



CITY OF
Swainsboro GEORGIA
Crossroads of the Great South

City Council Meeting

December 03, 2018

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday, December 03, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. at Swainsboro City Hall.

Members Present: Stafford, Sconyers, Parker, Collins, & Faulkner

Members Absent: Bragg

Prayer of Invocation: Rev. Jim Harrell

Mayor Schwabe asked Fire Chief Strobridge to come forward for the presentation of the December Our Town Hero Award. Chief Strobridge explained the situation of 16 year Jaylen Chalker having been diagnosed with AML Leukemia. He stated she need a bone marrow transplant. Her two younger brothers Jared and Jacob stepped up and went to be tested to donate their bone marrow to Jaylen. This was not an easy process but both brothers were brave and followed it though the whole way. For their bravery and courage the December Our Town Heros are Jared and Jacob Chalker.

Mayor Schwabe recognized Mrs. Lynn Ashcraft, Department of Community Affairs Regional Representative, for a special presentation. Mrs. Ashcraft addressed the mayor and city council announcing that the City of Swainsboro has been designation a Plan First Community by the Department of Community Affairs. This designation was announced by Director Kyle Hood in recognition of the city of Swainsboro's hard work and successful implementation of it's comprehensive plan and goal setting. Mrs. Ashcraft acknowledged the hard work of the staff of the city and congratulated them on this accomplishment. Mayor Schwabe stated this was a good accomplishment for the city. Mayor Schwabe recognized Administrator Lawson for his leadership in getting this award. This award will allow the city to apply for a Community Block Grant every year instead of every other year. It also gives bonus points to the application. The city also receives lower finance rates on upcoming projects.

Motion to accept minutes from the previous meeting was made.

Motion: by Sconyers Seconded: by Stafford 5-0

A. Consensus Business

Council heard the request from the Emanuel Co. Events Planning Organization requesting the annual grant for the Martin Luther King Jr. Parade. This grant is \$900.00 and is a 2019 budgeted item. Councilperson Faulkner asked if anyone knew why this was a name change for the organization requesting the funds. This is the third name change in three years and wondered why. Mayor Schwabe stated he would contact the members in charge to clarify this issue.

B. New Business

1. Mr. Pete Boatright along with Bo Laricy spoke to council concerning the amount charged to landlords for water service for rental properties . He stated when a tenant moves out of a location the owner of the property has to clean up the property. The landlord calls the city to cut on the water so the property can be cleaned. The cleaning only uses a small amount of water but the landlord is charged a minimum bill of \$46.80. Adm. Lawson explained to council this was because an account had to be established to turn the water on and a minimum bill was created. This bill included water, sewage, garbage, and fees. Mayor Schwabe stated he would look into to see if something could be done to decrease the cost of this process.

2. Council heard a request from Mrs. Phyllis Wells for a monetary contribution to the Emanuel County Head Start Center. This is not a budgeted item and was not granted.

C. Old Business

1. Council heard the alcoholic beverage application, of Erin Cress dba Tarantinos Little Italy Restaurant South Main St. for consumption on premises. Mayor Schwabe announced this was a public hearing and was anyone there to speak for or against the application. Motion was made to grant the application.

Motion: by Sconyers Seconded: by Stafford 5-0

2. Police Chief Ellison presented to council the revised version of the Refuse, Weeds, and Junk Ordinance he was asked to revise. He stated the city attorney had reviewed the ordinance as presented:

City of Swainsboro Chapter 82 REFUSE, WEEDS AND JUNK

Section 82-6 An Amended Ordinance Prohibiting Abandoned, Inoperable, and Unregistered Vehicles, Blighted Properties, Unsightly Material, and Equipment in Public View

PREAMBLE

Whereas, the storage of abandoned or inoperable and unregistered motor vehicles, blighted properties, motor vehicle parts and other unsightly materials in public view has a deleterious effect upon the value and enjoyment of properties nearby thus constituting a potential health and safety hazard to persons in neighborhoods and adversely affects the economic wellbeing of the City; and

Whereas, the storage and ownership of abandoned, inoperable and unregistered motor vehicles in public view has the further effect of depriving the municipal authorities of an effective means of overseeing and collecting personal property taxes; and

Whereas, the purpose of this ordinance is to amend the present ordinance (City of Swainsboro Ordinance No. 82) so as to place further restrictions on unregistered motor vehicles, define, prohibit and abate blighted premises, and to prohibit unsightly material and equipment in public view so as to protect, and preserve public health, safety and welfare and to preserve and protect the economic well-being of the City.

