City Hall

October 15, 2019

The regular Council Meeting was held on Tuesday October 15, 2019 at 6:00 pm with Mayor John J. Rabun, Jr. presiding.

Those present were Councilmembers Edward Rabun, Stephanie Hannah, Wayne Favors, Michelle Weatherford-Usry and Eugene Love, Jr.

Others present were City Administrator Arty Thrift, City Clerk Janee Miller, City Attorney Chris Dube and Police Chief Jamey Kitchens.

Citizens present were Betty S. Anderson, Sharena Vaughn, Connie Nelson, Dr. Willie L. Jones, Sandra Robinson, Carolyn M. Huntley, David Hannah, Marcus D. Gibbons, Daniel Eubanks, Michael Ramsey, Jennifer Eubanks and Mary Walker.

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

Eugene Love, Jr. made a motion to adopt the Agenda as printed. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

Minutes of the September 17, 2019 regular council meeting and minutes of the September 17, 2019 executive session were approved as printed with a motion made by Edward Rabun. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

Wayne Favors made a motion to approve the General Fund, Water & Sewer Fund, Gas Fund and Landfill & Sanitation Fund Summary Financial Statement as presented. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

Unfinished/Old Business – None

Wayne Favors made a motion to approve the Work Authorization Construction Phase Services Agreement between the City and Holt Consulting Company, LLC for Seal Coat, Crack Seal and Remarking Project at the Wrens Memorial Airport. Eugene Love, Jr. seconded the motion; all in favor.

Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to award the contract for airport pavement preventative maintenance at the Wrens Memorial Airport to Remac, Inc. in the amount of $97,122.65. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

Wayne Favors made a motion to approve the contract between the City of Wrens and Georgia DOT to perform the Seal Coat, Crack Seal and Remarking Project at the Wrens Memorial Airport. This project contains $114,725.00 of federal funds; $6,373.00 of state funds and the City will be responsible for $6,374.65. Stephanie Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to appoint J. Grady Blanchard as Associate Municipal Court Judge. Eugene Love, Jr. seconded the motion; all in favor.

In Committee Reports, Councilmember Michelle Weatherford-Usry stated that Wrens Hometown’s next meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Councilmember Weatherford-Usry also stated that the Christmas parade will be on December 14, 2019 at 11:00 am, the Christmas tree lighting & pictures with Santa will be on November 23, 2019 starting at 4:30 pm.

In staff reports, Police Chief Jamey Kitchens presented Council with a report on activities of his respective Department.

Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2019-011-001 amending and restating the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) Defined Benefit Retirement Plan. Edward Rabun seconded the motion; all in favor.

Wayne Favors made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss **Personnel** and **Pending Litigation.** Stephanie Hannah 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** and **Litigation.**
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,

Stephanie Hannah made a motion to return to regular session. Eugene Love Jr., seconded the motion; all in favor.

Back in open session, Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to increase the starting pay for the position of Patrol Officer to $16.29 an hour (Grade 7, Step 11) and to provide pay increases and promotions to the following employees in the Police Department. The pay increases and promotions are effective October 17, 2019. Stephanie Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

Employee New Grade/Step New Pay Rate

Lee Goode (promote to Assistant Police chief) G9 S14 $45,784.98/annually

Jack Hancock G8 S11 $17.92/hr.

Joseph McAlpin (promote to Corporal) G8 S11 $17.92/hr.

Ashley Pletcher (promote to Investigator G8 S11 $17.92/hr.

Michael Powell G7 S12 $16.90/hr.

Robert Glenn G7 S12 $16.90/hr.

Joseph Lamberth G7 S12 $16.90/hr.

George Bensema G7 S11 $16.29/hr.

Joshua Garcia G7 S11 $16.29/hr.

 There being no further business, Stephanie Hannah made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm. Eugene Love Jr. seconded the motion; all in favor.

Janee Miller

City Clerk