MINUTES
City of McDonough
City Council Workshop
McKibben Chambers City Hall
136 Keys Ferry Street
April 3, 2025
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	Absent
Councilmember Jamal Burt	Present
Councilmember Darryl Payton	Present
Councilmember Scott Reeves	Present
Councilmember Rufus Stewart	Present
Councilmember Vanessa Thomas	Absent

Others in attendance: City Administrator, Steve Morgan; City Attorney, Emilia Walker; City Clerk, Christy Taylor; Police Chief, Ken Noble; Battalion Chief Barry Jenkins, Jr.; Deputy City Administrator, Andrew Baker; Police Major Kyle Helgerson; Community Development Director, Sylvia Smith; Finance Director, Dr. Ralph Igwedibie; Public Works Director, William VonDenBosch; Technology Services Director, Brian Linton; Assistant Finance Director, Deborah Upshaw; Assistant Public Works Director, Andy Butts; and Help Desk Technician, Rob Monnelus.

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

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Burt made a motion to approve the agenda, and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

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

6A. Request for approval to pay the SHI invoice for Microsoft 365 annual maintenance, at a cost of $45,989.60. Funding Source: Line item -100-5.1535.52.1303

6B. Request for approval to pay the Otis Elevator annual maintenance in the amount of $15,178.92. Funding Source: Line Item - 100-5.1565.52.2240

6C. Approval of the March 17, 2025, City Council Meeting Minutes

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve, and Councilmember Payton seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Public Comments:
Montena Young Frazier – Community Engagement

The Mayor and Council issued a Proclamation Honoring the 10th Anniversary of the Hood Street Arts Center to Ms. Julie Kelley and others who were in attendance at the meeting.

Police Major Kyle Helgerson offered a presentation on the existing FLOCK safety platform and services, as well as their locations throughout the City. Discussion ensued.

Police Chief Ken Noble offered a presentation on the existing Paladin drones and made a request for authorization to approve the renewal of the 1-year contract for (2) Paladin drones and services, with the addition of a third drone, at a cost of $83,919.00. He identified the funding source as Line Item: 214-5.3210.53.1795 (RedSpeed Account). Discussion ensued. Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve the renewal as presented, and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Public Works Director, William VonDenBosch presented a request to purchase one Godwin bypass pump and trailer from Xylem, at a cost of $103,527.00. He identified the funding source for the purchase as SPLOST VI - Project #48. Councilmember Burt made a motion to approve, and Councilmember Reeves seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Mr. VonDenBosch presented a request for approval to authorize RDJE, INC to install a bypass line and valve at the Headworks lift station, and for Barfield Underground to install a bypass line at the Garden Walk pump station, at a total cost of $72,920.00. He identified the funding source for the project as SPLOST VI - Project #48. Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve, and Councilmember Reeves seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Mr. VonDenBosch presented a request for approval to purchase one 200KW generator for the Garden Walk Pump Station from Yancey Power Systems, at a cost of $81,900.00. He identified the funding source as SPLOST VI – Project 50. Councilmember Burt made a motion to approve, and Councilmember Payton seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were

Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Mr. VonDenBosch presented a request for approval to purchase one Caterpillar 416 backhoe with thumb & IT coupler and an extended boom, at a cost of $149,859.00. He noted that the tractor would be utilized across all Public Works Departments. He identified the funding source for the purchase as SPLOST VI - Project #49. Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve, and Councilmember Reeves seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Mr. VonDenBosch also presented the request for approval to purchase one new 2023 Chevrolet 2500 4x4 crew truck from Bellamy Strickland at a cost of $57,839.00, for the Water Treatment Plant. He noted that the vehicle will be a replacement for a 2010 F-150; and he identified the funding source for the purchase as Line Item: 505-5.4420.54.2200 Vehicles. Councilmember Payton made a motion to approve, and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Community Development Director, Sylvia Smith reviewed case number 240903, the request to annex and rezone property at 705 Tomlinson Street, to R-75/ R-85 (Single-Family Residential) – City; and she noted that the item has been postponed to a future meeting after it can be reviewed by the DCA and the Planning Commission.

Ms. Smith then presented a request for the adoption of a Resolution of Commitment to apply for $300,000.00 of Atlanta Regional Commission's Freight Cluster Plan Grant and provide $25,000.00 local match, along with Henry County and the City of Locust Grove. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve the easements, and Councilmember Reeves seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

City Administrator, Steve Morgan presented a request for authorization to approve easements for Henry County Water Authority in support of a project to rehabilitate and upgrade the Camp Creek Sewer Line. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Reeves made a motion to approve the easements, and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

There were no nominations put forth for the Planning Commission or the Board of Zoning Appeals. Consensus was given that the nominations will be provided during the April 21, 2025, City Council Meeting.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to go into Executive Session for the purposes of 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 approve, and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to go back into Regular Session. Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve, and Councilmember Reeves seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Councilmember Reeves made a motion to authorize the Mayor to finalize and execute the agreement with The Hazelhurst House, LLC, for the purchase of property within the City at or about 77 Sloan Street, for a purchase price of $2.3 million; and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Councilmember Reeves made a motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into a commercial lease agreement with The Hazelhurst House, LLC, to extend by and through December 31, 2025; and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, and Councilmember Stewart. Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Councilmember Burt made a motion to authorize the sale of approximately .287 acres of real property located within the City, located at or about the intersection of Harris Street and Woodruff Street, to the highest responsible bidder at the minimum purchase price of $10,500; and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was four in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, and Councilmember Stewart. Councilmember Reeves was not present for the vote; and Mayor Pro Tem Varner and Councilmember Thomas were absent from the meeting.

Mayor Vincent adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Christy L. Taylor, CMC
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 November 30, 2024; and a copy the meeting schedule was posted at City Hall and on the City's website, as required by law.