SECTION I DEFINITION

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this ordinance:

Abandoned vehicle: Any unregistered, inoperable car, truck, aircraft, camper, motorcycle or moped, recreational vehicle (e.g. golf car, snowmobile, water sled, all-terrain vehicle, etc.) boat or other watercraft, tractor, cart, trailer, riding mower, or farming or construction equipment whether self-propelled or towed that is intentionally left, forsaken or deserted. Intent may be determined by an act or omission such as no use and lapse of time. Inoperable shall mean that the vehicle is no longer being used for its intended purpose evidence by tow (2) or more of the following conditions:

Engine no longer starts or is missing;

Missing or flat tires or wheels, or other missing parts necessary for locomotion;

Missing doors or windows;

Close proximity of grass or other vegetation or debris, indicating immobility;

Holes, rust, or other evidence of obvious physical decay or neglect, lack of maintenance or excessive use; or

Used for another purpose (e.g. storage)

Accumulating refuse: Refuse that accumulates on any private premises, business, lots, or abandoned property, and is not completely contained within trash or refuse storage bins, racks or enclosures, or other container as approved by the City of such use.

Building Inspector: The Building Inspector, from the Swainsboro Building Department, will enforce all provisions of this ordinance. The Building Inspector is hereby authorized to take such enforcement actions as are specified in this ordinance.

Blighted premises: A Blighted Premises is identified as any building or structure, or any part of a structure that is a separate unit, or a parcel of land, or any accessory structure, or fence, in which at least one of the following additional conditions exists:

It has been determined by the Building Inspector, City Administrator, or other appropriate official as designated by the Mayor acting within the scope of their authority, that a condition exist that poses a serious or immediate threat to the health, safety or general welfare of the persons in the City of Swainsboro; or

The Fire Marshal has determined that a building or structure is a fire hazard, and/or it is a factor in operating a substantial and unreasonable interference with the use and enforcement of other premises within the surrounding area as documented by neighbor complaints; or

The property is in a state of disrepair or is becoming dilapidated; or

The overall condition of the property is not being maintained which causes an unreasonable impact on the enjoyment of/or value of neighboring properties and stems from violations as expressed by adjoining property owners; or

The property is dilapidated, attracting illegal activity; or

Persistent occurrences of any of the following violations of building, fire, zoning, housing or health codes: or

Persistent occurrence of the premises not being maintained as evidenced by the existence, to a significant degree of:

Missing, broken or boarded windows or doors; collapsing or deteriorating walls, roofs, stairs, porches, handrails, railings, basement hatchways, chimneys, flues, or floors; or

Exterior walls containing holes, breaks, loose, missing or rotting materials; or

Overhang extensions, including but not limited to canopies, marquees, signs, awnings, stairways, fire escapes, standpipes and exhaust ducts, which contain rust or other decay: or

Unrepaired fire or water damage after appropriate official authorization; or
It has been vandalized, or otherwise damaged to the extent that it is a factor in depreciating property values in the neighborhood; or

Swimming pools, spas or architectural pools that are not properly maintained or are in a state of disrepair; or the accumulation of stagnant or unsanitary water; or

Display lights/fixtures or exterior signs in a broken or disassembled state; or

Rodent harborage and/or infestation; or

Garbage, trash or unused building materials improperly stored in dumpsters or accumulated on the premises; unauthorized outside storage or accumulation of junk, campers, trash, rubbish, boxes, paper, plastic or refuse of any kind; the parking of more than one (1) unregistered and inoperable cars, boats, motorcycles or other inoperable machinery on the property or the public right-of-way. For the purposes of this Article "authorized" shall pertain to local, state or federal laws and/or regulations; or

In the case of fences, broken or rotted boards or in an otherwise dilapidated condition; or any other exterior condition reflecting a level of maintenance or which constitutes a blighting factor for adjacent property owners or occupant or which is an element leading to the progressive deterioration of the neighborhood. Or

Abandoned motor vehicles on the premises; or

Parking lots left in a state of disrepair or abandonment

Capable individual: A person that can be reasonably expected to perform maintenance and yard work around a property or premises. This shall include children above sixteen (16) years of age without physical or mental disability as defined herein.

