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August 2, 2016
Regular Council Meeting
Agenda

Immediately following the 7:00 PM work session, Mayor Schindler called the Regular Meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an invocation.

Those present were as follows; Mayor Schindler, Mayor Pro Tem Debbie Sauls, Council Members Ronald Carter, Bert Rutland, and Jena Sandlin, City Clerk, Clerk Consultant, Maintenance Supervisor Patterson, Fire Chief Brown, Police Chief, and citizens.

Mayor reminded everyone in attendance to silence their phones and advised Council and Clerks that no cell phone devices would be allowed during Council Meeting as previously approved in July 2016.

Member Rutland began by making a motion to add the Lowndes County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan review to the agenda following citizen's concerns, Member Sauls second, all in favor motion passed.

Mayor called on Council to review minutes from July 5, 2016. Member Sauls made a motion to approve the July 5, 2016 minutes, Member Sandlin second the motion, when question called all in favor minutes approved.

Mayor asked Council to review the July 2016 financials. Member Carter made a motion to accept as presented, Member Rutland second, all in favor motion passed.

Citizen's Concerns

Mayor stated that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) had completed their review of the Lowndes County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for compliance. FEMA determined that the plan was compliant and would be subject to community adoption. After discussion, Member Rutland made a motion to approve a resolution to adopt the Lowndes County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as approved by FEMA, Member Carter second the motion, all in favor motion passed. Mayor asked Clerk to request a copy of the revised plan for city hall from Ashley Tye, Lowndes County.

Mayor Schindler asked for Council to review Arrow Engineering speed limit study quote. The quote was requested and prepared based on the GDOT's requirements. After reviewing the quote, Member Rutland made a motion to accept the bid of \$5200 from Arrow Engineering Services, Member Sauls second for discussion. During discussion, Police Chief asked Mayor and Council for permission to use Technology Funds to help pay for the expense. Mayor stated that he had already questioned the city auditor/accountant regarding the use of those funds and was denied. Mayor further stated that \$4000 could be paid from the unused budgeted funds for the yard waste dumpster that was cancelled. The remaining funds could come from public works street repair/maintenance. Member Rutland amended his previous motion to accept the bid of \$5200 from Arrow Engineering Services, and to be paid for using \$4000 from the yard waste

dumpster budget and \$1200 from the public works street repair/maintenance budget, Member Sauls second, all in favor motion passed.

Mayor asked Council to review the bids submitted for the roof repair of the cascade building. Mayor asked Fire Chief Brown to approach Council to discuss the bids. Chief Brown stated that three contractors came to evaluate the roof but only 2 submitted bids. Those bids were as follows; A-1 Roofing \$4250, and R & R Metal Roofing \$2450. After discussing the bids, Member Rutland made a motion to accept the R&R Metal Roofing bid of \$2450 to be paid for using SPLOST VII funds from Public Safety (Fire), Member Sandlin second, all in favor motion passed.

Mayor stated that Council should review the bids submitted for the road repairs previously discussed. Mayor asked if there were any other streets that Council felt should be added to the list, there were none at this time.

Mayor asked Dr. Julie Schindler to come forward to present the July 4th Creative Impact Art Contest certificates. Those participants that were awarded were as follows; Mikayla Sandford, Lauren Greer, Julia Broome, Katrina Reagh, Magan Whiteley, and Aidan Beckman.

Mayor gave a brief update on the Community Block Development Grant (CBDG) process.

Mayor called on Fire Chief David Brown to discuss the proposed amendment to the Burn Ordinance. Chief Brown stated that the amendment was not needed; the proposed amendment regarded an older version of the burn ordinance.

Department Reports

Fire Department Report – see attached

Police Department Report – Police Chief James Breletic gave a report for July.

Maintenance Department Report - Supervisor Jeff Patterson advised Council on projects being worked on currently within the city. He further advised that a citizen had submitted a request for a drain pipe to be installed near his home. (see attached) After discussion, Mayor advised Council to readdress at September Regular Council Meeting after they were able to look into the problem area in more detail.

Patterson asked Council to set a date for the appreciation meeting for the July 4th contributors. Council agreed to have a meal and thank you reception at the Lake Park civic center on Saturday August 20, 2016 at 5:00 PM. Patterson also asked Council to begin brainstorming on events for Christmas holiday.

Member Sandlin stated she had received several calls from citizens and also a county commissioner regarding the weed control at Tom's Pond. She went on to ask about plans for spraying and/or weed eating because the pond was in bad shape. Patterson explained that weed growth in the pond was partially for the protection and food source for the grass carp that was recently purchased by the city. He further stated that he would check with Mr. Wyatt, whom made recommendations on the maintenance of Tom's Pond.

Citizen's Concerns

David Brown, Lake Park Fire Chief, asked Council to consider an alternate night for meetings and or events coming up. Thursday nights are regular fire department meetings and it makes it difficult for volunteers to attend both.

Mayor gave the Admin/Executive Reports.

He began by asking Council to review a bid submitted by Kurt Flaherty, Signtronix for an electronic message center for city hall. The bids were for a 6' Tri-Color EMC \$15,565 and 7' Tri-Color EMC \$17,165. Mayor stated that this would be a great asset to have but it would take some planning and budgeting to make it happen.

Mayor asked Council to review options for the 2016 tax millage rates. Council must set a rate by August 29, 2016, if there is an increase; the City must hold three (3) public hearings before the rate is set.

Council discussed an option using tax rate of 6.552 (same as 2015), city would have decrease in revenue of \$3,089, due to decrease in property values. This would be no tax increase and would require only 1 public hearing.

Council also discussed using tax rate of 6.596 (max rollback millage rate), city will have decrease in revenue of \$2,026, due to decrease in property values. This would be no tax increase and would require only 1 public hearing.

Council also discussed using tax rate of 6.800 (increase of 3.09%), city would have an increase in revenue of \$2,906. This will have a tax increase and require 3 public hearings.

Council also discussed using tax rate of 7.00 (increase of 6.12%); city would have an increase in revenue of \$7,740. This will have a tax increase and require 3 public hearings.

After Council reviewed and discussed each recommended option, Member Sauls made a motion to go with the first option discussed of using tax rate of 6.552 (same as 2015), city would have decrease in revenue of \$3,089, due to decrease in property values. This would be no tax increase and would require only 1 public hearing to be held August 23, 2016 at 6:30PM. Member Sandlin second the motion and Council further discussed the millage rate. When question called, all in favor motion passed.

Mayor encouraged Council after it was brought to his attention that a council person had over step their bounds doing something that was not in the scope of being a Council person and in doing that they put that person in jeopardy and it puts the Council in jeopardy. Mayor stated he was asking Council to know what their boundaries are and if they have a question about something, to bring it to him, Tabatha, or Ms. Ann, or call GMA and ask them what role you need to play. He further stated that when he got the report that it was a dangerous thing and it could've ended up very badly for that person. Mayor stated again, be very careful.

Being no further business, Member Rutland made a motion to adjourn at 9:15, Member Sandlin second, all in favor, motion passed.

Read & approved _____

Date _____