

City Council Meeting
August 04, 2008



The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday,
August 04, 2008, at 6:00 P.M. at Swainsboro City Hall

Members Present: Edenfield, Stroud, Parker, Collins, Stafford & Faulkner,

Members Absent:

Prayer of Invocation: Councilperson Stroud

Motion to accept previous minutes as presented.

Motion : by Stroud Seconded : by Faulkner Passed : 6-0

A. New Business

1. Administrator Lawson presented a request from the Pin Hi Golf Association for the 2008 Grant from the Hotel/Motel Tax for \$500 in support of their annual golf tournament . He stated this was a budgeted item. Motion was made to honor the request.

Motion : by Parker Seconded : by Collins Passed : 6-0

2. Ms Denese Register representing the American Red Cross spoke to council about what the Red Cross was doing in Emanuel County. She stated that the Red Cross in the last four years had distributed \$57,090.00 dollars to families in need. She asked the council for their continued support with the contribution of a \$500.00 grant. She also asked permission to hold a collection drive on the streets of Swainsboro on August 9, 2008 to help raise money. She also thanked the city and the Swainsboro Fire Department for providing an office for the red Cross in Emanuel County. Adm. Lawson informed council that the Red Cross Grant of \$500.00 was in the 2008 budget.

Motion was made to allow the Red Cross to have the collection drive on August 9, 2008 at the intersections of Main & Main and US #1 and Mable Ave.

Motion : by Stroud Seconded : by Edenfield Passed : 6-0

Motion was then made to honor the request for the \$500.00 grant request.

Motion : by Parker Seconded : by Faulkner Passed : 6-0

3. Council heard the alcoholic beverage request, for advertisement only, of Ashok Patel dba Andy's Quick Shop #8 350 East Main St. for beer and wine package only. Motion was made to advertise the license.

Motion : by Stafford Seconded : by Edenfield Passed : 5-1
Opposed - Faulkner

4. Swainsboro Police Chief Johnny Shuman presented a recommendation to council to revoke the business license of Clayton Dixon doing business at 501 Harris Street. He stated that this location has been a gathering for drug traffickers and he showed council a picture of the drugs seized at the most recent raid. He stated that this establishment has drug paraphernalia located in and around the building. GBI Officer Allen Watson gave testimony to council on the action at that location. He stated that the local drug task force have received numerous complaints and have worked 125 cases in that location over the most recent years. He stated one case in April 2008 where they had arrested a person with drugs and a loaded hand gun in the establishment. He stated since the establishment has been closed they have received no complaints or have not worked any cases in that area. Councilperson Parker then asked GBI Agent Walker question about the area. Mayor Schwabe also asked Officer Walker some questions. Chief Shuman stated that he recommended the license be revoked. Clayton Dixon, owner of the establishment, was present and addressed council. He stated he could not stop the sell of drugs and it was a problem everywhere. Council then made a motion to revoke Mr. Dixon license as recommended.

Motion : by Faulkner Seconded : by Stroud Passed : 5-1
Parker - opposed

5. Council asked if the web page for the city could be discussed. Anthony Faris , DDA Director stated that the grant for the web site was still available and could still be obtained for the city. Councilperson Stroud, Parker and Edenfield stated that they had looked into the work of Kask Creation and found it to be very good and it would be a positive step for Swainsboro. Motion was made to hire Kask Creation to design the city a new web page.

Motion : by Parker Seconded : by Stroud Passed : 6-0

Council also asked that a letter and proclamation thanking Dwight Watt for his years of service to the city be set.

