



CITY OF  
**Swainsboro** GEORGIA  
*Crossroads of the Great South*

**City Council Meeting**

**November 05, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday, November 05, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. at Swainsboro City Hall.

**Members Present:** Stafford, Sconyers, Parker, Bragg, & Faulkner

**Members Absent:** Collins

**Prayer of Invocation:** Rev. Casey Shaw, First Baptist Church

Motion to accept minutes from the previous meeting was made.

**Motion: by Faulkner    Seconded: by Stafford    5-0**

**A. Consensus Business**

None

**B. New Business**

1. Mayor Schwabe asked council to add an item to the addenda and allow Rev. Bertha Jones to inform council of an upcoming event. No one objected.

Rev. Bertha Jones addressed council informing them of a tent crusade scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> through November 15<sup>th</sup>. It will be from 7:00pm and last for about an hour and a half each night. The crusade will take place on the Boneyard. She asked for council's support of this event. No one objected.

Councilperson Faulkner reported the city will be hosting an event at the Gumlog Park for the community to meet some of the Police Officers. This event will be Thursday from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

2. Council heard the alcoholic beverage application, for advertisement only, of Erin Cress dba Tarartinos Little Italy Restaurant South Main St for consumption of premises. Motion was made to advertise the application.

**Motion: by Stafford    Seconded: by Sconyers    5-0**

3. David Hall spoke to council about the noise coming from Mojo's Car Wash located on Mable Ave. He stated he lives on Warren Ave and the noise from the vacuums and the blowers is unbearable. He stated he has spoken to the owner of the car wash about this problem. Inspector Bruce Kirby was present and reported this parcel was zoned commercial and they were in their rights to have a car wash on this parcel. Mayor Schwabe asked Mr. Hall if he had a solution for the problem. Mr. Hall stated the noise could be contained if a building was built around the noisy equipment. Mayor Schwabe stated the city would look into the situation.

**C. Old Business**

None

**D. Committee Reports**

**Recreation:** Councilperson Bragg reported everything is routine.

Councilperson Bragg congratulated Tony Mangieri who was named the 2018 GRPA First District Distinguished Professional of the year.

**Water and Waste Water:** Councilperson Faulkner reported everything routine. She reported lift station #18 had been repaired.

Councilperson Sconyers reported he had received a complaint about an electrical disconnect hanging on the fence at lift station #12. Don Dobson with Jacobs stated they were aware of this. Councilperson Sconyers stated this could be a dangerous hazard and needed to be repaired.

**Police:** Councilperson Stafford reported everyone had the committee reports.

He stated the Police Personnel Committee had met and suggested that the council consider moving Officer John Maynard from part time back to full time. He had taken another job but was not satisfied and was requesting to be reinstated as full time. Motion was made to reinstate Office John Maynard from part time to full time.

**Motion: by Stafford    Seconded: by Sconyers    5-0**

Councilperson Stafford stated the Police Personnel Committee has also reviewed a request from Office Robbie Carter to come back to Swainsboro Police Department he was formally with the department until he took another job. The committee recommends the re-hire of Robbie Carter. Motion was made to hire Robbie Carter.

**Motion: by Faulkner    Seconded: by Stafford    5-0**

The city is advertising for two more officers.

Councilperson Parker stated there is a problem with dogs roaming around the city and asked Chief Ellison to look into the problem.

Chief Ellison updated council on the progress made and the arrest made on the recent drive-by shooting incident. He also told council that Swainsboro PD, Em. CO. Sheriff's Office and the local DA had met and received some gang training and some assistance with the local gang problems.

**Fire:** Councilperson Sconyers reported the department has been looking to purchase a new fire engine. Chief Strobridge reported he had located a Demo from E-One and it was brought to the station last week. The cost of the engine is \$266,495.00. Motion was made to purchase the engine. Council then discussed how this truck would be paid for as it is not a 2019 budgeted item. Many options were discussed, city borrowing the money, SPLOST, to cover this unbudgeted expense. Council came to no solution.

**Motion: by Bragg    Seconded: by Parker    3-2**

**Sconyers and Stafford opposed**

Councilperson Sconyers stated he was not opposed to the purchase of the fire engine but he felt there needed to be a solution to pay for the truck before the purchase was made. Councilperson Stafford agreed.

Chief Strobridge reported to council that the Swainsboro Fire Department had received a \$25,000 100% no match grant from Georgia Emergency Management Agency Homeland Security. This grant will pay for needed hazmat detection equipment for the Swainsboro Fire Department.

Chief Strobridge informed council that in 2018 the city has received \$521,291.97

**Administrative:** Administrator Lawson read a request from Ed Farmer to annex a parcel of land on South Main St. A portion of this land (S30 058) is already in the city and this request would take in the entire parcel. This will be the future home of Tractor Supply. Mr. Farmer also requested the city take as a gift, at no cost to the city, two small parcels of land that could be used for utility easements. Motion was made to accept this request.

**Motion: by Sconyers    Seconded: by Parker    5-0**

Administrator Lawson stated he has made the revision on the 911 Number Display Requirements the council had changed in his absence. Councilperson Bragg stated the changes were not to read owner/occupier only owner. Adm. Lawson explained he had met with the Mayor and Police Chief and had been advised to leave it as written because the change was unenforceable in a lot of cases. Councilperson Bragg stated the council had made the change and it needed to be changed. Chief Ellison was present to explain that if this change was made it would be impossible to enforce in a lot of cases. Councilperson Bragg stated the council had made these changes and it needed to be done.

Motion was made to consider the ordinance with the proper changes. See ordinance below; (Including changes)

## **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- 601 911 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.

**Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Stafford 5-0**

Councilperson Bragg informed council that she has written a request for proposal for an additional city audit. Councilperson Sconyers stated he was on that committee and had not seen it. She stated she would get it to committee members for review.

**Public Works:** Councilperson Parker asked Johnny Mills with Jacobs to give a report on the debris clean up. Mr. Mills stated they are about 4 to 5 weeks behind and had still not gotten to the whole city. He stated the city had rented some extra equipment and was paying Jacobs employees for some overtime and this would help.

Councilperson Faulkner stated there were a lot of trees that needed trimming back and that Jacobs needed to look at that. Mr. Mills stated the city would go broke if they cleaned up all the trees that needed trimming and removed.

Councilperson Parker reported Jacobs wanted to rent some equipment to install the Christmas decorations. The would need a lift because the bucket truck they have is not in operational condition. He presented two bids as follows;

1. Southern Rental Systems \$350 per week
2. United Rental \$952 per week

This equipment will be needed from two to three weeks. Motion was made to approve \$ 1050.00 for this expenditure.

**Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Stafford 5-0**

Adm. Lawson noted he had given the council a copy of a GDOT notification that Pine St. between North Main and North Green would be turned into a one way on November 5, 2018.

Johnny Mills with Jacobs reminded the public if your yard waste has trash of garbage in it they would not pick it up. Councilperson Parker asked that Jacobs leave door knockers on the residents house stating why their yard debris was not picked up.

**Airport:** No Report

**Executive:** No Report

**Downtown Development:** No Report

**Building Inspection:** No Report

**Mayor:** Mayor Schwabe stated that the city Administrator's contract is up and need to be reviewed by the Administrative Committee. Councilperson Faulkner, Councilperson Stafford and Councilperson Collins needs to meet and review the contract for renewal.

Councilperson Faulkner stated the council needs to work together better and this was her goal for the upcoming year.

Submitted: Al L. Lawson, City Adm.