Georgia General Statutes: Laws of the State of Georgia, including any applicable amendments.

Debris: Material which is incapable of immediately performing the function for which it was designed including, but not limited to, abandoned, discarded or unused objects: plastics, glass, papers, junk comprised of equipment such as automobiles, boats, and recreation vehicles which are unregistered and missing parts, not complete in appearance and in an obvious state of disrepair; parts of automobiles, furniture, appliances, cans, boxes, scrap metal, tires, batteries, containers, or garbage which is in public view.

Disabled individual: In the case of an owner occupied residence, an individual who has a disability meeting the definitions for the mental or physical disability as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and does not have other household members capable of providing the necessary maintenance.

Dilapidated: In a physically deteriorating condition which, if left unabated, would cause an unsafe or unsanitary condition or a nuisance to the general public.

Disrepair: In poor working order, dilapidated, decrepit or in an imminent state of collapse.

Infestation: The presence of insects, rodents, vermin or other pest on the premises, which constitute a health hazard.

Junk: Any scrap, waste, reclaimable material, or debris, whether or not stored, for sale or in the process of being dismantled, destroyed, processed, salvaged, stored, baled, disposed or other use of disposition. Examples of which include tires, vehicle parts, equipment, paper, rags, metal, glass, building materials, household appliances, machinery, brush, wood, and lumber. More than one (1) unregistered or inoperable vehicle constitute junk.

Garbage: (Also see Refuse, Rubbish). Putrescible animal and vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food or the keeping of pets or other animals.

Legal Occupancy: Occupancy that is legal by virtue of compliance with state building, state fire safety, local zoning, local housing, and all other pertinent codes, which, in the case of rental property, must be substantiated by a rental agreement, a rent receipt or a utility statement.

Mechanical equipment: Any apparatus designed to operate by an internal combustion engine, or designed to be towed by an apparatus propelled by an internal combustion engine.

Natural wooded state: Areas where trees and brush exist in their natural, un-landscaped state.

Nuisance:

(a) Any public nuisance as defined by statute or ordinance.

(b) Any attractive nuisance. An attractive nuisance is defined as the presence of any condition that may prove to be detrimental to the health or safety of children whether in a building, on the premises of a building or upon an unoccupied lot. This includes, but is not limited to, the presence of abandoned wells, shafts, basements, excavations, refrigerators, vehicles, lumber, and garbage, refuse, rubbish, and any structurally unsound fences or other structures.

(c) Physical conditions dangerous to human life or detrimental to the health of person on or near the premises where the conditions exist.

(d) Whatever hazardous materials or liquids that renders air, food or drink unwholesome or detrimental to the health of human beings.

(e) Fire hazards. Any situation, process, material, blocked/obstructed egress, or condition that can cause a fire or explosion or provide a ready fuel supply to segment the spread or intensity of the fire or explosion and that poses a threat to life or property as determined by the City of Swainsboro fire marshal or his duly authorized agent.

Operator: Any person who runs or manages a commercial or industrial establishment.

Orderly fashion: Arranged in conforming to or exhibiting some regular order; systemic in regular or proper order.

Owner/Occupant: Any person, institution, foundation, entity or authority which owns, leases, rents, possesses, or is responsible for property within the City of Swainsboro.

Persistent: Existing or remaining in the same state for an indefinite period.

Person: Any individual, corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company.

Premises: A platted lot or part thereof or un-platted lot or parcel of land or plot of land, either occupied or unoccupied by any dwelling or non-dwelling structure and includes any such building, accessory structure or other structure thereon, or any part thereof. The term "premises" where the context requires, shall be deemed to include any buildings, dwelling, parcel of land or structures contained within the scope of this article.

