

Work Session Minutes

May 13, 2024

@ 5:00 PM

Mayor Weatherwax stated that since vacancies have been made in the Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning and Adjustments by letters from Billy Rains on both and Dwight Bates on the Board of Zoning and Adjustments that they need to be filled. Recommendations that Chris Proctor be added to both and Jackie Sherrill be added to the Board of Zoning and Adjustments have been submitted and each one of them have agreed to serve but if anyone has other suggestions please submit those and it will be voted on at next meeting.

Repaving of the Park and Recreation Center Parking Lot \$49,412.00 quote from Quality Paving the Mayor presented for the Council to consider. This would cover from H.A. Alexander over to the Recreation Center – the entire parking lot for this amount.

Mayor Weatherwax also mentioned that there had been some talk of possibly making a RV Park between School St and North St on the property the City owns to go along with the travel fields and possible need in the area. Black McNally's firm has some plans he believed – we already have sewer there. Ms. Lee ask did we have enough RV's coming through the area to support this. Deangelo McDaniel was present and the Mayor ask did he want to comment on this... Mr. McDaniel stated that when they have tournaments they do have people calling and asking if we have somewhere to park. He was ask if they have tournaments that last more than one day. In which he replied not normally but some grandparents do drive RV's and the teams use those to shower or cool off between games sometimes if available. He also stated that once people know you have one they will come by and dump sewer. You would probably have a set number of days that a person could stay so that people wouldn't live there and there would be charges but that is things that would be discussed and decided on if this is something that is decide to proceed with. The Mayor stated it would be something you would design for more than you would start out with to see how it would go, so it would not be a lot done that was not necessary to try it out.

It was ask also about the parking lot by the new fields when would that be done since it was approved previously. Mr. McDaniel stated that it is such a small job that the timing along with the soil has to be right for Larry Hood construction to be able to move their equipment to do it and he is aware that we are needing it done but it is a process to get everything in line to do it.

The Park and Rec also is needing to purchase the specialized golf cart to drag the fields this was the money that was designated from the golf course for the reel mower that the Park had that the golf course needed and the Park didn't. So, Mr. McDaniel was making the Council aware that he has found one in the amount of under \$13,000.00 Lift Services has on their showroom floor. They had gotten a lawnmower for around \$15,000.00 and then this would be under \$13,000.00 so originally it was up to \$50,000.00 was for the Park to use to purchase a mower and golf cart but since they are able to get both approximately \$28,000.00 then the Golf course would retain the remainder because they have needs is what Mr. McDaniel stated.

Update on the Tennis courts and Pickleball courts – Vulcan Materials came by and the Mayor met with them on Friday night with a cost estimate to mill it would be between \$10,000.00 and \$12,000.00 and to put it back down would be around \$100,000.00 in asphalt --- Lowry Bros are working on plans but we don't know what their price is. This would be for 2 tennis balls and at least 4 pickleball courts. This is cheaper to do in the existing area than to start in another area where there was not a base already.

Mr. McDaniel also gave an update on the existing splash pad – stating that it is working but it still has issues that they just do work arounds in order to keep it going. Suggestions were made or ask if things could be done to improve it when it does get to the point of not working any longer. He said that it really wasn't and then the question was ask about the bigger new splash pad that had been talked about at one time where we were on it. It will cost around \$300,000.00 to \$400,000.00 for a new splash pad and we are trying to look for grant monies to cover some of that cost and we want it to also be ADAH compliant. Mark Heflin has already done some preparation for the area where the new one would be

located and he could possibly plumb the new one when and if we got plans drawn up to save that cost also.

Alicia Roper ask about the Hotel rumor that had been before heard. Mayor Weatherwax said that there had been a survey done and he had been in contact with others about possibly locating here but currently no one has decided to build one yet.

