

Regular Council Meeting

February 6, 2024

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harley at 6:00pm.

Invocation given by Councilman Armijo.

Pledge of Allegiance led by City Attorney Tydings.

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.

Public Comments

None

Adoption of Minutes: Blanket motion made by Councilman Wright to adopt minutes as written; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

- January 2, 2024
- January 16, 2024

Old Business

None

New Business

Motion made by Councilman Wright to add item to agenda: Curfew Ordinance Amendment: seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

Approval Janitorial Services Agreement (City Hall, Police Department, Municipal Court and Utilities Complex: Councilman Bird recognized City Clerk Bedingfield. Mrs. Bedingfield provided to Mayor and Council (2) quotes along with breakdown of cost for review; JAN PRO Cleaning (\$ 27,744) and Worth IT Cleaning Services (\$ 26,400). The services will entail once a week cleaning on the following (4) buildings- (City Hall, Police Department, Municipal Court and Utilities Complex located off Elberta Rd). A copy of the agreements had been provided to Mrs. Tydings for review and there were no issues. Seeking approval tonight to move forward with JAN PRO Cleaning to provide janitorial services and execute agreement.

Motion made by Councilman Bird to approve; seconded by Councilman Evans. Motion carried.

Home Based Business –Fite Home Repair, LLC (owner: Kenneth Fite, 110 Crestwood Rd):

Councilman Bird made motion to approve; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

Approval GMEBS Restated Adoption Agreement and General Addendum: City Attorney Tydings informed all that GMEBS has recently received a favorable determination letter from the IRS for the Defined Benefit Retirement Plan. Each employer using the GMEBS Retirement Plan is required to adopt the restated Adoption Agreement and General Addendum as part of the restatement process. “Kudos” to Gwin Hall who does a great job of communicating and organizing documents. Mrs. Hall sent an email which provided a cover memo, the draft restated

Adoption Agreement, General Addendum, the restated GMEBS Basic Plan Document and Amendment 1, the Summary of Amendments and GMEBS Opinion Letter. Motion made by Councilman Wright to approve and adopt as written; seconded by Councilman Armijo. Motion carried.

Discussion Planning Retreat 2024: Mayor Harley provided potential dates for retreat, seeking feedback from council and department heads. Need someone to put it together, need to do it fairly soon, if possible. Councilman Armijo and Councilman Evans volunteered to gather information. Councilman Wright would like more direction vs just having a planning retreat. Councilman Armijo and Councilman Evans will be working together to begin planning the retreat.

Approval to Award a Bid Proposal for the Design and Build of a New Class A Fire Engine (Pumper) Apparatus: Councilman Armijo recognized Chief Jones. Chief Jones reminded everyone that Mayor and Council approved the Fire Department to proceed with RFP for a new fire truck at December council meeting. City of Centerville leadership in 2023 agreed on a priority list for the 2024 SPLOST. On this list, Priorities are the purchase of Fire Department Vehicles which includes a new Class A Fire Engine Pumper Truck.

In December 2023, the Fire Department sent requests for proposals, RFPs, to five (5) fire truck vendors/manufacturers to submit design, specifications, and bid proposals. Three vendors/manufacturers submitted proposals. Two of the Vendors had Representatives at the bid opening. These two representatives answered all the questions that I, Chief Jones, had that day. Since the bid opening, the department's truck committee thoroughly reviewed all three proposals, and there were several questions for each representative. After speaking with each representative and getting clarifications, each bid proposal meets the specifications the city requested.

Chief Jones recommendation that the city accept the bid proposal as presented and approve the design and building of an E-ONE Custom Class A Pumper from Fire Line Inc. in the amount of \$758,359.00, less any discounts based on any pre-payments made by the city before completion of the building of the truck.

Many things were taken into consideration before this final recommendation was made.

The (3) vendors/manufacturers met the requested specifications that the City of Centerville Fire Department submitted.

Three proposals were received, two proposals were comparable in price range while the third was higher. The E-ONE Fire Line bid was the low bid.

Provided in (2) of the proposals, proposed build time was close, estimate of 2 years or more to build, while the third proposal was well over 3 years for completion. This new fire truck will replace an almost 40-year-old fire truck at the time of receipt of the new truck. We currently have (2) fire trucks that are E-ONE pumpers and have been good trucks. We have a good relationship with E-ONE and they provide good customer service.

The projected build time and final receipt of the new fire engine by the city is approximately 740 – 810 days, or 24 - 27 months after a pre-construction meeting, which will take place within a few weeks once approved by the Mayor and Council. Funds to purchase this vehicle will come from the 2024 SPLOST. After discussions with the City Accountant, the city may make a pre-payment(s) toward the purchase of this vehicle. If the city chooses to make any pre-payments, the total price of the vehicle will be at a reduced cost to the city. The vendor has submitted a formula for the reduced cost based on several factors, such as the amount and date of any pre-payment.

Seeking approval and award bid to E 1 class A pumper-manufacturer- Fire Line Inc is the vendor and begin build process, do not have to pay anything, would take 26-27 months to build, if we make pre payments would receive deduction from price.