Proximate property: Any premises or parcel of land within One Thousand (1,000) feet of a blighted premises.

Public view: Visible from any public right-of-way or neighboring property, at grade level.

Putrescible: Liable to undergo decomposition or rotting by bacteria, fungi, and oxidation and/or may result in the formation of foul-smelling products.

Reasonable: Exercising the degree of caution and concern an ordinarily prudent and rational person would use in similar circumstances.

Rubbish, garbage, refuse: Non-putrescible solid wastes consisting of both combustible and noncombustible wastes, such as paper, wrappings, cigarettes, cardboard, tin cans, wood, plastics, glass, bedding, crockery, unused and scrap building materials, and similar materials.

Sanitary Conditions: Free from filth and pathogens.

Structure: Any building, walls, dwelling, fence, swimming pool, or similarly constructed object.

Unit: Any space within a building that is or can be tented by tenant(s) for their sole use, and is intended to be a single and distinct space.

Vacant: A period of sixty (60) days or longer, during which a building or structure or any part thereof, or land that is not legally occupied.

SECTION II

Abandoned or Inoperable Motor Vehicles

(a) No person shall permit any abandoned or more than one inoperable motor vehicles, owned by such person to remain parked or stored in public view within the limits of the City of Swainsboro.

(b) No person shall permit any unregistered motor vehicle, regardless of condition, to remain parked or stored in public view within the limits of the City of Swainsboro.

(c) No owner of a parcel of real property in the City of Swainsboro shall permit any such abandoned or inoperable vehicle to be parked or stored in public view on said owner's parcel of property, and no owner of a parcel of real property in the City of Swainsboro shall permit an unregistered motor vehicle to remain parked or stored in public view on said owner's parcel of

property unless said real property is used for the sale or repair of motor vehicles pursuant to an appropriate license.

(d) A motor vehicle which is in the process of being actively repaired and/or restored shall be exempt for a period of one year from the aforementioned prohibitions to the extent of one (1) vehicle per dwelling unit and/or property provided the possessor has: (1) notified the Swainsboro Police Department in writing identifying the motor vehicle by owner, year, make, model and identification number, (2) keeps said vehicle covered with a suitable tarp or vehicle cover when no work is being performed thereon.

(e) The City of Swainsboro, pursuant to as amended, hereby authorizes but does not require its duly appointed Building Inspector to order the removal of any abandoned, inoperable or unregistered motor vehicle. This shall only be authorized after the owner of the property on which such motor vehicle so remains is requested to remove said motor vehicle in writing or by newspaper notice and fails to do so 30 days after receipt of notice.

SECTION III

Prevention/Abatement of Blighted Premises

No owner/occupant of real property within the City of Swainsboro shall cause or allow blighted premises to be created, nor shall any owner/occupant allow the continued existence of blighted premises.

- A. No persons shall store or keep any unsightly material or equipment, as herein defined, owned by such person in public view within the limits of the City of Swainsboro.
- B. No owner of real property in the City of Swainsboro shall permit any such unsightly material or equipment to be located or stored on said owner's property.
- C. It shall be the duty of all owner's and occupants of premises to keep the exterior of the premises and structures thereon free of all abandoned/unregistered vehicles, garbage, refuse, rubbish, and infestations. The exterior of every structure or accessory structure (including fences and walls) shall be maintained free of broken glass, loose shingles, damaged siding, crumbling stone or brick, or other condition reflective of deterioration or inadequate maintenance. The outside structure wall shall not have any holes, loose boards, or any broken, cracked or damaged siding that admits rain, cold air, dampness, rodents, insects or vermin. Every building shall be maintained as to be weather and watertight.
- D. Any building material or equipment intended for construction or improvement for which a valid building permit is in effect shall be exempt from this section of the ordinance. This section shall further not pertain to existing building supply yards subject, however to all the provisions of the Swainsboro Zoning Regulations and the Georgia General Statutes.
- E. Garbage, refuse and rubbish for weekly pickup must be stored to maintain sanitary conditions and to minimize its exposure to public view. Containers must be removed from curb/public sight within (24) hours after collection of materials; or
- F. Where dumpsters are maintained for commercial enterprises it shall be the duty of every business owner to provide a place reasonably calculated to maintain sanitary conditions and to minimize its exposure to public view before transfer for safe and sanitary disposal. All dumpsters must maintain completely closed lids at all times; being opened only to allow deposit or withdrawal of refuse. All areas surrounding dumpsters shall be kept completely free from such refuse and debris. All dumpsters must be placed as far as possible from public view.

