City Hall

January 16, 2018

The regular council meeting was held on January 16, 2018 at 6:00 pm with Mayor Lester Hadden presiding.

Those present were Mayor Lester Hadden, Councilmembers Wayne Favors, John J. Rabun Jr. Stephanie Hannah, Michelle Weatherford-Usry and Edward Rabun.

Others present were City Administrator Arty Thrift, City Clerk Janee Miller, City Attorney Dalton Dowdy, Public Works Superintendent Wayne Davis, Wastewater Superintendent Larry Anderson, Fire Chief Keith Boulineau and Assistant Chief Jim Votaw.

Citizens present were Dr. Willie L. Jones, Walter Hannah, David Hannah, Betty Hannah, Kaliyan Hannah, Tiffany Hannah, Mickie Hannah, Gail Clark, Bennett Clark, Angela Moss, Sharena Vaughn, Sandra Robinson and Marie Brown.

Rev. Willie L. Jones gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Hadden administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilmembers Stephanie Hannah, Edward Rabun and Michelle Weatherford-Usry.

John J. Rabun Jr. made a motion to adopt the agenda as printed. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

Minutes of the December 13, 2017 work session, minutes of the December 13, 2017 executive session, minutes of the December 19, 2017 regular council meeting and minutes of the December 19, 2017 executive session were approved as printed with a motion made by Wayne Favors. Edward Rabun seconded the motion; all in favor.

John J. Rabun Jr. made a motion to approve the General Fund Detail by Account Financial Statement as presented. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

Arty Thrift presented council with an update on the construction of the concession stand at Rabun Park.

Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to appoint John J. Rabun Jr. as Mayor Pro-Tem for 2018. Edward Rabun seconded the motion; all in favor.

Edward Rabun made a motion to adopt and approve the Resolution for participation in Firefighter Cancer Coverage with Georgia Interlocal Risk Management Agency (GIRMA). Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

There were no Committee Reports at this time.

In staff reports Fire Chief Keith Boulineau, Wastewater Superintendent Larry Anderson, Assistant Chief Jim Votaw and Public Works Superintendent Wayne Davis presented council with a report on activities of their respective Departments.

Ordinance readings – None

John J. Rabun Jr. made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss **Personnel Matters, Real Estate Disposal and Real Estate Acquisition.** Wayne Favors seconded the motion; all in favor.

1. That this Mayor and Council now enter into closed session as allowed by O.C.G.A. ₴ 50-14-4 and pursuant to the advice by the City Attorney, for the purpose of discussing the following: **Personnel Matters, Real Estate Disposal and Real Estate Acquisition.**
2. That this body, in open session adopt a resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor or presiding officer to execute an affidavit in compliance with O.C.G.a. ₴ 50-14-4, and that this body ratify the actions of the council taken in closed session and confirm that the subject matters of the closed session were within exceptions permitted by the open meeting law said resolution form to be in separate notebook kept with minute book.

Back in open session, John J. Rabun Jr. made a motion to hire James Kitchens Jr. as Police Chief with an annual salary of $55,000.00. Wayne Favors seconded the motion; motion carried with four voting in favor and one (Edward Rabun) voting against. Pursuant to the City’s Personnel Policy, Mr. Kitchens will be a probationary employee for the first six months of employment.

Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to hire Brandon Hinkins as a firefighter in the Fire Department at the rate of $11.27 per hour (Grade 7, Step 1) to be effective February 26, 2018. Edward Rabun seconded the motion; motion carried with four voting in favor and one (John J. Rabun) abstained. Pursuant to the City’s Personnel Policy Mr. Hinkins will be a probationary employee for the first six months of employment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Janee Miller

City Clerk