

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 2, 2018

PRESENT: Mayor Brandon Johnson, Councilmembers Bill Griggs, Mike MacNabb, Tray Hicks, Arthur Craft and Billy Ethridge. Absent, Councilmember Tony Haynie.

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager David Aldrich, Assistant City Manager Jon Herschell, City Attorney Robert Leverett, City Clerk Janet Fleming, Representatives of the Press/Media, and Interested Citizens

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hartwell City Council was held Monday April 2, 2018 in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 456 E. Howell Street, Hartwell, Georgia. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Brandon Johnson.

Following the invocation given by Mayor Johnson, everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Mayor Johnson requested that items be removed from the agenda; #9 Protected Historical Business Overlay District and #13 Street Department Truck Purchase & Surplus Request.

Mayor Johnson read a Proclamation which proclaimed the Month of April as "Hartwell Gas Department Safe Digging Month".

Hearing no corrections to the minutes of the March 5, 2018 regular council meeting, a motion was made by Councilman Haynie to approve the minutes as recorded. Motion was seconded by Councilman Griggs and carried unanimously. 6-0

Councilman Hicks made a motion to approve Temporary Alcohol Permits for Hartwell DDA for:

- April First Saturday, April 7, 2018 on Depot Street Outdoor Concert
- May First Saturday, May 5, 2018 on Depot Street Outdoor Concert
- June First Saturday, June 2, 2018 on Depot Street Outdoor Concert

Motion was seconded by Councilman Craft and carried unanimously. 6-0

A request for the "2018 Pre-4th" to be held on June 23, 2018 from 6:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. was approved with a motion being made by Councilman Hicks and seconded by Councilman Ethridge. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

A motion was made by Councilman Griggs to approve the closure of the Downtown Square for "Cars & Guitars" on May 26, 2018. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hicks and carried unanimously. 6-0

A recommendation of the Zoning Commission, CASE NO> 2018-01, for rezoning of property at 212 N. Forest Ave. from R-1 to R-2, Multiple Family Residential, met with approval with a motion being made by Councilman Hicks and seconded by Councilman Craft. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

A motion was made by Councilman Ethridge and seconded by Councilman Hicks to accept the quote from Monumental Equipment in the amount of \$19,178.10 to repair Influent Pump #2 at the WWTP. Motion carried unanimously.

A Surplus request for Street Department decommissioned Truck #9 was approved with a motion being made by Councilman Ethridge and seconded by Councilman Griggs. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

A motion was made by Councilman Ethridge and seconded by Councilman Hicks to approve the quote from Southern Flow, Inc. in the amount of \$11,700.00 for upgrade of Tank Telemetry at the Water Treatment Plant. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Councilman Ethridge made a motion to accept the quote from Cowart's Industrial Milwrights in the amount of \$61,188.00 for the Jailhouse Lift Station Upgrade. This upgrade would be paid out of SPLOST, Motion was seconded by Councilman Haynie and carried unanimously. 6-0

Health Insurance Discussion: A lengthy discussion ensued concerning the City's Health Insurance. The policy that the City holds with Blue Cross Blue Shield will end at midnight on April 30, 2018 and will not be renewed. The decision not to renew coverage was due to an increase of \$900,000 which is an increase of basically 99%. The cost would have gone up more if it could have done so legally. This increase in rates was due in part to the large number of claims in recent years. Most of the City employees carry the City's insurance and will be faced with finding other coverage. The City Manager stated that the City will assist employees in finding the best alternative that they possibly can.

There being no further comments or business to come before Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8.00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Fleming
City Clerk