SECTION IV

Receipt of Complaint, Form of Warning

- (a) Any individual, affected by the action or inaction of an owner/occupant of property subject to the provisions of this ordinance may file a complaint of violation of this ordinance with the Building Inspector. Complaints shall be addressed to the Building Inspector and shall state

with specificity the nature of the alleged violation and be signed by the Complainant and dated. The Building Inspector, upon his or her determination whether there is a violation of this ordinance, shall forward a Warning Notice to the owner/occupant at the times such determination has been made.

- (b) Such a Warning Notice from a Building Inspector shall be issued prior to issuing a citation, and the respondent shall be required to attend the next scheduled meeting of the Citation Hearing Board.
- (c) Such Warning Notice shall include:
 - (1) A description of the real estate sufficient for identification, specifying the violation which is alleged to exist and the remedial action required;
 - (2) If remedial action is not taken prior to the hearing, the respondent shall be susceptible to further penalties and costs as laid out in (3) below.
 - (3) The amount of the fines, penalties, costs or fees that may be imposed for noncompliance shall apply for each infraction per day in the amount of One Hundred (\$100.00) dollars after the thirty (30) day period has expired.
- (d) The owner/occupant may contest the Citation Hearing Board decision. The owner/occupant receiving warning notice must request such appeal to the Council immediately prior to citation being issued.
- (e) Delivery of a Warning Notice letter to the owner/occupant shall be by the following methods (And preferably in this order)
 - (1) By personal delivery to the owner/occupant; or
 - (2) By certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the owner/occupant at his last known address with postage prepared thereon; or
 - (3) By publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the City of Swainsboro one time.

SECTION V

Enforcement

- (a) If the corrective actions specified in the Warning Notice letter from the Building Inspector are not taken, within 30 days the Building Inspector shall report noncompliance incidents to the Swainsboro Police Department. A duly sworn officer shall issue a written citation to the owner/occupant.
- (b) An owner/occupant may request a hearing after receiving citation.
- (c) The Citation Hearing Board is designated to conduct hearings in accordance with the law, when an owner/occupant has been cited under this ordinance.
- (d) Any cited person who wishes to admit liability without requesting a hearing may pay the full amount of the fines, penalties, costs or fees admitted to in person or by mail to the Swainsboro Police Department. Any person who does not deliver or mail written demand for a hearing within ten (10) days of the citation shall be deemed to have admitted liability, and the Building Inspector or his/her designee shall thereupon enter and assess the fines, penalties, costs or fees provided for by the applicable ordinances and shall follow the procedures set forth in Georgia General Statutes.
- (e) Any person who requests a hearing shall be given written notice of the date, time and place of the next scheduled monthly meeting. All persons who filed complaints about the property in question shall also be notified and invited to testify at the hearing. The Citation Hearing Board may grant a postponement or continuance for good cause. An original or certified copy of the warning notice and citation shall be filed and retained by the Citation Hearing Board.
- (f) Pending the hearing before the Citation Hearing Board, no further enforcement activity as contemplated by Section VII shall occur until either a hearing is held and the Citation Hearing

Board assesses fines, penalties, cost and /or fees or until the petitioner fails to appear for a scheduled hearing and the Citation Hearing Board assesses fines, penalties, cost and/or fees.

SECTION VI

Appointment of Citation Hearing Board

The Mayor, if he or she chooses, shall appoint five City residents to serve as a Citation Hearing Board to conduct hearings. Such members shall serve terms in accordance with the Swainsboro City Charter. Proceedings of the Citation Hearing Board shall be conducted in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia and any provisions of the Charter or ordinances of the City generally applicable to its boards and commissions. No zoning enforcement officer, police officer, building inspector or employee of the city may be appointed as a hearing officer under this ordinance.

