



CITY OF
Swainsboro
Crossroads of the Great South



GEORGIA

City Council Meeting

September 12, 2016

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday, September 12, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. at Swainsboro City Hall.

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

Members Absent:

Prayer of Invocation: Rev. Tim Nary

Motion to accept minutes from the previous meeting was made.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Bragg 6-0

A. Consensus Business

Council approved the grant request from the Swainsboro Jaycees for the 2016 Fourth of July Fireworks show of \$3,000.00 this is a budgeted item.

B. New Business

1. Mrs Debbie Riner representing the Swainsboro Dixie Youth League All-star state winning baseball team presented council with a plaque of appreciation.

2. Council considered a request of a \$1,000 grant from Ms. Jolene Brown, an advocate for the Suicide walk that will be held on October 01, 2016 to raise money. She also asked council to assist with some police assistance for the walkers. Council considered the request and a motion was made to support the walk but not to extend the grant requested.

**Motion: by Sconyers Seconded: by Stafford 3-3 Mayor approved motion
Sconyers, Stafford, & Faulkner for Parker, Bragg, Collins against**

3. Ms. Denise Ward representing HEARTS Group spoke to council about underage drinking in our community. She spoke to council about adults allowing kids to drink in their homes. She asked council to consider an ordinance to prohibit social hosting for minors. Mayor Schwabe thanked Mrs. Ward for her concern about the safety of our youth and stated the ordinance would be considered.

4. Council heard the alcoholic beverage license application (for advertisement only) from Mr. Tavis Smith dba T's Place on 229 South Main St. for retail Beer & Wine Consumption. Motion was made to advertise. A public hearing will be scheduled for Oct. 3, 2016 on this application.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Faulkner 6-0

5. Adm. Lawson presented the 2017 proposed budget. He reported that all of the revisions from the previous workshop had been made and the budget is being presented as the council requested. The 2017 milage rate would be 19.529 as required by the rollback factor this would not be an increase in revenue and would not require a tax increase advertisement. The council would also add a \$5.00 charge to each customer for an environmental fee, secure a loan of \$300,000 to be paid from the money raised for the theater project, and secure a loan of \$160,000 against the inert landfill closure to balance the budget. The water department would have a 5% increase in all commercial accounts. Motion was made to accept this proposal as presented.

Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Sconyers 6-0

6. Rev. Ida McMillian address the council asking for permission to use the property on Lewis St. owned by the city. She explained they would be putting in a church in that location. She stated that the church would clean up the area and would not require anything from the city.

Council then heard from Mrs. Gertude Phillips as she was also interested in the property. She explained the property would be used for a community center to rent out for birthdays and weddings. Councilperson Parker asked if there would be a charge to use the facility and Mrs. Phillips stated there would be a charge.

Mayor Schwabe explained to each of the ladies that council would have to discuss this issue and it would also be referred to the city attorney.

C. Old Business

None

D. Committee Reports

Recreation: Councilperson Parker handed out the minutes from the Recreation Department Board Meeting.

Water and Waste Water: Councilperson Sconyers everything routine.

Police: Councilperson Stafford presented the Police report.

Councilperson Stafford reported that the Police Personnel Committee had interviewed for a police officer position. They had received only one certified police officer application. The interviews were held and Marty Mercer was recommended for the job. Motion was made to accept the recommendation of the committee and hire Mr. Mercer for the position.

Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Sconyers 6-0

Public Works: Councilperson Faulkner reported the public works department had been very busy after the storm.

Administrative: Councilperson Collins reported everything routine.

Fire: Councilperson Bragg presented the month fire report.

Chief Strobridge displayed the PASS device system the city has and reported the department had received a donation of 14 PASS devices for the system. This was an approximate donation of \$14,000.00.

Chief Strobridge reported that the Nation Fire Academy would be putting fallen Firefighter Ricky Thurman on the National Fallen Fire Fighter Wall in Innsbruck, Maryland. A local contingent will be traveling from Swainsboro to attend the ceremony. Council agreed to provide a van and gas for the trip.

Airport: No Report

Executive: No Report

Downtown Development: No Report

Building Inspection: No Report

Mayor: Mayor Schwabe had no report.

An Executive Session was requested by Mayor Schwabe to discuss a property acquisition.

Motion was made to enter into Executive Session

Motion by Faulkner Seconded by Parker all in favor by show of hands

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before the undersigned attesting officer, duly authorized to administer oaths, Charles Schwabe, who, after being duly sworn, deposes and on oath states the following:

I was the presiding officer of a meeting of the Swainsboro City Council held on the day of September 12, 2016. That it is my understanding that O.C.G.A §50-14-4(b) provides as follows:

When any meeting of an agency is closed to the public pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section, the chairperson or other person presiding over such meeting shall execute and file with the official minutes of the meeting a notarized affidavit stating under oath that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law and identifying the specific relevant exception. The subject matter of the closed meeting or closed portion of the meeting held on the 12th day of September, 2016, which was closed for the purpose of property acquisition requested by Mayor Charles Schwabe as allowed by O.C.G.A., Title 50, Chapter 14, was devoted to matters within those exceptions and as provided by law.

This affidavit is being executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b) that such an affidavit be executed.

This 12th day of September, 2016
MAYOR / CITY OF SWAINSBORO

Council re-enter regular session

No action taken

Meeting was Adjourned

Submitted: Al L Lawson, City Administrator