

CITY OF HARTWELL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 7, 2016

PRESENT: Mayor Brandon Johnson, Councilmembers Arthur Craft, Tony Haynie, Tray Hicks, Mike MacNabb, and Billy Ethridge. Others present included City Manager David Aldrich, City Attorney Robert Leverett, City Clerk Jean Turner, Members of the Press/Media, and Interested Citizens.

ABSENT: Councilmember Bill Griggs

The Hartwell City Council met in regular session Monday, November 7, 2016 in the council chambers of city hall. Mayor Brandon Johnson called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Following the invocation given by the Mayor, everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the minutes of October 3, 2016, a motion was made by Councilman Haynie to approve as recorded. Motion was seconded by Councilman Craft and carried unanimously.

As Mayor Johnson proclaimed the week of November 6 - 12, 2016 as Veterans Week, he recognized members of American Legion Post 109, extending the City's appreciation for their service. Mr. James Fulghum, Post 109 Commander, asked that local restaurants give a free cup of coffee to veterans on Veterans Day to show their appreciation for their service. He also asked that citizens display a green light bulb on the outside of homes to show veterans that they are appreciated.

Mayor and Council heard the first reading of Budget Ordinance No. 2016-06. Mayor Johnson stated that the current proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017 was set at \$5,212,060, based on a millage rate of 11.3. Library Director Richard Sanders thanked Council for their continued funding allocated to the Hart County Library.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks to accept the Zoning Commission's recommendation to approve the rezoning of property at 603 E. Johnson Street from R-1 to B-1, Neighborhood Business. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ethridge and carried unanimously, 5 to 0. It was noted that Mr. Dennis Fields planned to operate a small barber/beauty shop on the property.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks to approve the request of James Michael Barret for alcohol license for El Parian Mexican Restaurant #4, located at 982 Benson Street (formerly MiJalisco Mexican). Motion was seconded by Councilman Craft and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

A motion was made by Councilman Craft to approve a request for street closure on Savannah Street (between N. College Ave. and Rome Street) on either November 10th or 17th for a basketball exhibition by the Hart County High School Varsity Basketball Team. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hicks and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

As discussion ensued regarding bids received for Water Treatment Plant upgrades, a motion was made by Councilman Haynie to accept the low bid from The Harper Corporation in the amount of base bid \$3,200,000.00, plus alternates A & D in the amount of \$43,875.00. City Manager David Aldrich explained that including the alternates would add enhancements/improvements to the system, which would still be within budget. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hicks and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

A motion was made by Councilman Ethridge to accept the lowest proposal from HD Supply Waterworks in the amount of \$13,563.74 for the Clover Street water main upgrade project. Motion was seconded by Councilman MacNabb and carried unanimously, 5 to 0. The City Manager stated that this project could be considered a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) improvement.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks, seconded by Councilman Haynie, and carried unanimously to accept a quote from Dell, Inc. in the amount of \$13,389.61 (government rate) for an additional server for the Police Department. Assistant Chief of Police Stan Sayer explained that the server was needed mainly due to the amount of housed video compiled daily, and funding for the server would come out of the Department's Technology Fund.

A motion was made by Councilman MacNabb to accept the quote from Tractor & Equipment Co. in the amount of \$6,889.78 for repair of the City's Elgin Pelican Street Sweeper. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ethridge and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

Following discussion regarding streets in need of resurfacing, a motion was made by Councilman Hicks to submit North Forest Avenue as a street for possible funding under the Department of Transportation's Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) Program. Motion was seconded by Councilman MacNabb and carried unanimously, 5 to 0. Other recommendations for streets needing resurfacing may be considered at the next regular council meeting.

City Manager's Report:

- Sidewalk replacement complete on the right side of Athens Street; almost complete on left side of street;
- Leaf truck is currently in operation;
- An informational insert is being placed in this month's utility bills;
- Disk filters (manufactured in Europe) for the Waste Water Treatment Plant are to arrive in the Port of Charleston in the next couple of days, and arrival in Hartwell in about a week.

Council Comments:

- Councilman Hicks extended appreciation to the County for paving Old Highway 29. He also issued a reminder for everyone to go out and vote the following day.
- Councilman Ethridge thanked Police Chief Anthony Davis and Asst. Chief Stan Sayer for having patrols on Parkdale Drive, stating that officers were doing a good job in controlling traffic and speeders.
- Councilman Haynie reported that the City's water loss was the lowest it had been since he had been on City Council. The City Manager stated that this was a team approach and an ongoing effort.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Hicks to adjourn the regular meeting and enter into executive session to discuss possible litigation. Motion was seconded by Councilman Haynie and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

Following conclusion of the executive session, a motion was made by Councilman Hicks to enter back into regular session. Motion was made by Councilman Ethridge and carried unanimously, 5 to 0.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks to deny the claim of Terry Gilliard. Motion was seconded by Councilman Craft and carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Turner
City Clerk

