

## Regular Council Meeting

January 4, 2022

Meeting called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Councilman Evans at 6:00pm.

Invocation given by Councilman Evans.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Armijo.

Welcome Extended to all by Councilman Evans and recognized Judge Lukemire.

Present were Mayor John R. Harley, Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr., Councilman Justin Wright, Councilman J. Micheal Evans, Councilman Edward Armijo and City Attorney Rebecca Tydings.

Oaths of Office –Mayor & Post 1 & Post 2: Judge Edward D. Lukemire administered official oaths to swear Mayor and Councilmen Post 1 & Post 2 into office for 4 year terms: Mayor John R. Harley, Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr., and Councilman Justin Wright. A copy of the oath is made part of personnel file and originals were sent to Superior Court to be recorded as official record. Terms are January 1, 2022-December 31, 2025.

### Public Comments

No comments

Adoption of Minutes- Motion made by Councilman Armijo; seconded by Councilman Evans. Motion carried.

1. December 7, 2021
2. December 21, 2021 Council Work Session

### Old Business

None

### New Business

2022 Municipal Court Appointments: Councilman Evans stated he has reviewed list. Reporting each individual has currently been serving as a member of the team for some time. Councilman Evans made motion to approve 2022 Municipal Court Appointments; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried. City Attorney Tydings informed all that she will send out the new appointment letters this week.

- Municipal Court Judge-Jeff Grube
- Municipal Court Solicitor-Greg H. Bell
- Municipal Court Public Defender- Clarence Williams
- Municipal Court Judge Pro Tem – Sherry Campbell
- Municipal Court Judge Pro Tem – Carl Veline

Mayor Pro-Tem Appointment –Post 4 Councilman Armijo: Mayor Harley entertained motion to appoint Councilman Armijo as Mayor Pro Tem for 2022. Motion made by Councilman Evans; seconded by Councilman Bird. Motion carried.

Police Department-Patrol Unit Purchase: Councilman Evans stated that we want to keep our police in dependable vehicles. Chief Duncan presented 3 quotes to Mayor and Council for review. Funds are available in budget to use option 1. Option 2 would be a lease program. Option 3 doesn't quote firm prices so Chief does not prefer this option. Chief Duncan is recommending option 2-lease with the higher trade-in allowances.

Councilman Evans asked what the savings with option 2 are. Chief Duncan informed all it's around 20,000 per year.

Motion made by Councilman Evans to go with option 2; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Mayor Harley opened the floor for discussion.

Councilman Wright asked if the lease purchase includes equipment in the vehicle. Chief Duncan stated they will come fully equipped, the only cost will be tires and oil changes. Can own vehicle after 3 years with a \$1.00 buyout. Chief Duncan informed all that the wear and tear on Police vehicles are pushed as far as he could to get the best value on this.

Councilman Wright recognized City Accountant Harrison to give pro's and con's. The outright purchase no interest involved, vs leased there is a component added in \$12,000 estimated interest to take in account. Mrs. Harrison asked Chief Duncan at the end of 3 years lease, would we keep vehicles or trade and renew lease. Chief Duncan stated he would look at the oldest vehicles with high mileage and potentially trade.

Mayor Harley commended Chief Duncan on a great job, providing forecast for the future.

Councilman Evans stated the option 2 to lease 3 vehicles and could buyout for a \$1 and keep vehicles another 2 years or go into another lease.

Councilman Wright added the difference in the money is not significant, have more flexibility if you purchase and decide to make a change. Have to be pretty certain we want to keep these for 3-5 years if we choose to lease.

Councilman Evans stated if you are going to replace vehicles in a few years, does not make sense to purchase them. Chief Duncan stated he can trade in and not have cars on the lot not doing anything. Councilman Evans in favor of the recommendation, adding we always go back and revisit in 3 years.

Mayor Harley asked if this will work out in the budget this year and recognized City Accountant Harrison. Mrs. Harrison informed all that the city had received payment for totaled Police Tahoe for \$ 36,100 and \$50,000 in SPLOST for this year.

City Attorney was asked if she had reviewed proposed lease agreement. City Attorney stated that she had not seen the proposed lease agreement but that if it is the same that was signed with Brannen several years ago, it would be fine – she helped draft it. If not, it would need to be reviewed. Chief Duncan to provide lease documents to City Attorney for review.

Mayor Harley called for the vote. Motion carried.

Comments from Council

Post 1 Councilman Bird, hope everyone had a Happy New Year and looking forward to working with everyone the next 4 years, staff, council and citizens.

Post 2 Councilman Wright, a great opportunity to serve and looking forward to building on things and going forward in Centerville, Ga.

Post 3 Councilman Evans, Happy New Year. Excited and looking forward to working with everyone and providing services.

Post 4 Councilman Armijo, welcomed Mayor Harley's family, nice to see them. Congratulated all of them being sworn in tonight. Looking forward working as a team to improve Centerville, supporting staff and department heads. Police made some significant stops, people doing a lot of bad things, kudos for all of their hard work. Fire Department handling fireworks during holiday. Recognized Director of Operations Brumfield and public works department all hard they do as well. Municipal Court, City Accountant Harrison, City Attorney Tydings, Court Clerk Caldwell, City Clerk Bedingfield and front office. Wishing all a Happy New Year.

Mayor Harley, echoed comments, proud of city, court is doing a great job, everyone has done a great job dealing with COVID, Director Brumfield and his team, need more people, encouraged all to come out and apply. Fire Department does a wonderful job, all year long. Police Chief Duncan, guys are out there. City Clerk Bedingfield and staff have worked through the pandemic. City Attorney Tydings always knows what I meant to say. Appreciate all that council has done this year, we don't always agree on things, but we get all views, we should represent our citizens that way. Recognized his family and thanked them for coming this evening.

In closing, recognized Houston Home Journal reporter Kendra Holmes, she is leaving us, appreciate you and big part of our family, the last years, wished her good luck in the future.

Meeting adjourned 6:35pm.

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Mayor John R. Harley

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Attest by City Clerk, Krista Bedingfield

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Date