

City Council Meeting
Minutes April 15, 2024
@ 5:00 PM

Present: Mayor Roger Weatherwax
Brent White
Denise Lovett
Cassandra Lee

Absent: Jason White & Joyce Jeffreys

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Weatherwax followed by pledge and prayer. Council was asked to approve and dispense the reading of the minutes from March 18, 2024, April 1, 2024 and Work Session for April 8, 2024

Motion: Brent White
2nd: Denise Lovett

Mayor Weatherwax addressed family members of Lynda Blaxton who is listed as owner of the property at 2344 Byler Rd. Ms. Blaxton has passed and the property prior to her death had issues that needed to be addressed and since Jason Newton has been Building Inspector he started the process of notifying the decedents of Ms. Blaxton to handle the issues with the property. Those present ask that Council check to see if the City could purchase the property and possibly then they could receive monies to help with finishing paying for Ms. Blaxton's funeral expenses and they also ask about being able to enter the property and retrieve some items and to remove plants from the yard. Mayor Weatherwax told them that he wasn't sure what the City could do in reference to purchasing the property but that would be looked into and they could speak to the building inspector about entering the property and removing plants from the yard. So, this will be revisited at a future date to the abatement.

Caleb Harville – Gas Supervisor was present and ask that the Council approve to move forward with the Gas Extension project which would include Hwy 36 to Co Rd 95 and Co Rd 100 to the Golf Course.

Motion: Brent White
2nd: Denise Lovett

Brian Phillips – Fire Chief ask for approval to purchase a Skid unit to replace the

current one on the Brush Truck at the cost of \$15,000.00

Motion: Brent White

2nd: Denise Lovett

Chief Phillips explained to Council that he had found a 1998 Ladder Truck in Lexington, VA for \$60,000.00 and he was requesting approval for himself and another Fire Department employee to travel to Virginia to check the truck out and to also be able to purchase the truck while there if it meets all the expectations that they have for this type of vehicle. It could possibly take them 2 nights to get the transaction handled if they purchase so they would need approval for that included. He confirmed that there shouldn't be any issues with the ladder truck because of the records they have on maintenance for this vehicle. A new truck would cost in the over 1 million dollars. Hartselle has one currently ordered at a cost of 2.2 million dollars which will not be there until 2025, & Muscle Shoals has one ordered at a cost of 1.7 million dollars. If this truck doesn't pass the ladder test inspection for the price of \$60,000.00 you could put money in the truck and still not have as much in the vehicle as a new one or if a pump test fails that also could be repaired. Chief Phillips stated that Muscle Shoals would be selling their 2006 for a price of \$400,000.00. All Council were in favor of going and checking the ladder truck out and purchasing if it meets expectations because this is an unreal price as compared to others that are currently on the market.

Motion for Immediate Action on the Ladder Truck: Denise Lovett

2nd: Brent White

All ayes from Council Members present and Mayor Weatherwax for this action.

Approve for Chief Phillips and another Fire Dept employee to travel to Lexington, VA and 2 overnight stays to inspect a Ladder Truck

Motion: Denise Lovett

2nd: Brent White

Approve for Chief Phillips to purchase Ladder Truck if it meets expectations for the price of \$60,000.00 once inspected by Chief Phillips and the Fire Dept Employee

Motion: Brent White

2nd: Denise Lovett

Chief Phillips stated that the cost to haul the truck back would be approximately \$5,000.00 and he had rather put that money into tires if needed. Which the Mayor agreed would be crucial to have on the truck to drive back and also a necessity if needed for usage once here.

Approve for a return trip if necessary to Lexington, VA including overnight stays if necessary for Chief Phillips and other city employees at his discretion in order to get the vehicle back to Moulton.

Motion: Brent White

2nd: Denise Lovett

Patricia Morgan had requested approval to attend the 2024 AOC Regional Seminar for Municipal Court Officials May 2nd – 3rd, 2024 being held in Mobile. She would go down on May 1st and the cost would be approx. \$230.00 for registration and approx. \$350.00 for the room for 2 nights.

Motion: Brent White

2nd: Cassandra Lee

Water Distribution Superintendent Greg Flanagan – Requested approval to have Pump Rebuilt on the Mountain at the approximate cost of \$17,000.00. The booster pump supplies approximately 80 customers with water pressure – it has several problems in the last 15 mths close to \$8,000.00 has been spent in service calls and repairs besides what he has been able to fix himself. Currently it kicks on and off 75-90 times a day but with the new VFD's it can speed up and slow down and save, also it can be switched from one pump to the other twice a day. Pump – motor – VFD's – and labor test will be included in that price. If it should go down at this point it could cause issues with getting those customers supplied with adequate water.

Motion for Immediate action on this matter: Denise Lovett

2nd: Cassandra Lee

All ayes were heard by Council Members and Mayor

Motion for approval to rebuild pump at approximate cost of \$17,000.00: Denise Lovett

2nd: Brent White

Approval for the City to continue to pay 75% of the Health Insurance Rates and the Employees to pay 25% of the rates which has went up approximately 5.37%. Due to increases in cost to the health insurance. The Employees will also see a 3% increase in their Dental and Vision Insurances. Cassandra Lee ask was this because the rates were going up and the Mayor confirmed that “Yes”, it was going up the 5.37%.

Motion: Cassandra Lee

2nd: Brent White

With no other business the Mayor ask for motion to adjourn:

Motion: Denise Lovett

2nd: Brent White

Roger Weatherwax, Mayor

Deroma Pepper, City Clerk

Brent White, Council Member

Cassandra Lee, Council Member

Denise Lovett, Council Member