

City Hall
May 4, 2021

The regular council meeting was held on Tuesday May 4, 2021 at 6:00 pm with Mayor John J. Rabun, Jr. presiding.

Those present were Councilmembers Edward Rabun, David Hannah, Marty Amerson, Stephanie Hannah and Michelle Weatherford-Usry.

Others present were City Administrator Arty Thrift, City Clerk Cassie Bartlett, City Attorney Chris Dube, Police Chief Jamey Kitchens and Fire Chief Keith Boulineau.

Citizens present were Clay Crews, Markese Willis, Bennett Clark, Gail Clark, Travis Shields, Wanda Smith and Calvin Beasley.

City Administrator Arty Thrift gave the invocation and Police Chief Jamey Kitchens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to adopt the Agenda as printed. Stephanie Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

Minutes of the March 30, 2021 council work session and minutes of the April 6, 2021 regular council meeting were approved as printed with a motion made by Michelle Weatherford-Usry. Stephanie Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

Edward Rabun made a motion to approve the General Fund, Water & Sewer Fund, Gas Fund and Landfill & Sanitation Fund Summary Financial Statement as presented. David Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

In Staff reports, Police Chief Jamey Kitchens and Fire Chief Keith Boulineau presented Council with a report on activities of their respective departments.

In Unfinished business, Stephanie Hannah made a motion to table the second reading of the Ordinance to amend the GMEBS Retirement Plan. A called council meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 5:30 pm to conduct the second reading and adopt the Ordinance. Marty Amerson seconded the motion; all in favor.

In New business, Edward Rabun made a motion to accept the nominees for positions of President, First Vice President and Second Vice President of GMA's District 7 officers for 2021-2022. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor. Edward Rabun made a motion to vote for Jordan Johnson Commissioner, Augusta for GMA's District 7 Third Vice President. David Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

In Council Reports, Michelle Weatherford-Usry discussed restarting meetings with Wrens Hometown Partnership.

Stephanie Hannah made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss **Personnel**. Michelle Weatherford-Usry 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.
- (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 the minute book.

Stephanie Hannah made a motion to return to regular session. David Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

Back in open session, Edward Rabun made a motion to accept the recommendation of Police Chief Jamey Kitchens to demote Corporal Joseph McAlpin from Corporal to the position of full-time patrol officer, decreasing his hourly rate from \$17.92 (Grade 8, Step 11) to \$17.53 (Grade 7, Step 13) and to promote Erik Williams to the position of full-time Corporal with an increase in his hourly rate from \$17.53 (Grade 7, Step 13) to \$17.92 (Grade 8, Step 11) to be effective Thursday May 6, 2021. Stephanie Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

Michelle Weatherford-Usry made the motion to accept the recommendation of City Administrator Arty Thrift to hire Madison Tiner to the full time position of Billing Clerk I with an hourly rate of \$11.03 per hour (Grade 6, Step 3) to be effective Thursday May 6, 2021. Stephanie Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

David Hannah made a motion to accept the recommendation of Mayor John J. Rabun, Jr. to issue a written reprimand to City Administrator Arty Thrift for an incident involving a citizen's dog and the misapplication of the animal control provisions of the City Code. Edward Rabun seconded the motion; all in favor.

Stephanie Hannah made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Cassie Bartlett
City Clerk