

Council Work Session  
November 15, 2022

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

Invocation given by Pastor Matt Olsen-Trinity Baptist Church.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Armijo.

Welcome extended to all by Mayor Harley.

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.

Observance Veterans Day: Councilman Armijo thanked everyone for attending the Veterans Day and meeting tonight. Councilman Armijo recognized Andy Cannon, member of Rolling Thunder 3, a national non-profit organization.

Mr. Cannon informed everyone that Rolling Thunder recognizes MIA, POW and veterans.

There are 80,000 still unaccounted for 1,200 from the state of Georgia. There are 84 chapters in the U.S, this is the only chapter in Georgia. We are here today to honor our veterans, thanked everyone for their service.

Rolling Thunder honors Veterans every day, proud to live in the RAFB community, cherish veteran community, support by monetary, there for the families at their time of grief, lay wreaths, and volunteer time at home. Remembering heroes, foundation Andersonville cemetery 1300, raised flags and POW at business in the area, recently partnered with combat to convert motorcycles for disabled veterans so they can continue to ride. Will soon join Habitat for Humanity to build a home.

Mr. Cannon wanted to mention the late William Dewey Freeman Jr. was forced to march 1,000 miles as a prisoner of war during the Korean War in the early 1950s; helped many escape.

Freeman, who was known as Bill — or “Wild Willie” among his army pals — died on May 27 at the age of 93.

His 9-year-old great-grandson Evan Murrer is doing his own walk to honor his memory and raise money for other POWs and veterans; walk 100 miles in 30 days. The “Operation Never Forget” to keep his memory alive, with the goal of raising \$3,000 to donate to the Georgia chapter of Rolling Thunder, a national nonprofit group that advocates for POWs and soldiers missing in action; he met his goal. Evan was honored tonight with a proclamation issued by The Mayor of Braselton for his service. He had the opportunity to stand before the Mayor and the Council and tell his story of how he honored his Granddaddy PFC William Dewey Freeman, Jr. and how he raised money to benefit Veterans.

Public Comments

None

## Old Business

Approval Letter to Amend MOU Flock and Centerville Police Department: Councilman Armijo recognized Chief Duncan. Chief reminded everyone that a few months ago the FLOCK cameras were discussed. Have been meeting for several months with agency heads and members from their agencies, in partnership with the Houston County District Attorney's Office to discuss the implementation of a camera system that all agencies in the county could utilize in their efforts to suppress the rising crime rate. The camera system, when implemented would aid agencies throughout the United States with the ability to track offenders after they have departed their offense location.

Information can be shared with other agencies across the U.S. All the departments are ready to go with the MOU. There is another meeting on the November 18<sup>th</sup>, with Chairman Stalnaker. Seeking approval tonight to move forward with the agreement with FLOCK and approval for 10 cameras.

Motion made by Councilman Armijo to approve MOU for 10 cameras and provide support of support signed by Mayor Harley; seconded by Councilman Wright. Councilman Wright wanting clarification that these cameras are no way equipped for issuing citations. Chief Duncan stated they are only for observing look for things specific. Expenses would be absorbed in the budget. Mayor Harley informed all cost will be \$2500 per camera, do not anticipate any changes. Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried.

## New Business

FYE 2022 Audit Presentation -Mauldin & Jenkins, CPAs & Advisors: Mayor Harley recognized Audit Partner-David Irwin, CPA. Mr. Irwin stated he was here tonight to discuss results and provide an overview and hit financial sites and discuss. Auditor's discussion analysis. Issuing a clean an unmodified opinion; financial statements and fairly stated in all accordance. No material weaknesses with internal audit controls. Always nice to be able to present a clean opinion. One thing about Carol, she is proactive not reactive, will call to address a question throughout the year, this contributes to a smooth and timely audit. A brief overview of financial statements. We received full cooperation with management and staff, we are independent of the city.

Councilman Armijo commented the audit review was very clear and understandable, complimented Carol and staff a lot of good work.

Point of information Christmas Bonus: Mayor Harley stated this has been set up in the budget every year. There are 61 full time employees and 14 part time employees. Full time employees will receive \$216.57 and part time \$ 108.25. Mayor thanked the employees.

Approval P FAS Drinking Water Sampling Contract: Councilman Bird recognized Director of Operations Brumfield. Mr. Brumfield stated we have another unfunded mandate placed on city from the state. The state requires EPA approved water sampling by January 1 from one of the approved companies on the list. City Attorney Tydings has reviewed, no issues. Seeking approval tonight and authorizing Mayor Harley to sign. Motion made by Councilman Bird; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Approval – Budget Amendment SPLOST 18 Fund- Additional Note Payment Fire Station: Councilman Wright read letter addressed to Ron Weigle, this is a written notice to exercise prepayment in the financing agreement set out for the project "City of Centerville, Fire Station. The city will submit a prepayment in the amount of \$ 593,562.00 to be applied to the

accrued interest for month date of August 13, 2022, with the balance applied to principle. City Accountant Harrison seeking for approval and budget amendment. Motion made by Councilman Wright to approve and authorize Mayor to sign letter; seconded by Councilman Bird.

Councilman Evans inquired about the letter, savings on interest and principal? Mrs. Harrison stated this will save additional \$ 31000 in interest. Motion carried.

Comments from Council

Post 1 Councilman Bird, thanked Carol and staff who was part of the audit, good news, appreciate a good job that you do every day. Thanked everyone (Mayor, Councilman Evans and Councilman Armijo) for their Veterans service, you are what makes our country.

Post 2 Councilman Wright, thanked the poll workers, reminder of run off December 6.

Post 3 Councilman Evans, personally thanked Councilman Bird, for acknowledging our service and those who continue to serve, our freedom isn't free. Thank you again for the staff, accounting department and department heads for managing their budget.

Post 4 Councilman Armijo, appreciate the opportunity to host the Veterans Day observance, thanked Pastor Olsen, rolling thunder for participating. Thanked Carol and staff. Glad we approved Christmas bonus.

Mayor Harley, have had the opportunity to speak to numerous veterans. Veterans sacrifice a lot but we need to also recognize what the families did to support their people in harm's way.

Meeting adjourned at 5:49pm.

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Mayor John R. Harley

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Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

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Date