Motion made by Councilman Armijo to approve and award bid of \$ 758,359 to Fire Line Inc; seconded by Councilman Bird. Motion carried.

Approval to Amend Project American Rescue Plan Act Funds: Councilman Bird recognized City Accountant Harrison. Mrs. Harrison provided a copy of the email to Mayor Council with the purpose of amendment with attached list of current projects in process that have been reported to SLFRF as of March 31, 2023.

The 3 projects are listed below:

1. Resurface of Trellis Walk \$ 248, 895 – complete.
2. Employee health benefits \$ 947, 127- will be complete with 2024 or 2025 reporting.
3. Bay Gall Sewer \$1,748,150 – not yet started.

Seeking approval tonight by Mayor and Council to amend or change the project from “Construction Bay Gall Sewer line” to “Public Safety Wages” in the amount of \$1,748,150; wages would include, Police, Fire, Probation and Animal Control.

For any project reported through the SLFRF Portal as of December 2024 it would be considered locked in and the project cannot be changed. If the project is not complete and funds not disbursed on this project by December 2026 then funds would go back to the state.

The last project of \$1,748,150 – Bay Gall Sewer has not yet been started. Centerville is waiting on the capacity letter from City of Warner Robins that is required to complete the SERP process for the GEFA loan. Once letter is received it will take at least another 60 days to complete SERP then project would need to be advertised and placed out to bid on the Georgia procurement registry. It is possible that the project could be complete by Dec 2026 but also possible it won't. If we change the project to public safety wages then the project would be complete no later than the March 2025 reporting and there would be no risk of losing any of the ARPA funds.

Once the ARPA funds are amended and used for public safety wages the ARPA revenue of 1,748,150 will be recognized and flow into the GF budget as a “transfer in” and will end up in the GF Fund Balance. As the FY 2025 budget is prepared Mayor and Council can appropriate this excess fund balance for the construction of the Bay Gall Sanitary Sewer Line.

Would have to have funds obligated by Dec 2024 and funds spent by Dec 31, 2026. Once the process is completed the project would have to be put out for bid, 6 months process, construction up to a year, potentially consider amending project, so we will not have the risk of losing the funds by the deadline.

Motion made by Councilman Bird to approve amendment to project; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Curfew Ordinance Amendment: Councilman Wright mentioned the tragic incident that happened over the weekend and recognized Chief Duncan. Chief stated with the recent occurrence recommending curfew ordinance amendment. Have been communicating with Councilman Wright and City Attorney Tydings. Amend the ordinance, keeping parents accountable for their kids, increase in fines.

City Attorney Tydings stressed that movie goers are not the target of these changes. Councilman Bird provided scenario, you have a 16- or 17-year-old on a date, someone will pick them up or they leave, it's the kids that are loitering in the area that are a concern.

Chief Duncan if an unsupervised child comes out of the movie and cannot be verified, then the police will reach out to parent or guardian. Unfortunately, one of the children that was grazed by bullet over the weekend, tried 10 times to call parent until they finally reached them in order to get medical attention.

Councilman Wright stated what he likes about these changes, the parents are held accountable and gets their attention. Allows Police Officers some teeth to handle these issues and take action. The parking lot at the Galleria Cinema is not a baby sitter.

Motion to approve ordinance amendment made by Councilman Wright as written; seconded by Councilman Evans.

Mayor Harley stated that we were involved although it did not take place in our city, Centerville Police and Fire- first responders were on scene. Parents need to be responsible.

Councilman Bird happy to hear that the mall is in favor of working on this with Police, says a lot when everyone is focused on the same goal.

Councilman Evans agreed, work together to get something done.

Councilman Wright, kid walking home from work, officer discretion, bragged on Chief Duncan doing the unpleasant and hard work that you have the right people and appreciate the job he is doing.

Mayor Harley called for vote. Motion carried. See Ordinance 2024-1.

Comments from Council

Post 1 Councilman Bird, glad we are doing something to address the crime issue, it's in Centerville, it's here, it's steps away, very glad to hear about the emphasis on Officer discretion, have to focus on the kids and situations, it definitely needs to be addressed and glad we have taken this positive step.

Post 2 Councilman Wright, try to do everything you can but the world is still going to happen. Officers did everything that they did to handle, it started in Centerville, will continue to ensure this is the best and safest place to live in Middle Georgia.

Post 3 Councilman Evans, we are doing everything we can working together, great ideas, additional meetings where people will be asked to spear head or lead so we can help parents that want to be helped and deal with those who do not. It is good to know that we have a group of officials who want to deal with it now and not deal with it later.

Post 4 Councilman Armijo, support the amendment 100%, sad that this happened, historically we have had issues with teens, but this is the worst thing that could happen. Encourage people to call 911 immediately if you are in the area and see or hear something. If you see something say something, very important for community safety. Eagle Springs neighborhood watch meeting will be held at the Centerville Police Department soon, encourage community to come out and participate, police will be there to answer questions

Mayor Harley adjourned meeting at 6:42pm.

Mayor John R Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date