POST AGENDA
CITY OF MCDONOUGH
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
CITY HALL – APRIL 27, 2020
6:00 PM - “Live Streamed”

1. Call to Order **Mayor Billy Copeland**

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

2. Roll Call

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

Mayor Billy Copeland	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Craig Elrod	Present
Councilmember Benjamin Pruett	Present
Councilmember Roger Pruitt	Present
Councilmember Rufus Stewart	Present
Councilmember Kamali Varner	Present (via telephone)
Councilmember Sandra Vincent	Present (via telephone)

Others in attendance were: City Clerk, Ms. Janis Price; City Attorney, Mr. Jim Elliott; Fire Chief, Mr. Steve Morgan; Finance Director, Mr. Mike Clark; Human Resources Director, Ms. Carla Tuck; Technology Services Director, Mr. Steve Sikes; and Network Administrator, Mr. Brian Linton.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to approve the Agenda with the removal of Item 6E and Item 6G to be postponed until the next Council Meeting, tentatively scheduled for May 18, 2020. Councilmember Pruitt motioned and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

4. Pledge to the Flag

Councilmember Stewart led the Pledge to the Flag.

5. Invocation

Councilmember Pruett gave the Invocation.

6. Consent Agenda Items:

A. Approval to allow Hetterman Enterprises LLC. to make an emergency stormwater drainage system repair to excavate and remove 140'of existing metal pipe and replace with HDPE pipe on King Blvd. at a cost of $26,300.00 which will be paid from the Stormwater Budget.

B. Approval to purchase six SCAG Tiger Cat II EFI mowers from Vansant's Lawnmower Sales and Service at a cost of $ 44,694.00 which will be paid from the Street Department Budget. (Insurance check has been received from the accident causing this circumstance).

C. Approval to purchase a 2020 Ford F250 4x4 Super cab short bed truck at a cost of $33,658.00 which will be paid from the Street Department Budget. (Insurance check has been received from the accident causing this circumstance).

D. Approval to purchase of (3) new 2020 Chevrolet Tahoe's for Police use:
2020 Chevrolet Tahoe (White) $37,925.00
2020 Chevrolet Tahoe (Satin Steel) $37,120.00
2020 Chevrolet Tahoe (Sliver Ice) $37,120.00
Cost of $$116,280.00 paid from the Drug Task Force. (No city funds).

E. Ratify the payment to Butler Snow of $10,538.05 for additional legal services incurred in the month of March, 2020. This will be paid from the Legal Department Budget.

F. Adopt a Resolution amending Resolution 20-03-30 to assist local businesses created by COVID-19 pandemic; changes include repayment of loans and businesses remain open on a full or part-time basis during this emergency period.

G. Ratify agreement between the City of McDonough and Keck & Wood Inc. for professional services for the Community Development Department which will be paid from this department's budget at the cost established in the agreement effective January 22, 2020.

H. Ratify an agreement between The City of McDonough and Downtown Development Authority (DDA) of the City of McDonough to administer the City of McDonough COVID -19 Pandemic Employee Retention Loan Program for the benefit of business entities within the City of McDonough experiencing financial hardships due to the pandemic.

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, with the removal of Item 6E and Item 6G to be postponed until the next Council Meeting, tentatively scheduled for May 18, 2020. Councilmember Pruitt motioned and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

7. 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)

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel, O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(b)(2). Councilmember Stewart motioned and Councilmember Pruett seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to go back into the Special Called Meeting. Councilmember Stewart motioned and Councilmember Pruitt seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Councilmember Pruitt motioned for the City to offer the position of City Administrator to Preston Dorsey with a start date of May 1, and with compensation of up to $125,000; and Councilmember Pruett seconded.

Prior to the vote, Councilmember Varner stated for the record that in her opinion this process was not completed in the proper manner, and that in the future she believes that dismissing the application process and making further decisions would be a better approach.

Councilmember Vincent shared her great respect for Chief Dorsey, and she said that she values him greatly both personally and professionally as the City's Police Chief. However, she said that her concern is that the Council indicated its desire to hire someone with City Administrator experience, and that the other candidate who was considered for the position has a stellar reputation as well as City Administrator and Deputy Administrator experience. Further, she agreed with Councilmember Varner that in her opinion the process was flawed, and she believes it has been a disservice to two honorable and professional individuals.

Councilmember Pruett said that Preston Dorsey is a proven leader who has had a stellar career with the City as the Police Chief; and while there were other very qualified candidates, the City is very fortunate to have the opportunity to consider Mr. Dorsey for this position.

Mayor Pro Tem Elrod said that the City has worked on this for months, and he acknowledged that the COVID-19 virus has made the process more difficult. He said the City saw several qualified candidates to try to cast a wide net for the best candidates, and he stated that he disagrees with the comments that the process was flawed. Lastly, he thanked the Human Resources Director, Ms. Carla Tuck for all of her hard work and diligence throughout this process.

Mayor Copeland stated that the idea that this was a cut-and-dried process is completely false and totally erroneous on the part of anyone who would suggest anything along those lines. He said that was not the case for himself, and he is confident that it was not the case with anyone on Council.

After the comments were concluded, Mayor Copeland called for the vote. The vote was five in favor and two opposed. The motion passed. Those voting in favor were Mayor Copeland, Mayor Pro Tem Elrod, Councilmember Pruitt, Councilmember Pruett and Councilmember Stewart. Councilmembers Varner and Vincent voted in opposition.

8. Discussion on whether or not to oppose the opening of non-essential businesses **Councilmember Sandra Vincent**

Councilmember Vincent discussed the shelter-in-place order and the Governor's recent decision to allow specific businesses to reopen. She shared her concerns over possible hot spots within McDonough, and she asked about the City's plan to ensure the safety of the citizens at this time.

Mayor Copeland expressed his support of the Governor, and he said that the Governor's order supersedes any local order. He said it is up to the citizens to use common sense, and that it is imperative to restart the economy. Further he said that he has personally visited businesses who have successfully reopened with the social distancing guidelines in place. Discussion ensued.

9. Adjournment

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Pruitt motioned and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was five in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Copeland, Mayor Pro Tem Elrod, Councilmember Pruett, Councilmember Pruitt and Councilmember Stewart. No response was heard from Councilmembers Varner and Vincent via telephone.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.