

MINUTES
CITY OF MCDONOUGH
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL – FEBRUARY 18, 2019
6:00 PM

The Regular Scheduled Meeting of the City of McDonough City Council was held on Monday, February 18, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

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

The City Clerk, Ms. Janis Price called roll for the meeting:

Mayor Billy Copeland	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Kamali Varner	Present
Councilmember Craig Elrod	Present
Councilmember Benjamin Pruett	Absent
Councilmember Roger Pruitt	Present
Councilmember Rufus Stewart	Present
Councilmember Sandra Vincent	Present

Others in attendance were: City Administrator, Mr. Keith Dickerson; City Clerk, Ms. Janis Price; Fire Chief, Mr. Steve Morgan; Finance Director, Mr. Mike Clark; Public Works Director, Mr. Ronnie Thompson; and Technology Services Director, Mr. Steve Sikes.

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to approve the Agenda, to include the addition of the Proclamation for Black History Month to Item 7. Councilmember Pruitt motioned and Councilmember Elrod seconded. The vote was six in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Copeland, Mayor Pro Tem Varner, Councilmember Elrod, Councilmember Pruitt, Councilmember Stewart and Councilmember Vincent. Councilmember Pruett was not present at the meeting.

Councilmember Elrod led the Pledge to the Flag; and the Reverend Bert Neal, Pastor of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church gave the Invocation.

6. Consent Agenda

- A. Adoption of a Resolution that the Mayor and Council of the City of McDonough endorses the submission of the Department of Community Affairs' Downtown Development Revolving Loan Fund (DDRLF) application by the Downtown Development Authority of the City of McDonough for the downtown project at 10 Macon Street and 14 Macon Street in McDonough, on behalf of KCRT Restaurant Corporation and agrees to support the development of the project.

- B. Adoption of a Resolution that the Mayor and Council of The City of McDonough endorses the submission of the Department of Community Affairs' Downtown Development Revolving Loan Fund (DDRLF) application by the Downtown Development Authority of the City of McDonough for the downtown project at 15 Griffin Street in McDonough, on behalf of Southern Investment Group, LLC and agrees to support the development of the project.
- C. Approval of a rental agreement between the City of McDonough and Southern Outdoor Cinema, LLC for the Main Street summer program "Movies on the Square"; authorization for the Mayor to sign the agreement. This project will cost \$2,822.00 and will be paid from the Main Street Budget.
- D. Approval of an Ordinance to amend, in the City of McDonough Code of Ordinances, Chapter 8.20, Weeds & Debris, specifically Code Section 8.20.02A (5) Obnoxious vegetation and debris. This revised action will reduce the established height threshold from twelve inches to six inches.
- E. Approval to purchase a submersible 45 HP Flygt Pump for the Turner Church pump station. The cost will be \$22,876.42 and will be funded from the Sewer Treatment Plant Budget.

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Pruitt motioned and Councilmember Elrod seconded. The vote was six in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Copeland, Mayor Pro Tem Varner, Councilmember Elrod, Councilmember Pruitt, Councilmember Stewart and Councilmember Vincent. Councilmember Pruett was not present at the meeting.

Mayor Copeland presented the Proclamations for "3rd Annual Blacksville Pride Day" and Black History Month, and he called for a motion to make both documents a part of the minutes of the meeting. Councilmember Pruitt motioned and Councilmember Stewart seconded.

Prior to the vote, Councilmember Vincent said that she and Councilmember Benjamin Pruett had been working on crafting the proper language for the Black History Month Proclamation, and she said that she would like the topic to be revisited further in the future.

There being no further comments, Mayor Copeland called for the vote. The vote was six in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Copeland, Mayor Pro Tem Varner, Councilmember Elrod, Councilmember Pruitt, Councilmember Stewart and Councilmember Vincent. Councilmember Pruett was not present at the meeting.

Mr. Dickerson discussed authorizing payment of \$642,000.00, from SPLOST IV Funds per the Intergovernmental Agreement with Henry County regarding McDonough Parkway Phase II; and discussion ensued. Councilmember Elrod asked about the time frame for Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) to complete the roundabout at Highway 20; and he asked if a right-turn lane onto McDonough Parkway could be considered in the meantime. Mr. Dickerson said that he would discuss that possibility with the County.

Councilmember Pruitt asked about the plan for paving, and Mr. Dickerson said that his understanding is that they will move forward with paving next year.