SECTION VII

Penalties for offenses; prejudgment lien

- (a) The owner/occupant of premises where a violation of any of the provision of this ordinance shall exist or who shall maintain any building or premises in which such violations exist may:
 - (1) Be fined not more than One Hundred (\$100.00) dollars for each violation. Each day that a violation exists after a citation as described in Section V is given to the owner/occupant shall constitute a new violation, and a fine may be imposed for each such violation; and /or
 - (2) Be required to abate the violation at the owner/occupant's expense.
- (b) A prejudgment lien on real estate may be imposed where the fine for violation of the blighted premises provisions of this ordinance not paid within thirty (30) days, despite proper notice to the person found liable. Any unpaid fine imposed by a municipality pursuant to the provisions of an ordinance regulating blight, adopted pursuant to Georgia General Statutes, shall constitute a lien upon the real estate against which the fine was imposed from the date of such fine. Each such lien may be continued, recorded and released in the manner provided by the general statutes for continuing, recording and releasing property tax liens. Each such lien shall take precedence over all other liens and encumbrances filed after (July 1, 2018), except for taxes. Each such lien may be enforced in the same manner as property tax liens, including foreclosure of the real property.

SECTION VIII

MUNICIPAL ABATEMENT

1. In the event any owner, agent, tenant, or person in control of real property shall fail to abate or correct any violation specified in any notice, after the issuance of an enforcement citation for such failure, which citation has become final through the failure of such owner, agent, tenant or person in control of real property to appeal from the issuance of said citation, or by such appeal being sustained, the City of Swainsboro, acting through its designated Building Inspector issuing such action may cause or take such action as is necessary to abate the nuisances following a citation and any modifications imposed by Citation Hearing Board. The cost to take such action shall be a civil claim by the City against such owner, agent, tenant or person responsible for such property, and the City Attorney may bring an action to recover all such cost and expenses incurred.
2. If the owner, agent, tenant or responsible person fails to correct the violations, the City of Swainsboro may take any action necessary pursuant to abate of the nuisance at any time after giving notice to the property owner.
3. The Swainsboro City Council Pursuant to abatement of the nuisance may provide a special assessment on housing that is blighted.
4. Pursuant to Public Act 10-152, The Building Inspector may designate an agent or agents who shall have the right to enter property during reasonable hours for the purpose of re-mediation blighted conditions. However said agent or agents shall not be allowed to enter any dwelling house or other structure.

SECTION X

Severability

In the event that any part or portion of this ordinance is declared invalid for any reason, all the other provisions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Construal of Terms and Provisions

- (1) Where terms are specifically defined or the meaning of such terms is clearly indicated by their context, that meaning is to be used in the interpretation of this ordinance.
- (2) Where terms are not specifically defined in this chapter, they shall have their ordinarily accepted meaning or such meaning as the context may imply
- (3) The provisions of this ordinance shall not be construed to prevent the enforcement of other ordinances of the City of Swainsboro.
- (4) In any case where a provision of this ordinance is found to be in conflict with a provision of any zoning, building, fire, safety or health ordinance, regulation or other provision of the Swainsboro Charter or the State of Georgia, the provision which establishes the higher Standard for the promotion and protection of the health and safety of the people of the City of Swainsboro, shall prevail.

This constitutes a first reading of this ordinance.

D. Committee Reports

Recreation: Councilperson Bragg was absent.

Water and Waste Water: Councilperson Faulkner reported everything routine.

Councilperson Faulkner introduced Brad McConnell from American Tank who presented a water tank Maintenance Agreement for the city to consider. This agreement would be for the maintenance of the existing water tanks in the city for 9 years. The annual fee for tank #9 for Contract years 1 through 5 would be \$39,458.00 per year, for years 6 through 8 \$10,437.00 per year, 9 would be adjusted to reflect the current cost of service. The annual fee for tank #5 for Contract years 1 through 3 would be \$13,922.00 per year and in year 4 would be adjusted to reflect the current cost of service. The annual fee for tank #8 for Contract years 1 through 5 would be \$33,089.00 per year, for years 6 through 8 \$10,813.00 per year, 9 would be adjusted to reflect the current cost of service.

