

City Council Meeting
April 3, 2023
@ 5:00 PM

Present: Mayor Roger Weatherwax
Brent White
Denise Lovett
Cassandra Lee
Joyce Jeffreys
Jason White

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Weatherwax followed by pledge and prayer.

Council were ask to approve and dispense of the reading of Council Minutes from March 6, 2023 Council Meeting.

Motion: Jason White

2nd: Denise Lovett

Public Hearing was the next item on agenda regarding rezoning of 220 Gordon Dr. from R-2 to R-3 by recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Motion: Brent White

2nd: Jason White

The owner of the property was present and stated that this was the first step in the process and plans were for apartments for this property.

Invoice #4269 to American Diesel for repairs to be made to the Fire Departments Brush Truck transmission which went out in the amount of \$12,796.20 was approved by Denise Lovett, Jason White, Cassandra Lee and Brent White on 3/22/2023 per phone.

Joyce Jeffreys ask was this an immediate need – and was that the reason a phone approval was given. Fire Chief Brian Phillips was present and said yes as this is the only vehicle that they have for that job.

Motion: Denise Lovett

2nd: Joyce Jeffreys

Invoice #1461377 to Ferguson Waterworks for materials the Water Dept ordered in the amount of \$6,127.80 was presented to Council for approval.

Motion: Brent White

2nd: Denise Lovett

Invoice #93106353 to Eagle Utilities and Vault Company for supplies the Water Dept ordered in the amount of \$6,825.60 was presented to Council for approval.

Motion: Denise Lovett

2nd: Brent White

Stanley Nichols – Chief Water Plant Operator was present to request permission for himself and Miach Johnson permission to attend the Alabama Rural Water Conference with a 3-night stay May 22nd, 23rd, 24th and classes will end on the 25th so they will drive back then. The Conference is being held at Orange Beach. Mr Nichols informed Council that these classes are for the education not necessarily about hours although they would get hours for attendance. This meeting will include new regulations on things such as PFAS etc that are continually changing by ADEM. Council members Joyce Jeffreys and Cassandra Lee questioned the need for this meeting due to it being at the beach and cost as they have been questioning employees participating in classes being at the beach and employees attending – their concerns are about the need and cost when the City is facing unknown cost for Water Plant upgrades. Mr. Nichols reiterated that because of the Water Plant upgrades it made it even more necessary for them to attend this meeting because it would help in knowing what the requirements were going to be before doing unnecessary updates or which updates are necessary to stay or come into compliance.

Motion: Brent White

2nd: Denise Lovett

Mayor Weatherwax ask Mr. Nichols to give updates on ADEM requirements that are already being addressed at the plant that had been neglected for years. Mr. Nichols stated that 2 Flocculators, Clearwell lids and the Pipe galley which is underground were among the items flagged by ADEM. These items are either going out for bid or being addressed currently.

Daniel Woodard – Street Dept Superintendent was present to speak to Council concerning repairs that need to be made close to the intersection of Hwy 157 and Court St where a drainage pipe is needing replaced which runs under Court St due

to age and it is beginning to cause the edges of the road to collapse from it separating. There is money available in the Rebuild America fund for this project. He had gotten 3 Bids:

- 1) Lawrence County -- \$48,653.40
- 2) 3-D Excavating, LLC for -- \$53,925.00
- 3) Coffey Brothers -- \$59,024.80

Mr. Woodard proposed that the City go with the low bid from the County and that they would work together to schedule the work because it would cause the area to be shut down for repairs.

Motion to accept low bid: Brent White

2nd: Denise Lovett

Police Chief Craig Knight handed a folder to Council with recommendations that he sees needs to be made to the current Animal Ordinance for them to review and will at a later date be ask to approve said changes so that the Ordinance can be enforced.

Councilwoman Cassandra Lee ask the Mayor if she could speak before the meeting continued, and he said yes. She stated she had checked with the League of Municipalities about the Duties of the Mayor and Council and in a case where State Vs Thompson that the Mayor should at the next regular Council Meeting address the Council about any dismissals and give reasons for the actions. She ask if the Mayor was aware of this and he said no. She stated that things like this needed to be addressed and not wait – she referred to the changes that she had wanted placed in the policy book that City Clerk Deroma Pepper said would be completed by the beginning of the new fiscal year at the Mayors recommendation, because Ms. Lee wanted done quicker. Brent White stated that as he understood that the employee was not dismissed only on leave with pay and he expected that at a later date it would be addressed. Ms. Lee ask that Deroma do her diligence under the Mayor supervision that the policy book is followed. Denise Lovett stated that there is a lot of things in the policy book that needs to be looked at that there are lots of things not followed. Ms. Lee stated that if not followed the City might be sued and at the end of the day it is the Mayors responsibility. Mayor Weatherwax said he would do his best.

Mayor Weatherwax ask Calvin Lee who was present in the Council Chambers if he had anything he wanted to address....Mr. Lee said not specifically at this time, he

was still gathering information. Mr. Ron Mercer was also present and the Mayor ask him what did he have to bring before the Council.

Mr. Mercer introduced himself and proceeded to make a presentation that lasted quite a long time to Council. In his presentation he gave examples of things he saw in areas around Moulton that needed attention (with pictures). He proceeded to make challenges to all the Council and handed them requests for them to answer questions about themselves and their service as Council to the City of Moulton.

Mayor Weatherwax ask for Motion to Adjourn: Denise Lovett

2nd: Jason White

Roger Weatherwax, Mayor

Deroma Pepper, City Clerk

Brent White, Council Member

Jason White, Council Member

Joyce Jeffreys, Council Member

Cassandra Lee, Council Member

Denise Lovett, Council Member