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to move forward to pay \$642,000.00, from SPLOST IV to Henry County as required by the Intergovernmental Agreement, signed in 2013. Councilmember Pruitt motioned and Councilmember Elrod seconded. The vote was six in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Copeland, Mayor Pro Tem Varner, Councilmember Elrod, Councilmember Pruitt, Councilmember Stewart and Councilmember Vincent. Councilmember Pruett was not present at the meeting.

Mr. Dickerson gave a presentation regarding SPLOST V. He reviewed projects from the Henry County SPLOST V List and discussed City projects for consideration.

- The Henry County SPLOST V List includes intersection improvements; a dirt road paving project; and major transportation projects in McDonough
- Over \$3.5 million in road paving and improvements in the City of McDonough were funded by SPLOST IV, to include 41 roads in four years
- City funded \$450,000 in sidewalks paid by SPLOST IV
- Over \$700,000 in fire trucks purchased paid by SPLOST
- Over \$500,000 in police cars purchased paid for by SPLOST
- Beautification projects are great as SPLOST projects
- SPLOST V will not be on the Municipal elections ballot, it will only be on the County elections ballot

After the presentation, discussion ensued.

Mr. Dickerson discussed a proposed Ordinance to call for the vote at the next municipal election to change the hours to serve alcohol at certain licensed establishments on Sundays.

Councilmember Vincent motioned to adopt an Ordinance for the submission of the question to be put on the ballot to change the time of alcoholic beverages on Sunday from 12:30 p.m., to 11:00 a.m.; and Councilmember Elrod seconded. The vote was six in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Copeland, Mayor Pro Tem Varner, Councilmember Elrod, Councilmember Pruitt, Councilmember Stewart and Councilmember Vincent. Councilmember Pruett was not present at the meeting.

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to approve the February 7, 2019, Workshop Meeting minutes. Councilmember Pruitt motioned and Mayor Pro Tem Varner seconded. The vote was six in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Copeland, Mayor Pro Tem Varner, Councilmember Elrod, Councilmember Pruitt, Councilmember Stewart and Councilmember Vincent. Councilmember Pruett was not present at the meeting.

Unscheduled Public Comments:

(1) Ms. Joan Lewis

- Resident at Heritage of McDonough since March 1, 2018
- There is some type of sand or substance coming from the air ducts in her home
- She has complained and made multiple reports of the issue

- Ms. Lewis has been notified that she has to be out of her home by February 28, 2019
- Someone needs to be notified that seniors are being treated so badly

Mayor Copeland thanked Ms. Lewis for her comments, and he said that once he can gather more information she would hear from him further on the matter. Councilmember Vincent also thanked Ms. Lewis for her comments. She said that she had personally been to the property in response to issues that were reported in previous years, and she shared her own concerns related to the issues at the complex. Ms. Vincent said for the record that these issues fall under violation of residential rights and are not under anyone's governance; so standards are not always upheld.

Councilmember Elrod questioned whether the Health Department had been notified of the conditions at the complex, and Mr. Dickerson said the Health Department had been contacted about previous concerns. Lastly, Councilmember Vincent said for the record that the City wrote the piece in the Tax-Credit Application which resulted in the community being approved for senior living in McDonough; so the City should address the ongoing issues.

(2) Mr. Michael Lewis

- Resident who lives on Turner Church Road, in the Mountain Brook Subdivision
- Concerned with issues of increasing speeds in the area
- Need more playgrounds where middle and high school aged children can safely be active in all areas of the community

Councilmember Elrod said that there are several subdivisions in the area of Turner Church Road that would benefit from park amenities. He also said that there are lighting issues along Turner Church Road that would need to be addressed in any planning for a park project.

**13. Executive Session (if needed) for: Litigation O.C.G.A. 50-14-2
Real Estate O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (b)(1)
Personnel O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (b)(2)**

No Executive Session was held.

Councilmember Elrod thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He offered a reminder that the railroad crossing on Jonesboro Road would be closed on Tuesday, February 19, and will remain closed for three days.

Councilmember Pruitt thanked staff and visitors for their attendance at the meeting.

Mayor Copeland commented on the tremendous success of the businesses in McDonough, and he encouraged citizens to get out and enjoy all that McDonough has to offer.

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Stewart motioned and Councilmember Pruitt seconded. All stood in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Janis E. Price, MMC
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 26, 2018; and a copy the meeting schedule was posted at City Hall and on the City's website, as required by law.