Motion was made to enter into the contract for the water tank with American Tank Maintenance Co.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Faulkner 5-0

Councilperson Faulkner reported the engine in the backhoe is bad and Jacobs has gotten three bids to replace it.

Non-Caterpillar rebuilt engine	\$19,200	6 month warrantee
Caterpillar rebuilt engine	\$19,700	1 year warrantee
Caterpillar new engine	\$26,860	2 year warrantee

Motion was made to accept the Caterpillar rebuilt engine for \$19,700.

Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Sconyers 4-1

Parker against

Councilperson Faulkner reported Jacobs had gotten a bid to repair the electrical panel at well #8. They had only retained one bid and were in the process of getting another bid.

Motion was made to take the low bid after bids were compared and verified.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Faulkner 5-0

Police: Councilperson Stafford reported everyone had the committee reports.

Police Chief Ellison reported to council that "Shop with a Cop" will take place on December 20th and they would be buying for 30 kids. Applications can be obtained at the Swainsboro Police Department and must be submitted by December 13th by 4:00pm.

Fire: Councilperson Sconyers reported everything routine.

He also invited everyone to the annual retirement/Christmas dinner this Friday night.

Adm. Lawson stated the new Fire Truck was ordered and financed with Georgia Pool Leasing as they offered the best finance rate.

Administrative: Administrator Lawson reported to council that the city was in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and Swainsboro High School with their Vison 20/20 Program and would like to hire one of the participates to work with the city for 10 hours a week. This would be a student from Swainsboro High School who would be payed minimum wage to do basic clerk duties. No one objected.

Administrator Lawson asked council to consider the hiring of Kassidi Phillips to fill the position just created. He stated she had been recommenced by the coordinator of the program.

Motion: by Collins Seconded: by Parker 5-0

Councilperson Collins announced the retirement of Dessie Davis after 30 years of service to the city. The city will be advertising for his replacement.

Councilperson Collins reported that the Administrator Contract Review Committee had met and discussed the current Administrator's contract. A recommendation to renew the contract as is for an additional two years was made. Councilperson Parker asked if this was an increase in pay and it was stated that the administrator got the same increase as any other employee received and no more. Motion was made to renew the contract for an additional two years.

Motion: by Collins Seconded: by Stafford 4-1

Parker - against

Administrator Lawson stated he has made the revision on the 911 Number Display Requirements the council had changed in his absence. This would be the second reading.

Chapter 62

Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions

Article VI: 911 Number Display Requirement

Sec. 62-200 911 Number Display Requirements

The 911 number shall be attached to the owner mailbox, a post or like structure at the corner of the property line which abuts the roadway and driveway or other entrance way which services the said structure, residence and/or building. The numbers shall be no less than three inches in height and shall be located at least two feet above the existing ground level and shall be posted on both sides of the mailbox, post or other structure such that the numbers are visible from either direction on the roadway. They shall also be of a color which contrasts with the background of the numbers and/or the color of the structure to which they are attached. Any cost involved in complying with this section shall be the sole responsibility of the owner. If ordinance is not complied with owner of property will be subject to violations in Sec. 62-201.

Sec 62- 201 911 Number Display Enforcement

A duly sworn officer of the City of Swainsboro Police Department will issue the following provisions:

First violation: Owner property will be issued a written warning and given 30 days to correct any noted violations of Sec 62- 200.

Future violation: A citation to owner will be issued and a court date assigned to appear in the Municipal Court of the City of Swainsboro or a \$50.00 first offence fine and a \$100.00 subsequent fine of any future violations per occurrence.

Public Works: Councilperson Parker gave the report from Jacobs.

Matthew Bright was present to address council again about the water issue at his rental house. The mayor stated he would have Mr Bright an answer by Feburary.

Airport: No Report

Executive: No Report

Downtown Development: No Report

Building Inspection: No Report

Mayor: Mayor Schwabe announced that on Friday December 07, 2018 a major textile company would be holding a job fair in Swainsboro to see if they could get enough interest to locate a new facility here. He encouraged everyone needing a job to go to the fair and show the new company that Swainsboro will support the new facility.