



June 3, 2014

City Hall

6:00 P.M.

I) Call to Order, Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

The Mayor, Anthony Howard, called the meeting to order. Let the record show that the Mayor, Anthony Howard, Councilman Torre' Mills, Councilman Andy Smith and Councilman Charles Middleton were all present. Councilman Andy Smith gave the invocation. Also let the record show that the City Attorney, Tommy Coleman and the City Clerk, Melinda Crook were also present.

II) Approve Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills to approve all the minutes from the May 6th, 13th and 22nd Council Meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

III) Citizens and Delegations

Jerome Johnson – Event Center - Mr. Johnson came before the Council to ask that they consider changing the Event Ordinance regarding the alcohol license requirements, specifically mentioning having to run the ad in the paper. Councilman Middleton and the Mayor asked Mr. Johnson to be patient that they were looking into the Ordinance to see if changes were needed. Councilman Mills then informed Mr. Johnson that he would not consider any changes to the Ordinance until he complied with the request, by the Council, to put a fence up at the back property line.

Fletcher Thompson – Rezoning Old Skating Rink Property

Was not present

IV) Administrative Committee Reports

Jeff Jones – Bids for South Blvd - Jeff Jones, with Polyengineering, presented the Council with bid tabulations for the Southside sewer project. He informed the Council that Blankenship was the lowest, with a base bid of \$927,426.20 and an alternative bid of \$793,999.50. He then briefly went back over the differences between the base bid and the alternative bid, which was mainly full replacement with the deepest section slip lined for the base bid, to some replacement, repairs and slip lining for the alternative bid. He then discussed with the Council the advantages and disadvantages of taking the base bid over the alternative bid with the only disadvantage being the cost. Jeff informed the Council of a cost reduction on the backfill dirt and recommended that Council accept the low base bid, from Blankenship, with an immediate change order on the back fill dirt. He then informed the Council that there could be other cost reduction in this area and that we could possibly sit down with Blankenship to negotiate other cost reductions. Councilman Mills question Mr. Jones on the process of the bid approval with an immediate change order. The Mayor then informed the Council that the City may be able to haul some dirt in advance to help lower cost. There was then some discussion between the Council regarding the cost differences between the bids. A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the base bid from Blankenship, in the amount of \$927,426.20, with the immediate change order outlined by Mr. Jones.

V) City Attorney's Report

Sample Tire Ordinances - There was a first reading of a tire ordinance. The City Attorney explained that this Ordinance was to help control scrap tires giving certain regulations that would be need to be follow regarding scrap tires. He stated that the Building Inspector, Kenneth Jones, had called to request this Ordinance. The Mayor then stated that he had contacted Kenneth to look into this issue because a business owner had questioned tires being stacked up against their business and that they were holding water, causing mosquitoes, etc... Councilman Mills questioned whether this Ordinance would make present business owners non-conforming. The City Attorney stated that this would go into effect as soon as the Ordinance was adopted for all businesses and residents.

First Reading of Ordinance Consumption by the Drink

The City Attorney explained the Ordinance and stated that this Ordinance was being presented due to the recent passage of the Mixed Drink Referendum. He then went over items that Council would need to consider in this Ordinance, such as fees. Councilman Mills question how a business would prove that they served 50% food. There was then discussion on the fact that more time would need to be taken to review Ordinances from other cities to try to come up with fees that would work for our City.

VI) City Clerk's Report

The City Clerk gave the Council the financial report. She stated that the City finished the month with \$191,340.48 in the bank which was a decrease from April in the amount of \$27,855.50. She then informed the Council that the bills went out a few days late due to staff being out. She informed the Council that the auditor had finished up their field work and would be keeping up with them regarding their progress. The Clerk then discussed some items regarding the Civic Center. The Clerk informed the Council that she had gotten with Councilman Hutchins and discussed that some non-profits had been getting the Center, paying the deposit and then getting refunded their deposit thus not paying anything and that there were others where this same process was not applying. The Clerk stated that her discussion with Councilman Hutchins was about trying to come to a solution whereas rentals were treated equally and fairly. she then informed the Council that Councilman Hutchins had informed her that a City employee, Willie Wimberly, had asked to be hired as the person to monitor the center during functions and he would be paid the same as Mr. Mells used to be paid. Councilman Mills then stated that he had spoke with Councilman Hutchins about this issue and that he would like to schedule a meeting between himself, Councilman Hutchins and the Clerk to further discuss the non-profit issue. He then asked if he could get a copy of the schedule for the Civic Center, for him to review. Councilman Mills then asked the Clerk to contact Geer & Associates to find out how budget adjustments should be handled for Public Safety.

VII) New Items Proposed By Mayor and City Council

MEAG Voting Delegates and Resolution - A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Smith to make the City Clerk, Melinda Crook the voting delegate and Councilman Charles Middleton the alternate voting delegate. The motion carried unanimously

MEAG Power Sales Contract and Resolution - Andy Sharp, the City's MEAG Representative, came before the Council to inform them that this contract and Resolution was due to MEAG amending their contracts for Vogtle Plants 3&4. He explained that about 60% of the project is on borrowed funds and that MEAG has been in negotiations with DOE. He explained that getting financing with DOE would be more favorable than any other debt. He also stated that nothing between the City and MEAG would change just that these contract changes were needed to meet DOE compliance. He stated that this financing would save about 100,000 million dollars. The City Attorney and Mr. Sharp stated that the City Attorney had review for us and several other cities and recommended that the Council approve. A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the MEAG Resolution. The motion carried unanimously

Public Safety Budget - Councilman Mills explained the PS budget and how they had worked to come to a consensus on the operating increases so that the amount funded from the City would remain the same as it has been for the last year's budget. He then stated that the previous budgets had been under stated and that PS was trying to present more accurate numbers. The Council was also informed that about \$100,000 was going to be refunded from the PS Fund Balance. A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills to approve the Department of Public Safety Budget for 2015. The motion carried unanimously

E911 Budget - Councilman Mills explained the E911 Budget. He informed the Council that at the present time there were no operating increase with this budget as well. He then informed them that Calhoun County was looking at pulling out of the E911 agreement. He stated that, per their agreement, a time line was being looked into and that it could not be projected where the budget figures might be after January. He informed the Council of some the issues Calhoun County has stated were wrong, which was why they wanted to pull out of the agreement. A motion was made by

Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills to approve the E911 Budget presented to the Council at this time. The motion carried unanimously

Councilman Mills addressed the issue of bathrooms at Washington Park. The City Clerk presented the Council with information on the cost of two portable toilets. She informed the Council that Harrell Diversified had quoted \$150.00 per month and that Peak's Septic had quoted \$120.00 per month, and that both quotes included servicing as well. The Council agreed to accept the quote from Peak's Septic. The Council also agreed to look into a fountain to be placed at Washington Park. The Council stated the cost not to exceed \$400.00.

VIII) Public Comments

Ms. Kaye Slay spoke to the Council regarding the noise from Ms. Wright's building across from her house. She asked the Council to look any changes in the Ordinances that could assist for this situation. The Mayor stated that she should try to take the issue up with the Department of Public Safety. She commented that they knew who she was and that she would.

A citizen asked the Council if they were going to consider any type of speed bumps to put back on Howell St. since the others had been taken up. The Mayor explained that they old speed bumps were insufficient and hazardous therefore the City was looking into the alternative of asphalt speed bumps.

IX) Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills to adjourn the June 3rd City Council Meeting. The motion carried unanimously

Anthony Howard, Mayor