MINUTES
City of McDonough
City Council Meeting
McKibben Chambers City Hall
136 Keys Ferry Street
December 16, 2024
6:00 PM

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

The City Clerk called roll for the meeting, as follows:

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

Others in attendance: City Administrator, Steve Morgan; City Attorney, Emilia Walker; City Clerk, Christy Taylor; Deputy City Administrator, Andrew Baker; Fire Chief, Dave Williams; Police Major Kyle Helgerson; Community Development Director, Sylvia Smith; Finance Director, Dr. Ralph Igwedibie; Finance Consultant, Mike Clark; Assistant Finance Director, Deborah Upshaw; City Planner, Bill Spivey; Planning Tech, Tina Tebo; and Help Desk Technician, Robinson Monnelus.

Councilmember Stewart gave the Invocation; and Councilmember Payton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Burt made a motion to approve the Agenda, and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was six in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, Councilmember Stewart, and Councilmember Thomas. Mayor Pro Tem Varner was not present for the vote.

The City Clerk sounded the items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:

6A. Public Works – Stormwater Department William VonDenBosch, Director
Request for approval to move forward with Turnipseed Engineers' proposal from Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc, for the 2025 Long Term Watershed Monitoring for the City's watershed protection plan required by Georgia Environmental Protection Division, at a cost of $14,485.00; and authorization for the Mayor to sign all related documents. Funding Source: Enterprise Fund – Stormwater Department, Line Item 506-5.4970.52.1250

6B. Approval of the November 7, 2024, City Council Workshop Minutes
6C. Approval of the November 18, 2024, City Council Minutes

Councilmember Reeves made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, and Councilmember Payton seconded. The vote was six in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, Councilmember Stewart, and Councilmember Thomas. Mayor Pro Tem Varner was not present for the vote.

There were no public comments.

The Mayor stated that a Proclamation Recognizing Christian Ingram, Youth of the Year for the Shaquille O'Neal Boys and Girls Club of Henry County has been issued and it will be presented at a future date.

Additionally, GEODIS Logistics was recognized as the Third Place Winner in this year's Christmas Parade, with Community Christian School being recognized as the Second Place Winner. Mayor Vincent also recognized Beau Kelley as the Christmas Parade Announcer for 2024.

Carol Kelley was in attendance at the meeting, and she received an award for The Paw Pad being voted as the First Place Winner in the parade.

Several members of Delta Sigma Theta were at the meeting and received a Proclamation in recognition of the HCAC 20th Charter Day Anniversary.

Community Development Director, Sylvia Smith and City Planner, Bill Spivey presented the final draft of the proposed text Amendment to amend and update the Zoning Code (Chapter 17) and Zoning Map. Discussion ensued. City Attorney, Emilia Walker requested that the item be continued at a later point in the meeting, so that she could make one necessary change to the Ordinance prior to its adoption.

Mayor Pro Tem Varner made a motion to move the Title 17 Amendment to Item 18A on the agenda; and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Police Major Kyle Helgerson and Steve Hampton, with FLOCK Safety presented a request for approval of the purchase, implementation, and signing of a new 24-month contract for new FLOCK safety platform and services, at a total cost of $337,575.00. ARPA Funds were identified as the funding source for the purchase and agreement. After Mr. Hampton offered a Power Point presentation on the FLOCK system, discussion ensued.

Councilmember Thomas made a motion to approve the purchase, implementation, and signing of a new 24-month contract for new FLOCK safety platform and services, at a total cost of $337,575.00, to be funded with ARPA; and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Finance Consultant, Mike Clark offered a presentation of the allocations, approved and proposed projects to be funded with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund, prior to December 31, 2024. A copy of the presentation is filed with the Clerk's Office. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve staff recommendations for ARPA expenditures; and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was six in favor.

Councilmember Stewart made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreements related to documents obligating the City's use of Funding Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, as approved by Council; and Councilmember Payton seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Mike Clark presented a request to authorize the Mayor to execute the 2025 LMIG Application, to complete designated paving projects in Windsor Estates. He said that the City's match for the projects will be $96,000.00. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Reeves made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the 2025 LMIG Application, as stated; and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Mike Clark presented the request for the adoption of a Resolution Adopting the CIE Amendment.

Mayor Pro Tem Varner motioned to adopt the Resolution Adopting the CIE Amendment, and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Deputy City Administrator, Andrew Baker gave a Power Point presentation regarding Gateway Sign Concept. A copy of the presentation is on file with the Clerk's Office.

Andrew Baker, Public Affairs & The Artist Realm offered a presentation regarding a proposal for alternative City branding. A copy of the presentation is on file with the Clerk's Office

City Administrator, Steve Morgan presented a request for approval to authorize Georgia Power to install lighting within the Iris Village Subdivision, at a cost of $26,500.00, to be funded through ARPA; and per the City of McDonough policy, to take over the monthly Georgia Power light bill at a cost of $385.05 per month and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents.

Councilmember Reeves made a motion to authorize Georgia Power to install lighting within the Iris Village Subdivision, at a cost of $26,500.00, to be funded through ARPA; and per the City of McDonough policy, to take over the monthly Georgia Power light bill at a cost of $385.05 per month and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents. Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Mr. Morgan also presented a request approval for Year-End Employee Premium Pay. Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve the payment of Year-End Employee Premium Pay; and Mayor Pro Tem Varner seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Mayor Vincent nominated Reid Burch to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals for 2025.

Mayor Pro Tem Varner nominated Sylvia Homes to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals for 2025.

The discussion regarding the vote on the Amendment to amend and update the Zoning Code (Chapter 17) and Zoning Map was continued. Throughout the discussion, questions related to Class A Storage, Density, prohibiting U-Haul rentals at gas stations, and a set distance related to the location of vape shops were presented. The City Attorney made the recommendation that with those questions being raised, that the vote on Title 17 should be deferred to a future meeting. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Reeves made a motion to defer the vote on Title 17 to the January 2, 2025, Organizational City Council Meeting, and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Councilmember Reeves made a motion to adopt Resolution 24-12-16, extending a limited moratorium within the city of McDonough on the acceptance and/or processing of applications for internally illuminated signage within the Downtown District and/or to Rezone property to R-50 Single Family Residential District, until February 1, 2025; and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Councilmember Burt made a motion to adopt Resolution 24-12-16.1, extending a limited moratorium on the acceptance and/or processing of applications for multi-family and hotel developments within the city of McDonough, and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

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 made a motion to go into Executive Session, as stated; and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to go back into Regular Session. Councilmember Burt motioned, and Councilmember Stewart seconded.

There were no action items to report.

Mayor Vincent adjourned the meeting at 11:23 p.m.

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 02, 2023; and a copy the meeting schedule was posted at City Hall and on the City's website, as required by law.