MINUTES
City of McDonough
City Council Meeting

McKibben Chambers City Hall
136 Keys Ferry Street
November 21, 2022
6:00 PM

The Regular Scheduled Meeting of the City of McDonough City Council was held on Monday, November 21, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Vincent called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The City Clerk called roll as follows:

Mayor Sandra Vincent	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Stewart	Present
Councilmember Jamal Burt	Present
Councilmember Benjamin Pruett	Absent
Councilmember Scott Reeves	Absent
Councilmember Vanessa Thomas	(Arrived after the start of the meeting)
Councilmember Kamali Varner	Present

Others in attendance were: City Attorney, Emilia Walker; City Clerk, Christy Taylor; Police Chief, Ken Noble; Fire Chief, Dave Williams; Community Development Director, Charles Reese; Facilities & Assets Management Director, Steve Morgan; Interim Finance Director, Deborah Upshaw; McDonough Tourism Director, Christy Collier; Public Works Director, William VonDenBosch; City Planner, Diane Johnson; Open Records Officer, Kathy Story; Executive Assistant, Joani Clemons; and Contractor, Mike Clark.

Councilmember Burt gave the Invocation; and Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Stewart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to approve the Agenda with the amendment of moving Community Development Items 14A and 14B, to Agenda Items 8A and 8B. Mayor Pro Tem Stewart motioned and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was four in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt and Councilmember Varner. Councilmembers Pruett, Reeves and Thomas were not present for the vote.

Consent Agenda

A. Administration **Christy Taylor, City Clerk**

Approval of the November 3, 2022 City Council Workshop Minutes

B. Public Works – Waste Water Plant **Jeremy Newton, Plant Manager**

Request approval of emergency replacement submersible 10 H.P pump for return well B, at a total cost of $12,482.60, to be paid from Funding Source: 505-5.4335.52.2200

C. Public Works – Waste Water Plant **Jeremy Newton, Plant Manager**

Request approval for replacement of 62 H.p pump for Head Works lift station, at a total cost of $30,925.00, to be paid from Funding Source line item 505-5.4335.54.2501. This purchase was approved in FY 2022/2023 budget.

D. Technology Services **Brian Linton, Director**

Request approval to renew the subscription agreement with Charter Internet, Phones, and Circuits subscription at a newly negotiated price of $2724.00 per month, down from $3,384.83 per month for three years; and authorize the Mayor to sign the related documents. Funding Source: General Fund line item 100-5.1535.52.3220

E. Administration

Request adoption of Resolution 22-11-21.3, to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Henry County for improvements at or about the intersection of Racetrack Road and Iris Lake Road and for other lawful purpose to be paid from TSPLOST and SPLOST V Funding, and shall not exceed $1,132,536.00; and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Burt motioned and Mayor Pro Tem Stewart seconded. The vote was four in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt and Councilmember Varner. Councilmembers Pruett, Reeves and Thomas were not present for the vote.

Public Comments

(1) Mr. Eddy Smith
(2) Ms. Cathy Hollands

Mayor Vincent stated that a Proclamation for Small Business Saturday had been signed, acknowledging November 26, 2022 as Small Business Saturday in the City of McDonough. She also noted that a Proclamation Honoring Kim Greenwood had been presented at the recent Miss USA and Miss Teen USA Pageant, held in McDonough at the Performing Arts Center.

Mr. Reese presented case 220710, the request to annex the property at 419 Parker Road into the City of McDonough with lateral zoning of RA-200 (Residential Agriculture) – City. Mr. Reese stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the annexation.

Mayor Vincent opened the Public Hearing.
Mr. Eddy Smith spoke in opposition; and no one spoke in favor.
Mayor Vincent closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to annex the property at 419 Parker Road with lateral zoning of RA-200 (Residential Agriculture) – City. Councilmember Burt motioned and Mayor Pro Tem Stewart seconded. The vote was three in favor and two in opposition. The motion did not pass. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, and Councilmember Burt. Those voting in opposition were Councilmember Thomas and Councilmember Varner. Councilmembers Pruett and Reeves were not present at the meeting.

Mr. Reese presented case 220803, the request to rezone the property at 50 Willow Lane to C-3 (Highway Commercial) for a drive-thru restaurant. The Applicant Mr. Jack Johnson was in attendance for the meeting, and he briefly addressed Mayor and Council regarding the proposed project.

Mayor Vincent opened the Public Hearing.
Ms. Cathy Hollands spoke in opposition; the Applicant, Mr. Jack Johnson spoke in favor.
Mayor Vincent closed the Public Hearing.

Councilmember Varner motioned to approve rezoning the property at 50 Willow Lane to C-3 (Highway Commercial) for a drive-thru restaurant; and Mayor Pro Tem Stewart seconded. The vote was four in favor. The motion passed. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt, and Councilmember Varner. Councilmember Thomas voted in opposition. Councilmembers Pruett and Reeves were not in attendance at the meeting.