6. Adm. Lawson presented the following budget as written

| Department | 2008 Budget | 2009 Budget | Increase over 2008 Budget | Percent Increase | Capital Improvement request |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Administrative Department | \$658,757.57 | \$673,514.45 | \$14,756.88 | 2.24% | \$10,000.00 |
| Airport | \$254,576.04 | \$258,826.04 | \$4,250.00 | 1.67% | \$0.00 |
| Airport - City Hangers | \$23,571.04 | \$23,571.04 | \$0.00 | 0.00% | \$0.00 |
| Animal Control | \$127,069.25 | \$131,212.53 | \$4,143.28 | 3.26% | \$15,000.00 |
| Building Department | \$71,950.02 | \$74,599.82 | \$2,649.80 | 3.68% | \$0.00 |
| Cultural Arts | \$201,500.00 | \$202,600.00 | \$1,100.00 | 0.55% | \$0.00 |
| Downtown Development | \$154,646.34 | \$185,271.40 | \$30,625.06 | 19.80% | \$2,500.00 |
| Hotel/Motel Tax Expense | \$65,814.50 | \$92,014.50 | \$26,200.00 | 39.81% | \$0.00 |
| Fire Department | \$789,988.98 | \$795,954.95 | \$5,965.97 | 0.76% | \$8,100.00 |
| Police Department | \$1,381,025.83 | \$1,455,163.33 | \$74,137.50 | 5.37% | \$10,000.00 |
| Public Works | \$1,189,908.71 | \$1,189,111.40 | \$-797.31 | -0.07% | \$0.00 |
| Sanitation & Recycle Department | \$734,258.96 | \$731,881.18 | \$-2,377.78 | -0.32% | \$0.00 |
| Recreation Department | \$720,154.20 | \$734,505.09 | \$14,350.89 | 1.99% | \$0.00 |
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| Total | \$6,373,221.45 | \$6,548,225.72 | \$175,004.28 | 2.75% | \$45,600.00 |
| Contingency | \$3,778.30 | \$3,154.11 | | | |
| Total Estimated Revenue | \$6,376,999.75 | \$6,551,379.83 | \$174,380.08 | 2.73% | |
| Contingency | | | | | |
| BALANCE | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Water Department | \$2,052,091.95 | \$2,118,793.95 | \$66,702.00 | 3.25% | |
| Water Revenue | \$2,052,091.95 | \$2,118,793.95 | \$66,702.00 | 3.25% | |
| BALANCE | \$0.00 | \$-0.00 | | | |

Adm. Lawson stated this budget could be passed without a tax millage or water rate increase. Council asked to delay the vote for two weeks until some questions were answered. A special called meeting was set for Aug 18, 2008 to discuss the budget.

B. Old Business

C. Committee Reports

Police: Councilperson Stafford presented the Police Report.

Building and Safety: Councilperson Faulkner had no report .

Executive: No Report

Public Works: Councilperson Collins reported everything routine.

Adm. Lawson presented some bids for lawnmower equipment as request by OMI Public Works Department. The bids were as follows;

1. S & N Auto Parts - \$3,322.50
2. Blanchard Equipment - \$1,927,50
3. Auto Parts & Supply - \$2,268.60

Motion was made to accept the low bid if it met the specifications.

Motion : by Faulkner Seconded : by Stroud Passed : 6-0

Recycle: Councilperson Collins reported operations normal .

Fire : Councilperson Parker reported everything normal. Chief Strobridge announced that the Swainsboro Fire Department has received a grant for \$5000.00 from Mill Creek to help with the expenses of the new smoke training house.

Recreation: Councilperson Stroud reported everything routine. She reported that the Recreation Department was building two new soccer fields at the complex.

Airport: Councilperson Edenfield had no report.

Water & WW: Councilperson Edenfield presented a cost cutting measure for the water department. He stated that the city could save around \$7000.00 year by change from liquid to gas chlorine. He informed council this was a recommendation of OMI. He stated the only problem was that new leak detector would need to be installed. He presented two bids for the new leak detectors.

1. Hugo Jahnz - \$4420.00
2. Coastal Chlorinator \$5980.00

Motion was to accept the low bid and to change the process to gas chlorine as recommended by OMI.

Motion : by Edenfield Seconded : by Stafford Passed : 6-0

Councilperson Edenfield reported that the city has to apply for a new water withdrawal permit. As part of the permit the city must adjust it water rate structure. He will be assisting the Water Department in creating a water structure acceptable to EPD and presenting it for council approval.

Councilperson Edenfield reported that the city needs to make sure that the water ban mandated by the State of Georgia is being followed. Mayor Schwabe asked Councilperson Edenfield to chair a committee consisting of Councilperson Collins and Stafford to look into this situation.

Downtown Development - Anthony Faris asked the council to consider applying for a Quality Growth Resource study from DCA. This study would not cost the city any fee as it is provided by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The city would be responsible for the lodging and meals for the team. This amount was estimated at about \$3500.00. Adm. Lawson stated he had put this amount in the 2009 budget. Council discussed this and agreed it would be beneficial to the city. Motion was made to make the application for the DCA study.

Motion : by Edenfield Seconded : by Stafford Passed : 6-0

Administrative: Administrator Lawson no report.

Mayor: Mayor Schwabe had no report.

Council agreed that the next regular meeting of the mayor and council would be moved from September 01, 2008 to September 08, 2008 due to the Labor Day Holiday.

Council Adjourned

Submitted: *Al L Lawson* , City Administrator