

Regular Council Meeting
December 1, 2020

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

Invocation given by Councilman Andrews.
Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Wright.
Welcome Extended to all by Mayor Harley.

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

Public Comments

None

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

- November 5, 2020 Regular Council Meeting
- November 17, 2020 Council Work Session

Old Business

Center Park Pavilion Rental Agreement: Councilman Evans recognized Director of Marketing Hogan. Mrs. Hogan reminded everyone that this had presented at the July 21 August 27 council meeting to discuss this further. Provided a copy of rental agreement. This is modeled loosely after the community room agreement. Motion to approve Evans; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

Councilman Evans stated he does not like that these documents do not have the city seal on them. Thinks they should have something official as city documents are going out to the public. Motion to approve language of document and add city seal by Councilman Evans; seconded by Councilman Armijo.

All rental scheduling will be held by the Economic Development Department. Will coordinate with the City Clerk's office and City Accountant to make process funds into General Fund via City Clerk's Office. Some discussion re: special events and specialized form for those events. Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried.

Community Room Rental Agreement: Director of Marketing Hogan provided a copy of the agreement and briefly discussed the revisions. Motion made by Councilman Evans to approve language and add city seal on the document; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

New Business

Approval Contract-Centerville Police Department for Proposal Promotional Assessment Center: Councilman Andrews asking that we enter into the agreement with Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police to seek Police Chief. Motion to approve by Councilman Andrews; seconded by

Councilman Wright. Councilman Evans stated this is a great opportunity for us to look at candidates, get some good recommendations, excited. Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried.

Social Media Policy Update: Councilman Evans stated he is pleased to see this document. Recognized Director Marketing Hogan. Mrs. Hogan provided a copy for review. This outlines specific administrators, human resources and working with other agencies. A great policy to make sure we have all of our media issues covered. Motion to approve by Councilman Evans; seconded by Councilman Wright. This allows us to have a point of contact stated Councilman Evans. Councilman Wright asked what is the recourse for any employee violating the policy. City Attorney Tydings referenced employee manual with disciplinary action that could be taken in the case of violation. A copy will be given to all employees and they will sign an acknowledgment that they received. Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried.

Presentation: Local Economic Development Tools: Director of Economic Development Hogan provided a power point presentation. A copy of the document provided to Mayor and Council for review. No motion or action taken. Cannot have a land bank without Houston County stated City Attorney Tydings, the city cannot create a land bank on its own. Houston County has to be a part of the land bank. Mrs. Hogan thinks that this would be great. Mrs. Hogan stated that Houston County Commission Chairman Tommy Stalnaker expressed his opinion that costs for properties brought into a land bank by the City should be the City's responsibility. Councilman Wright stated he does not like that the County would appoint the majority of members of the Land Bank and therefore, could possibly encumber the City this way. Mayor Harley stated that the smart thing to do would be that if the City acquires a piece of property that goes into the Land Bank, then the City should have a plan to dispose of that property quickly in order to avoid tremendous cost. Councilman Wright stated the goal of this is to get tax delinquent properties back into the hands of taxpaying owners and thereby dispose of Land Bank property. City Attorney Tydings stated if the City purchases property there are laws about how the City can then dispose of the property, but a Land Bank can acquire property, clean it up/make improvements with a goal of getting it back on the tax rolls. Mrs. Tydings stated this is not a way to flip properties, the cities goal is not to go in and put in a lot of money. The county did indicate that properties brought in to landbank would have to have a buyer before they would agree that it could come into the Land Bank. General discussion about land bank. Councilman Wright feels that the City runs a risk if we delay this opportunity, look at the areas around us with new development. Mrs. Hogan stated no time like the present, activate some of these tools that are available. Councilman Wright stated this will be the best place in Middle Georgia. Mayor Harley recommended that he would like to meet with Houston County Commissioner Stalnaker to discuss. Councilman Armijo recommended that we look at tools discussed in the Power Point presentation.

Comments from Council

Post 1 Councilman Andrews, real exciting seeing what's happening out in front of city hall and on Church Street. Appreciates all that were involved. Did a ribbon cutting today. Exciting seeing changes.

Post 2 Councilman Wright, went down the slide today has a 3-year-old that will be excited when it's open.

Post 3 Councilman Evans, great things happening in Centerville.

Post 4 Councilman Armijo, rode the short slide, a lot of fun. Security is very important this time of year. Lock your doors, car doors, don't take anything for granted. A vehicle was stolen, don't leave yourself open to be a victim. If you know you have packages coming in ask your neighbor to pick them up. We are in a different time, protect yourself and protect neighbors, call 911.

Mayor Harley call 911 if you see something suspicious. Don't leave your car unlocked. Disappointed that there is not a parade this year. Appreciate all that has kept the city going during this time, keeping us all safe.

Mayor Harley adjourned meeting at 7:56pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date