



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

City Council Meeting

June 01, 2020

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday, June 01, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. at the Swainsboro Fire Department class room. Social distancing was observed.

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

Members Absent:

Prayer of Invocation: Cameron Kennison

Motion was offered to accept the minutes as read from the previous meeting.

Motion: Stevens Seconded: Parker 5-0
Collins was absent

A. Consensus Business

None

B. New Business

1. Mayor Schwabe asked that the agenda be modified to include a discussion on hazard pay. Councilperson Stevens also asked property clean up discussion be added to the agenda. Motion was made to allow the discussions.

Motion: Stevens Seconded: Parker 6-0

2. Councilperson Stevens asked what the progress was on the clean-up effort of the city. He discussed the Wilson property on East Main St. and stated nothing had been done in over 6 months to clean up that property. He reported that they have no business licence to operate and asked what was being done. Administrator Lawson reported that they had been cited for doing business without a licence and sent to Municipal Court. Mr. Wilson had hired an attorney and the case was still pending. Councilperson Stevens asked for a detailed report of all the progress that had been made in that incident. Fire Chief Strobridge also reported that the Georgia State Fire Marshall's had contacted the business and was inspecting the business in order to issue a certificate of occupancy. This is still pending from the State Fire Marshall's office.

Councilperson Stevens then spoke of the other delapidated houses in the city and the progress that was being made on them. Administrator Lawson reported that a list of 19 properties had been identified for cleanup and had been cleared by the building inspector. He then stated he was instructed by council to stop the operation until some issues could be worked out. To date those issues are still pending. Councilperson Stevens stated he thought it was a good idea to hire a part time Code Enforcement Officer that was a certified police officer to get these issues resolved and move a head with the clean up operation.

3. Mayor Schwabe presented a matrix proposal for hazard pay for front line employees for council consideration. This proposal was as follows; (See Page 2 for details)

Council then discussed the proposal presented. Councilperson Parker stated he thought all employees should get the same stiffen. Councilperson Collins agreed with Councilperson Parker. Councilperson Stevens stated that all employees do not do the same job and the level of exposure to the virus is different. Mayor Schwabe stated this proposal addressed the levels of exposure and risk. The question was asked when this proposal would go into effect and the Mayor informed council it would start on March 16, 2020 and was uncertain what day it would go through. Motion was made to pass the Mayor's proposal as presented.

Motion: Sconyers Seconded: Stafford 3-3
Parker, Collins, Faulkner opposed
Sconyers, Stafford, Stevens for
Mayor voted yes
Motion passed

4. Adm. Lawson reported that he had been working on a grant to replace the water tank located on Old Nunez and reported that with the help of GBT Engineers the city was awarded a grant for \$630,500.00. This was 50% of the cost of a new water tank. He then informed council a resolution needed to be passed to start the process of drawing the plans accepting the grant. The resolution was as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council of the City of Swainsboro, Georgia realize the need to construct Water System Improvements to include dismantling an existing 100,000-gallon elevated drinking water tank and constructing a new 500,000-gallon elevated drinking water tank on the existing 100,000-gallon tank site.

The Council hereby authorizes Mayor Charles Schwabe to prepare and execute documents to acquire the funding for the Water System Improvements from the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authorities State Revolving Fund in the amount of \$1,261,000.00 and to authorize Turnipseed Engineers to prepare plans and specifications for the project.

THIS RESOLUTION was passed by a vote of 6-0 at a Council Meeting of the Mayor and Council on June 01, 2020.

Motion was made to adopt the resolution as presented and seek the city portion funding by a GEFA loan at 1% over a 10 year period.

Motion: Stevens Seconded: Parker 6-0

C. Old Business

1. Adm. Lawson reported that he had not heard from John at Carter and Sloope on the Robin Rd. project.

D. Department Requests

None

Mayor Schwabe request an Executive Session for the purpose to discuss a real estate matter.

Motion was made to enter into Executive Session.

Motion: Parker Seconded: Faulkner

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 June 01, 2020 .

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 1st day of June, 2020, which was closed for the purpose of real-estate issue requested by Mayor 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 1st day of June, 2020

Council re-enter Regular Session.

Mayor Schwabe reported he has received a bid from Daphne Strobridge for the property located on the corner of Church and Bell St. (S24 056) for \$200.00. Motion was made to accept the bid as presented. Councilperson Stevens asked what the value of the property was and Councilperson Sconyers stated a sign needed to be put on the property so everyone could see it was for sell and have a chance to bid on it.

Motion: Parker Seconded: Faulkner 3-3
Parker, Faulkner, Collins For
Stevens, Sconyers, Stafford Against Mayor Schwabe vote yes
Motion passed

Submitted: Al L. Lawson, City Adm.