



CITY OF
Swainsboro GEORGIA
Crossroads of the Great South

City Council Meeting

June 08, 2021

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday, June 07, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Swainsboro City Hall. Social distancing was observed.

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

Members Absent:

Prayer of Invocation: Rev. Shannon Boula

Minutes were considered and motion was made to accept minutes as presented.

Motion by: Sconyers Seconded : Stafford 6-0

A. Consensus Business

None

B. New Business

1. Council heard the application of Michelle Stanford dba Lucy's Pool Hall at 210 Williams St. for a Game Room license. Adm. Lawson presented the application to council and council had some questions about the recent incidents at that location. Police Chief Ellison reported that there had been some altercations at this location. An individual had been shot, 27 containers of alcohol had been confiscated, and weapons on the premises. They also were cited for operating without a licenses. After consideration motion was made to deny the license request.

Motion by: Stevens Seconded by Sconyers 6-0

C. Old Business

1. Council heard the application of Denise Miles at 406 Rentz St. dba Lounge 2020 LLC for beer and wine consumption on the premises. Mayor Schwabe announced this was a Public Hearing and asked if anyone was present to speak for or against the application. No one spoke. Fire Chief Mike Strobridge stated that this was a two story building and was only the bottom floor was licensed. Motion was made to approve the application as presented.

Motion: Parker Seconded by Faulkner 6-0

D. Department Head Request

Police Chief Ellison reported that the Police Department committee had met and interviewed applicants for the open Police Officer position. The committee recommends the hiring of Elasha Young, Austin Newton, Daniela Santos-Avalos, and Kenneth Bishop. Motion was made to hire as recommended.

Motion: Stevens Seconded by Sconyers 6-0

Fire Chief Strobridge informed council that Standards and Training had been to the Department and checked the records and Swainsboro Fire Department had no issues.

He reported that the Swainsboro Haz-Mat Unit had also been checked by Homeland Security and they had changed the rating from a rating of 3 to 1. This will allow the Swainsboro Unit to apply for grants every year.

Fire Chief Strobridge reported that the Old American LaFrance Fire engine had seen its last days and was to costly to repair. He reported that the plaque on the engine would be displayed on the wall in Fire Station I. He also presented two of the council members, at the time of the purchase, two of the emblems off of the old truck.

Fire Chief Strobridge wanted to inform the public that fireworks could not be fired after 12:00 midnight. With the upcoming holiday he wanted everyone to keep this in mind.

Mayor Schwabe reported the Gumlog Gym project had started and was coming along good. The carpenter work and the plumbing work had begun.

Adm. Lawson reported that the Barbara and Tobe Karrh Theater had received a grant for \$75,000 toward the purchase of the HVAC units.

Mayor Schwabe reported to the council the city would be receiving money from the American Rescue Plan Act. The council members need to look at the needs in their wards and report back to the mayor. This money has many restrictions and the requests would be looked at on the needs and qualifications according to the grant requirements.

Bertha Jones asked if the money would be distributed to all areas of the city? Mayor Schwabe responded all areas would be looked at and all areas would be served.

Councilperson Stevens reported that the City of Adrian had not met some of the payment requirements with the IRS and had been fined. He was asking that the council consider helping the city of Adrian with some of their financial obligations. Council asked if this was legal. No one knew and no motion was made for assistance.

Councilperson Stevens stated he was working with Richard Claxton and Adm. Lawson to make sure the proper flag raising protocol was followed during each holiday.

Mayor Schwabe called for an Elective Session to discuss a real-estate issue. Motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss a real estate issue.

Motion by Sconyers Seconded by Stevens All in favor by show of hands

Charles Schwabe was the presiding officer of a meeting of the Swainsboro City Council held on the day of June 07, 2021.

1. 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.
2. The subject matter of the closed meeting or closed portion of the meeting held on the 7th day of June, 2021, which was closed for the purpose of land acquisition 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.
3. 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.

Council re-entered into regular session.

Council discussed entering into an agreement with the Swainsboro/Emanuel County Chamber of Commerce and the County of Emanuel to renovate the property on West Morning St. The city would provide the property and the Chamber and the County would provide the renovation.

Motion by: Sconyers Seconded by Stafford 6-0

Council discussed the possibility of the Emanuel County Board of Education using the building on Kite Hwy presently owned by the city. This building would be leased to the Emanuel Co. BOE for \$1 per year. The Board of Education would take care of all renovation and utility expenses involved.

Motion by : Parker Seconded by Sconyers. 6-0

Mayor Schwabe open bids received for surplus property. Adm. Lawson will evaluate the proposals and bring a report back to council to review.

Special called meeting on June 22, 2021 Tuesday at 6:00 to discuss the ARPA money.