Litigation: Councilman Andrews made motion to enter into executive session at 5:43pm; seconded by Councilman Evans.

Mayor and Council reconvened at 6:28pm.

Affidavit & Resolution: City Attorney Tydings read resolution. Motion made by Councilman Evans to adopt resolution; 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 6:29pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date