City Hall

December 17, 2019

The regular Council Meeting was held on Tuesday December 17, 2019 at 6:00 pm with Mayor John J. Rabun, Jr. presiding.

Those present were Councilmembers Edward Rabun, Wayne Favors, Michelle Weatherford-Usry and Eugene Love, Jr. Councilmember Stephanie Hannah arrived at the meeting at 6:25 pm.

Others present were City Administrator Arty Thrift, City Clerk Janee Miller, City Attorney Chris Dube, Public Works Superintendent Brian Usry, Police Chief Jamey Kitchens, Assistant Police Chief Lee Goode and Police Officer Stephen Green.

Citizens present were Dr. Willie L. Jones, David Hannah, Wanda Smith, Daniel Eubanks, Sharena Vaughn, Lester Pitts, Gregory Robinson and Mary Walker.

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

Edward Rabun made a motion to adopt the Agenda as printed. Eugene Love Jr. 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.

City Administrator Arty Thrift informed Council that the amended Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance permitting distilled spirits by the drink at restaurants is scheduled for a second reading at a called council meeting on December 23, 2019 at 5:00 pm.

City Administrator provided an update on the road paving within the City.

City Administrator explained the process used in awarding the solid waste collection franchise for the City to Meridian Waste Services.

Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to request an investigation by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) into the residency of Councilmember - Elect David Hannah. The City previously received correspondence from two citizens alleging that Councilmember-Elect David Hannah lives in the City of Waynesboro and therefore is ineligible to hold office under the City Charter. Wayne Favors seconded the motion; motion carried with three voting in favor and two (Stephanie Hannah and Eugene Love, Jr. voting against.

Committee Reports – None

In staff reports, Public Works Superintendent Brian Usry and Police Chief Jamey Kitchens presented Council with a report on activities of their Departments.

Ordinance Readings – None

Wayne Favors made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss **Personnel** and **Real Estate.** 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 Matters** and **Real Estate.**
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.

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

Back in open session, Michelle Weatherford-Usry made a motion to hire Justin Rowland in the position of full-time Patrol Officer at the rate of $16.90 per hour (Grade 7, Step 12) to be effective December 19, 2019. Stephanie Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor. Pursuant to the City’s Personnel Policy, Mr. Rowland will be a probationary employee for the first six months of employment.

Stephanie Hannah made a motion to hire Ronald Wayne Bartlett in the position of full-time Patrol Officer at the rate of $17.53 per hour (Grade 7, Step 13) to be effective December 19, 2019. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor. Pursuant to the City’s Personnel Policy, Mr. Bartlett will be a probationary employee for the first six months of employment.

Wayne Favors made a motion to provide merit pay increases to the following employees. The merit pay increases are effective December 19, 2019. Stephanie Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

Employee New Grade/Step New Pay Rate

Clifton Wright G3 S8 $10.95 / hr.

Tasha Wright G1 S8 $9.38 / hr.

Ed W. Durden G3 S9 $11.36 / hr.

Robert Lockhart G6 S13 $15.94 / hr.

Willie Jackson G6 S12 $15.37 / hr.

Larry Hudson G6 S14 $16.54 / hr.

Lindsey Leverett G6 S14 $16.54 / hr.

Janee Miller G10 S12 $46,900.00/annually

Keith Boulineau G11 S13 $53,415.00/annually

Edward Rabun made a motion to accept the conveyance from Jefferson County Board of Education for the property containing approximately 18 acres identified as the old Wrens Middle School site. Michelle Weatherford-Usry seconded the motion; all in favor.

There being no further business, Wayne Favors made a motion to adjourn at 7:40 pm. Stephanie Hannah seconded the motion; all in favor.

Janee Miller

City Clerk