Public Works Director Billy VonDenBosch presented the request to approve the purchase of a 2022 Chevrolet Model CK31043 truck with a 9ft. Knapheide Service Body and spray in liner, from Bellamy Strickland at a cost of $56,381.00, to be paid from Water Distribution. Mr. VonDenBosch noted that this purchase was previously approved in the 2022-2023 FY Budget. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Varner motioned to approve the purchase of a 2022 Chevrolet Model CK31043 truck with a nine-foot Knapheide Service Body and spray-in bed liner at a total cost of $56,381.00, to be paid from Water Distribution Line Item 505-5.4440.54.2200; and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Thomas and Councilmember Varner. Councilmembers Pruett and Reeves were not in attendance at the meeting.

City Attorney Emilia Walker made the request to approve an Ordinance amending the City of McDonough, Georgia Code to create a new title 19, Municipal Cemetery. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Thomas motioned to approve Ordinance amending the City Code to create a new title 17, Municipal Cemetery; and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Thomas and Councilmember Varner. Councilmembers Pruett and Reeves were not in attendance at the meeting.

Attorney Walker also presented the request for approval of a Resolution authorizing the appointment of Commissioners to the McDonough Urban Redevelopment Agency (URA) and designating officers thereof. The URA members consist of the Governing Body and two citizen seats. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart motioned to approve the adoption of Resolution 22-11-21.1, authorizing the appointment of Commissioners to the McDonough Urban Redevelopment Agency (URA) and designating officers thereof; and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Thomas, and Councilmember Varner. Councilmembers Pruett and Reeves were not present at the meeting.

Interim Finance Director Deborah Upshaw offered an update on SPLOST IV and V, as well as T-SPLOST. Mr. Michael Clark presented an updated on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Mayor Vincent requested updated input from the Council regarding ARPA Funds. Councilmember Varner agreed that Water and Sewer projects should be the first priority as it relates to ARPA funding, and she said that she would also like to see Housing Rehabilitation issues addressed as well. Councilmember Thomas said she would like to see funds allocated for City-wide clean-up projects. Discussion ensued. Mayor Pro Tem Stewart reiterated Councilmember Varner's sentiments about focusing on Housing Rehab projects. Councilmember Burt said he would like to see funding include parks and recreation improvements.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to go into Executive Session for Litigation O.C.G.A. 50-14-2; Real Estate O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (b)(1); and Personnel O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (b)(2). Councilmember Burt motioned and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Thomas, and Councilmember Varner. Councilmembers Pruett and Reeves were not present at the meeting.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to go back into Regular Session. Mayor Pro Tem Stewart motioned and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was four in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt and Councilmember Thomas. Councilmember Varner left the meeting after Executive Session. Councilmembers Pruett and Reeves were not present at the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart motioned to approve year-end employee premium pay, and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was four in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt and Councilmember Thomas. Councilmembers Pruett, Reeves and Varner were not present for the vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart said it had been a busy weekend with House of Hope, Watkins Funeral Home and the First Baptist Church all hosting food giveaways to residents.

Councilmember Burt wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Thomas also wished everyone a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving.

The City Clerk presented the proposed 2023 City of McDonough City Council Meetings Schedule. Councilmember Thomas voted to approve the 2023 City Council Meetings Schedule as presented, and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was four in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt and Councilmember Thomas. Councilmembers Pruett, Reeves and Varner were not present for the vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart motioned to adopt Resolution 22-11-21.2, adding Juneteenth to the 2023 Holiday Schedule for the City of McDonough, and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was four in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt and Councilmember Thomas. Councilmembers Pruett, Reeves and Varner were not present for the vote.

Ms. Taylor presented the proposed 2023 City of McDonough Holiday Schedule, with the addition of the June 19 Juneteenth Holiday. Councilmember Burt motioned to approve the 2023 City of McDonough Holiday Schedule as presented, and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was four in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Councilmember Burt and Councilmember Thomas. Councilmembers Pruett, Reeves and Varner were not present for the vote.

Mayor Vincent said she is so excited to see all of the Christmas lights going up around the City, and she is looking forward to the Christmas Parade this year. Before closing the meeting, Mayor Vincent read a statement from Councilmember Reeves into the record.

Mayor Vincent adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Christy L. Taylor,
City Clerk

OPEN MEETINGS COMPLIANCE NOTICE: This is a regularly scheduled meeting of Mayor and Council of the City of McDonough duly noticed pursuant to the requirements of the Georgia Open Meetings Law (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1, et seq). Notice of the meeting schedule was published in the *Henry Herald* on December 29, 2021; and a copy the meeting schedule was posted at City Hall and on the City's website, as required by law.