Alicia Roper presented the Council with pictures of the area behind her house due to the Crow Creek area needing to be cleaned up which she has brought before the Council several times and to the Mayor the flooding is due to overgrowth in the Creek etc. Mayor Weatherwax stated to Ms. Roper that the Core of Engineers has been contacted on several occasions about this issue and the City doesn't have equipment or knowledgeable employees to do this type of work. This is a big area that will have to be done by the Core the City has permission to now get on the neighbor's property which before was a concern but the City also can only go 15 feet from the center of the Creek on both sides and Mr. Roper stated that that would not be enough to solve any issues if the City was able to do work. There is also a problem with beavers in the area and the City might be able to take care of those but that is something also that is a hard thing to eradicate. The Mayor stated he would try again to reach out to more representatives for help. Mayor Weatherwax stated that they had been in a conference call with Core engineers who looked on a GIS view of the area. At this point no one has physically come out and looked at the area. Mayor Weatherwax stated he would ask next time he spoke with them. They have requested Federal funds and we are on their list but it has not been funded yet.

There is also problems with culverts on Gordon Terry not being large enough to carry the water and that was ALDOT that installed those so there are many factors that play into the flooding issues in town and from the Crow Creek.

Ms. Cassandra Lee spoke on an abandoned house where someone had been found last week and request that something be done about this and what liability for the owner even if they didn't give permission to someone to be there. Ms. Lee is concerned about several house in her community that is being occupied but shouldn't.

Ms. Lee had an issue brought to her about the City Cemetery and that a lady had to pull weeds around her loved ones' grave before being able to send a picture to family out of state and it being Mother's Day weekend. She stated that she went out there today because she also has family members in that cemetery and what she saw frustrated her. She said this was ridiculous and something needed to be done. That it had been talked about before several months ago and the need for additional employees and she stated she told the person to come and talk to the Mayor and that she would continue to tell people to come and talk to him about it. She said there is no need for our cemetery to look like it does. It needs to be rectified with additional employees if necessary and she had been told by Deroma Pepper that Pilgrims Pride was going to have some volunteers come tomorrow – she wanted to know how long they would be helping and she didn't see how that was going to help long term. Brent White said that it had been looked into about contracting the whole thing out and it was decided that was not what should be done. Ms. Lee stated she still didn't want to contract it out. The true mowing and weed eating is during this time of year, Ms. Lee stated and we have money that we could hire a part-time person to work. Mayor Weatherwax said that when school is out we will have some part-time people then. Ms. Lee stated that those would be students but she was not talking about hiring students because they don't always do their due diligence. Denise Lovett said but who else is gonna come and just work a few weeks during the summer, Ms. Lee said a part-time person for the full year. We do have some employees that go out and help the cemetery for extra hours on weekends when needed. This conversation continued on between members and the Mayor for quite awhile and he mentioned that the cemeteries in the area where Ms. Lee lives is contracted out and they look really nice. Ms. Lee stated that she never looks at them. Denise Lovett stated that recently was a very pretty day and she went by and there was not a weed eater or lawnmower going anywhere but they could have been doing something else she guessed. Ms. Lee said that there was a need for a supervisor out there not Roger because he is not able to do that and if you don't have someone supervising staff that they weren't always gonna do what they are suppose to do. The Mayor agreed but he didn't have an answer to how that can be done, Ms. Lee said that the individuals needed a supervisor out there because

Roger runs the City and doesn't have time to be out there, and it isn't going to get better until that is handled. Denise Lovett wanted to know how something like a tombstone being laid over is handled – the City doesn't have the equipment to move those without possibly causing damage and it is the responsibility of the tombstone companies that originally set them to correct them, our employees could also get injured if they tried to move them because of the weight of the stones etc. Before the meeting adjourned Ms. Lee ask Mayor Weatherwax what he was going to do about the cemetery situation and being their supervisor or getting someone else to supervisor – Mayor stated he would keep working on it and he doesn't have an answer other than he will try to do a better job following up.

Roger Weatherwax, Mayor

Deroma Pepper, City Clerk

Brent White, Council Member

Jason White, Council Member

Cassandra Lee, Council Member

Denise Lovett, Council Member