



**Cleveland City Council
Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, January 9, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.
Cleveland Community Center/Police Department
342 Campbell Street, Cleveland, GA**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor Josh Turner, Council Members Nan Bowen, Rebecca Yardley (Mayor Pro Tem), Jeremy McClure, and C.J. McDonald

Also present were City Administrator Kevin Harris, City Attorney Keith Whitaker, and City Clerk Lisa Ritchie

- 2. Invocation – Jeff Groves of The Bridge Church & White County Ministerial Alliance**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Approve Agenda**

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McDonald, and voted, unanimously, to approve the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS

5. Optimist Day Proclamation

Mayor Turner presented the Proclamation to Wanda Obermeier, Kathryn Vazquez, and Margo Allison. Ms. Obermeier, White County foundation representative, stated that on Optimist Day the students of White County are invited to perform essays and to hold a rhetorical contest. She said the winner in 1975 was former Vice President Mike Pence. She said their wish is for someone from White County to be the next world champion.

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McClure, and voted, unanimously, to approve the Optimist Day Proclamation.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

6. Economic Development and Planning – Director Tom O’Bryant

- December 2022 Report

Mr. O’Bryant addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He reported the following December items:

- Occupational Licenses - 2
- Building Permits – 4 (2 homes)
- Sign Permits - 1
- Building Inspections - 12
- Plan Reviews – 1 (White County Tax Commissioner Office)
- Zoning Application – 1 (Annexation Application that will come before the Mayor and Council at their meeting on February 13)
- Current Commercial Activity – 4
- Development Inquiries – 6
- Grant Applications
 - Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Grant pre-application was approved. The city needs to complete the checklist for the full application process for approval.
- Infrastructure
 - London Land Surveying has mapped and marked a proposed route for gravity flow for sewer lines from the lift station location to the manhole on Head Street. Public Works staff met with the property owner. They are reviewing the line location and will provide information soon. An easement agreement will then need to be drawn up.
 - The city has made a request to Georgia EPD to expedite the review and approval of the proposed well. The draw down test will be completed in January.
 - GDOT LMIG finding applications are due February 1, 2023. Staff proposed to resurface Donald E. Thurmond Parkway.

7. Finance Department – Finance Director Connie Tracas

- December 2022 statistics

Ms. Tracas addressed the Mayor and Council Members. She stated that, compared to November, there had been a decrease in LOST and in SPLOST in December. However, she stated that it is comparable to this time last year. She said revenues are steady at 55% in the General Fund, with expenditures at 52%, water and sewer revenues are

down slightly, and water and sewer expenditures are slightly high due to necessary maintenance items.

8. Fire Department – Chief Ricky Pruitt

- December 2022 statistics

Chief Pruitt addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He reported the following December items:

- Total of 119 Calls: 74 inside the city and 44 in the County
- White County Fire Department responded 4 times in the city
- Cleveland Fire responded to a total of 1,135 calls in 2022

9. Police Department - Chief Jeff Shoemaker

- December 2022 statistics

Chief Shoemaker addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He reported the following December items:

- Total occurrences - 2,308
- Total 2022 occurrences – 28,587
 - Public assists - 440
 - Premise checks – 1,052
 - Field interviews - 10
 - Incident reports - 63
 - Accident reports - 39
 - Investigative/supplemental - 109
 - Administrative duties - 322
 - Citations Issued - 90
 - Warnings - 159
 - Warrants - 23
 - Juvenile – 1
- Citations
 - Misdemeanor, non-traffic - 6
 - DUI, Alcohol, & serious offenses - 8
 - Driver’s license, Registration, & Insurance - 28
 - Moving violations, traffic control, etc. - 45
 - Equipment, seatbelt, etc. - 3

10. Public Works Department – Assistant Public Works Director Ricky Hunt

- December 2022 statistics

Mr. Hunt addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He reported the following December items:

- Inside New Water Cut-In - 2
- Meter Change Outs – 9

- City Hall Maintenance - 1
- Sewer Backup – 5
- Dumpster repair/replace - 1
- Miscellaneous – 3
- Check for Leaks – 26
- Final Reading Do Not Lock - 6
- Garbage Request – 17
- Re-reads – 1
- Cut Off and lock meter - non-payment – 7
- Garbage request extra charge - 2
- Meeting with customer – 10
- Snowbird – 2
- Final Read and Lock Meter- 7
- Street Repair – 5
- Meter Inspections – 22
- Garbage service discontinued - 2
- Residential Turn On – 16
- Commercial Turn On – 2
- Residential – Just unlock, do not turn on - 2
- City Park repairs/Maintenance – 1
- City property maintenance – 1
- Emergency before/after – 3
- Monthly Meter Readings – 2,234
- Monthly Meter Re-Reads – 17
- Utility Locates – 75 (regular)
- Utility Locates – 6 (emergency)

Council Member McClure expressed his gratitude for Mr. Hunt and public works employees who spent 12 hours in the freezing temperatures working on issues caused by frozen pipes.

