



MINUTES
City of McDonough
City Council Meeting
McKibben Chambers City Hall
136 Keys Ferry Street
February 21, 2022
6:00 PM

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

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

The City Clerk, Ms. Christy Taylor called roll for the meeting, as follows:

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

Others in attendance were: City Attorney, Mr. Jim Elliott; City Clerk, Ms. Christy Taylor, Police Chief, Mr. Ken Noble; Fire Chief, Mr. Dave Williams; Community Development Director, Mr. Charles Reese; Facilities and Assets Management Director, Mr. Steve Morgan; Assistant Finance Director, Ms. Deborah Upshaw; Wastewater Supervisor, Mr. Jeremy Newton; Stormwater Supervisor, Mr. Brandon Williams; Water/Sewer Distribution Supervisor, Mr. Billy VonDenBosch; Network Administrator, Mr. Brian Linton; Open Records Officer, Ms. Kathy Story; and Executive Assistant, Ms. Joani Clemons.

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

Councilmember Burt gave the Invocation; and Councilmember Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Public Safety – Police Department** **Police Chief Ken Noble**
Request approval for (1) iNPUT-ACE dongle license service agreement. This is a nonbinding service agreement for a video enhancement and cross compatibility software program. The service agreement can be canceled at any time and will only be renewed if it is deemed necessary. *This item was added to the Consent Agenda after being heard at the February 2, 2022 Workshop.*
Funding Source: General Fund – 100-5.1535.52.1301
- B. Public Safety – Police Department** **Chief Noble**
Request approval for the cost of E-citation licenses (25) for to be used on laptops or tablets. The licenses will be provided by Tyler Technologies. The annual maintenance fee, hosting fees, and software fees will also be included at a cost of \$25,600.00. There will be a recurring annual fee of \$5,600.00. *This item was added to the Consent Agenda after being heard at the February 2, 2022 Workshop.*
Funding Source: General Fund – 100-5.1535.52.1301
- C. Administration – Finance Department** **Mike Clark, Director**
Request approval for Impact Fee Program Update Amendment # 5 to the Agreement, dated September 26, 2017, with Ross+Associates regarding the preparation of the 2021 Annual CIE Update Report. The amendment increases the fee in the amount of \$5,553. *This item was added to the Consent Agenda after being heard at the February 2, 2022 Workshop.*
Funding Source: Development Impact Fee Fund - 360-5.1330.52.3855
- D. Administration – Human Resources** **Nick Calhoun, Director**
Request for approval of a \$15.00 per hour minimum wage for all City employees and all City employees currently earning less than \$15.00 per hour to receive an increase to that rate, effective Wednesday February 16, 2022.
- E.** Appointment of Ms. Latonua Hawkins to the Planning and Zoning Committee by Councilmember Thomas.
- F.** Approval of the February 3, 2022 City Council Workshop Minutes.

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

Ms. Kaliah Henton-Jones and Mrs. Doreen Henton came before Mayor and Council to convey their heartfelt appreciation for the naming of the Garth Henton International Lawn at Alexander Park. The Denton Family presented the Mayor and Council with a framed letter of appreciation. The family said they would also like to donate saplings to be planted in the park at a future date.

Mayor Vincent acknowledged the former City of McDonough Mayor and governing body for their support in naming the lawn for Mr. Garth Henton. She said that the City also plans to install international flags in the park to represent the diverse community that is McDonough.

Pastor, Doctor Craig Bennett and Mrs. Margaret Bennett recognized Mayor Sandra Vincent as the first female Mayor and the first African-American Mayor in the history of the City of McDonough. They presented Mayor Vincent with roses and a signed copy of “King Rules” by Ms. Alveda King.

Mayor Vincent noted that the City has drafted Proclamations for National Future Farmers of America Week and Career and Technical Education Month, that will be presented to the organizations at a future date.

Mayor Vincent presented the Proclamation in Recognition of Black History Month Blacksville History Day “The Blacksville Story” to Ms. Chris Scott, Mr. Corey Crumbley, Councilmember Kamali Varner and Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Stewart, in recognition of their efforts to bring the stories and the history of the Blacksville Community to the public through the documentary, “The Blacksville Story”. In recognition of Black History Month, the film will be premiered at Shiloh Baptist Church, on Sunday, February 27, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

Mayor Vincent recognized Councilmember Kam Varner as the visionary on the project, and she commended her on the huge impact the film will have. She also thanked Mayor Pro Tem Stewart for encouraging citizens to share their stories and the history of Blacksville. Mayor Vincent praised Ms. Scott for her talents and dedication to bring the project to life; and she expressed the value of Mr. Crumbley’s technological expertise that brought the film together.

