

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
September 8, 2015

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 Tuesday, September 8, 2015 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 City Manager David Aldrich, everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Hearing no corrections to the minutes of the August 3, 2015 regular council meeting, and the August 20, 2015 called meeting, a motion was made by Councilman Bill Griggs to approve the minutes as recorded. Motion was seconded by Councilman Haynie and carried unanimously.

Mayor Brandon Johnson read a Proclamation "Constitution Week" September 17, 2015 – September 23, 2015.

Mayor Johnson read a Proclamation for "Dolly Parton's Imagination Library" of Hart County. Councilman Griggs stated that this date was "International Literacy Day"

Nicki Meyer, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, requested funding of the Pro Watercross Tournament for a 3 year Contract at the expense of \$7500 per year, making this a line item in the City budget. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Hicks to continue the 3 year contract, taking the funds from the Fishing Tournament Funds as in the past. Motion was seconded by Councilman Haynie and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

Hartwell Downtown Development Director Henley Cleary made a request for the Mayor's Monster Mash to be moved to Depot Street. A Motion in favor was made by Councilman Haynie, seconded by Councilman Craft and carried unanimously, 5-0.

A recommendation from the Zoning Board regarding application of Dr. Reddy for Variance to Side Setbacks for Tracts located at 605 and 619 East Franklin Street was made. A motion was made by

Councilman MacNabb to accept the recommendation for approval of the setback, seconded by Councilman Craft and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

A motion was made by Councilman Griggs to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment to the Site License Agreement with Conterra Ultra Broadband, LLC. Seconded by Councilman Ethridge and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

A Parade request was made from Hart Life Pregnancy Care Center for Annual Life Chain on October 4, 2015. A motion was made by Councilman Hicks to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Craft and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

A motion was made by Councilman Ethridge to replace Lift Station pumps for Clover Station at a cost of \$7,562.84 and Hwy 29 S. Station at a cost of \$13,864.06. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hicks and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

As discussion ensued regarding Sand Filters at the Sewer Treatment Plant, a motion was made by Councilman Ethridge to authorize City Manager to prepare a bid package to go out for bid. Motion was seconded by Councilman Haynie and carried unanimously, 5-0.

City Attorney Rob Leverett will continue looking into ownerships of the downtown alleys.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks and seconded by Councilman Craft for Assistant Police Chief Stan Sayer to present a proposed Bus Route for "One-Way" traffic on Cleveland Ave. from Legion St. to First Street during school hours. A motion was made by Councilman Haynie and seconded by Councilman Hicks to accept the proposed Bus Route and carried unanimously, 5-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks to move the Crosswalk on Campbell Drive down closer to the Board of Education, with the expense being the responsibility of the Board of Education. Seconded by Councilman Craft and carried unanimously, 5-0.

#### City Manager's Comments:

- Street Resurfacing began this date. Streets include Race St., W. Franklin St., Cunningham Drive, Winding Way, and Patterson St.
- Status of Crosswalk Study – GDOT to send results of study
- Sidewalks at School – Ready to go with next stage-waiting on School Board Staff
- Pocket Park – Basics have been completed
- Demolition of Property – three houses have been demolished and cleaned up

#### Council Comments:

- Councilman Hicks reported that the GMRC Economic Development Commission met and approved for a new business to come into Hartwell.

- Councilman Craft requested clean-up of undergrowth at the Pocket Park

Citizen Comments:

- Mary Beth Focer questioning her qualifications to run for City Council position. Mayor Johnson stated that now was not the venue to discuss this issue, and the Hearing set for Friday, September 11, 2015 would be the time for this issue.

There being no further business to come before Mayor and Council, a motion was made by Councilman Hicks to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m. Motion was seconded by Councilman Craft and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Fleming