

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

July 5, 2016

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

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

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hartwell City Council was held Monday, July 5, 2016 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 thanked the Service League for a great Pre-Fourth Extravaganza and stated this was possibly the best ever. The Mayor also reported that the Athens Street sidewalk work continues and wanted citizens to be aware of this.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks and seconded by Councilman Haynie to add the Election Agreement to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

Hearing no corrections to the minutes of the June 6, 2016 regular council meeting, a motion was made by Councilman Craft to approve the minutes as recorded. Motion was seconded by Councilman Griggs and carried unanimously, 6-0.

Audit Report was presented by Williamson & Company, CPAs. The City received a report of a clean audit. Tax revenue for 2015 was \$3,527,139, an increase from the previous year. As of December 31, 2015 the City had \$2.8 million in assets.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks and seconded by Councilman Griggs to approve a request of the DDA for closure of Depot St. between Forest and Carolina on Friday, July 29 to hold their "Back to School Blast." The motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

Councilman Hicks made a motion to approve the expansion of a natural gas line to service 12 poultry houses on John Jenkins Rd. Seconded by Councilman MacNabb and carried unanimously, 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Haynie and seconded by Councilman Hicks to approve the purchase of a new patrol vehicle, a 2016 Dodge Charger, in the amount of \$23,591.00 from Ed Murdock Superstores, contingent upon checking with the State concerning their used vehicles. The motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

Councilman Griggs made a motion to allocate \$25,000 of in-kind expenditures to the Railroad Street Improvement Project. The allocation was made due to the County's decision to withdraw from the project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hicks and carried unanimously, 6-0.

Councilman MacNabb made a motion to approve the new Hartwell Logo, seconded by Councilman Haynie and carried unanimously, 6-0.

During a hearing conducted by City Attorney Rob Leverett, it was determined that G&T Snack Bar does not have a food service permit on file with the Hart County Health Department or the Georgia Department of Agriculture. Mr. Leverett stated that the City does not license the sale of beer and wine on the premises unless the business is a restaurant or a nonprofit. Since G&T Snack Bar is neither and they operate as a bar and club, Councilman Hicks made a motion that the license for G&T Snack Bar be suspended until it comes into compliance with the ordinances and produce satisfactory evidence that they are in compliance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Griggs and carried unanimously, 6-0.

After a discussion of the proposed election agreement with the Hart County Board of Elections and Registration, Councilman Hicks made a motion to send the proposed election agreement to the Board of Elections for approval, if agreed upon it will then be sent to the Hart County Board of Commissioners for final approval. Seconded by Councilman Ethridge and carried unanimously, 6-0.

City Manager Comments:

- Sidewalk project is continuing on Athens St.
- Materials have been ordered for the Sanders Street Project
- Paving Crew will begin week after next

City Council Comments:

- Councilman Hicks stated this has been a great month for Hartwell. There are move events
- Councilman Griggs introduced young people from Brazil that are visiting in Hartwell, sponsored by the YMCA.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Hicks and seconded by Councilman Craft to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Fleming