Ms. Scott thanked the Mayor and Council for their support and for the opportunity to share the documentary with the citizens of McDonough. She also personally thanked Councilmember Varner and Mayor Pro Tem Stewart for being instrumental in the process and in their encouragement of citizens to share their stories.

Councilmember Varner thanked Mayor and Council for the opportunity to share the story of Blacksville. She said that it was in researching her own family tree that the idea to look deeper into the history within the Blacksville Community was born. She encouraged everyone to see the documentary to learn about the rich history of Blacksville.

Mayor Pro Tem Stewart also shared some of his memories from growing up within the Blacksville Community, and he recalled the support he got along the way in his life. He said that it is important for young people to remember that it is not important where you came from, it matters where you’re headed to.

Public Works – Solid Wastewater Treatment Plant **Jeremy Newton, Supervisor**
Request approval to purchase bi-monthly 45,000 lbs. of CC 2000 Chemicals to operate the solid wastewater plant, at a cost of \$12,600.00 per 45,000 lbs.
Budgeted Funding Source: 505.4335.53.1160

Wastewater Supervisor, Mr. Jeremy Newton presented a request for approval to purchase CC 2000 chemicals on a bimonthly basis to operate the solid Wastewater Plant, at a cost of \$12,600 for 45,000 lbs. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to approve the bi-monthly chemical purchase to operate the solid wastewater plant. Councilmember Jamal Burt motioned and Mayor Pro Tem Stewart seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Administration - Technology Services

Steve Sikes, Director

*Request approval to purchase 3ea Cisco C240 Physical Host servers per our SPLOST V Network Infrastructure Phased Plan submitted to Council August 2021. Planned and Funded utilizing SPLOST V Network Infrastructure. Cost \$38,301.06
Funding Source: SPLOST V Funds - 326.5.54.2599 (PROJ0011-IT INFRASTRUCURE)*

Network Administrator, Mr. Brian Linton presented the request for approval to purchase (3) three Cisco servers as a part of the SPLOST V Network Infrastructure Phased Plan, which was submitted to Council in August of 2021. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to approve the purchase of (3) three Cisco C240 Physical Host servers. Councilmember Pruett motioned and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Administration – Finance Department

Deborah Upshaw, Asst. Finance Director

*Request approval to purchase ClearGov for the Finance Department, at a total cost \$25,000.
Funding Source: Line Item 100-5.1535.54.2599*

Assistant Finance Director, Ms. Deborah Upshaw presented a request for approval for the purchase for the ClearGov budgeting platform. She reviewed the program uses and explained that the program would be a benefit in the City's annual budgeting process while providing transparency. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to approve the purchase of ClearGov. Councilmember Pruett motioned and Mayor Pro Tem Stewart seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Administrative – Facilities and Assets Management

Steve Morgan, Director

*Request approval to purchase one 24'x30' containment shed for grit separation product from Bulldog Steel Structures, and install the metal shed to Wastewater specifications, at a total cost of \$8,245.00.
Funding Source: Stormwater Reserve Fund - 506.5.4970.1200*

Facilities and Assets Management Director Mr. Steve Morgan presented a request for approval for the purchase of a metal containment shed to store grit for the Wastewater Department. Mr. Morgan explained that the grit or particles removed from the water have to be stored in a dry place until they are emptied.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to approve the purchase of the containment shed for the Wastewater Department. Councilmember Reeves motioned and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

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.

Mayor Vincent offered an update regarding the vacant City Administrator position. She said that while she is currently serving in the capacity of Mayor and City Administrator, the Human Resources Director has begun the process of reviewing the applications that have been submitted in an effort to fill the vacancy. She noted that the City is also working on filling the position of Finance Director, subsequent to Mr. Clark's retirement. She said that the City is ramping up efforts to market itself in an effort to get all of the vacancies filled, as we continue to get better every day.

Councilmember Thomas thanked everyone who was in attendance for the meeting.

Councilmember Reeves said the retreat was a great time of progress and working together.

Councilmember Burt said that the City has a great team, and he is looking forward to moving the City forward.

Mayor Vincent conveyed that the goal of the City is to move forward together. She said that the Mayor and Council are here to serve the people; and she is honored to work with each of her colleagues. She also took an opportunity to thank the City Attorney for his attendance at both days of the City Council Retreat.

Mayor Vincent adjourned the meeting at 7:37 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 29, 2021; and a copy the meeting schedule was posted at City Hall and on the City's website, as required by law.