Mayor Turner expressed his appreciation to Mr. Hunt and to the public works employees.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR KEVIN HARRIS

Mr. Harris did not have any items to discuss.

CITY ATTORNEY KEITH WHITAKER

Mr. Whitaker did not have any items to discuss.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING DIRECTOR TOM O'BRYANT

11. Submittal of the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) Application

Mr. O'Bryant addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He stated the following:

- FY 2023 application submittals are due by February 1, 2023
- Donald Thurmond Parkway needs to be resurfaced and is an eligible project for this grant
- Based on estimates by DOT the cost would be \$258,265 for the resurfacing
- LMIG funds will fund approximately 21.4% of the project
- This project will be combined with the FY 2022 project, patching and resurfacing on Head Street, Kensington Lane, Ascot Drive, and Berkshire Drive
- Combining the projects will make the project more attractive to bidders

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to approve the LMIG as presented and authorize the mayor to digitally sign the application and the affidavit.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Harris addressed the Mayor and Council Members to present the Second and First Headings.

- 12. Second Public Hearing and Vote - 2023-01- Water and Sewer Tap and Connection Fees Amendment**

There were no comments from the public.

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Yardley and voted, unanimously, to approve the 2023-01 Water and Sewer tap and Connection Fees Amendment.

- 13. Second Public Hearing and Vote - 2023-02 - Sanitation and Utility Service Fees Amendment**

There were no comments from the public.

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to approve the 2023-02 Sanitation and Utility Service Fees Amendment

- 14. First Public Hearing - 2023-03 - Sanitation and Solid Waste Ordinance Amendment**

There were no comments from the public.

NEW BUSINESS

- 15. Annual readoption of the Rules of Decorum with an amendment to revise the time limit of 3 minutes for public comments**

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to postpone the amendment of the Rules of Decorum.

16. Renewal of a 5-year contract with CSRA Probation Services, Inc.

Ms. Ritchie stated that the contract for probation services renews every 5 years. She stated that there is no cost to the city as the services are paid for by the probationers.

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to approve the renewal of a 5-year contract with CSRA Probation Services, Inc.

17. Knights Inn Request for approval to allow a Front Desk Clerk to stay, 24/7, at the location to run the property and also to allow housekeepers to stay at the location, 24/7, until March 10, 2023 due to the owner's family emergency.

Mr. Harris stated with the recent passage of the hotel/motel ordinance any vacancies must be brought before the Council for their approval. Chief Pruitt stated that the property had come to compliance and is being maintained.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to approve the Knights Inn request to allow a Front Desk Clerk to stay, 24/7, at the location to run the property and also to allow housekeepers to stay at the location, 24/7, until March 10, 2023 due to the owner's family emergency.

18. 2023-04 Resolution for the purpose of setting 2023 Appointments

Mayor Turner stated that the 2023-04 Resolution appoints Council Member Rebecca Yardley to serve as the Mayor Pro Tem, appoints Haley McDonald to Tree City USA, and appoints Susan Cremering to the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission.

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to approve the 2023-04 Resolution.

19. 2023-05 Qualifying Fees and Call for Election Resolution

Ms. Ritchie stated that the Resolution is for the following:

- This is the Call for a general election on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall for the purpose of filling the positions of Mayor, Council Member Ward 1, and Council Member Ward 2 which will expire on December 31, 2023
- The Qualifying Fees are \$126.00 for the Mayor's position, \$108.00 for the Ward 1 Council Member position, and \$108.00 for the Ward 2 Council Member position

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to approve the 2023-05 Qualifying Fees and Call for Election Resolution.

20. 2023-06 Budget Amendment Resolution

- Move funding from General Government and from Recreation & Culture to Public Safety
- Add an ARPA Fund line item
- Reduction to the Hotel-Motel Fund

Mr. Harris stated that the budget amendments recommended by the auditor as a result of the recent audit.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to approve the 2023-06 Budget Amendment Resolution in regards to Move funding from General Government and from Recreation & Culture to Public Safety.

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to approve the 2023-06 Budget Amendment Resolution in regards to adding an ARPA Fund line item.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to approve the 2023-06 Budget Amendment Resolution in regards to reducing the Hotel-Motel Fund.

21. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- December 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to approve December 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Ritchie gave the announcements.

22. Upcoming calendar items:

- White County Water Authority Meeting Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 7:30 a.m. at 179 Claude Sims Road
- City of Cleveland offices will be closed on Monday, January 16, 2023, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

- Downtown Development Authority Meeting Thursday, February 2, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. at the White County Chamber of Commerce
- Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting Thursday, February 2, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Police Department

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to enter an Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.

23. Discussion regarding real estate


Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the City Council Meeting at 8:06 pm.

ADJOURN


Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the City Council Called Meeting of October 17, 2022, at 8:06 p.m.



 Josh Turner Mayor




 Jeremy McClure Council Member
 Ward 3



 Nan Bowen Council Member
 Ward 1



 C.J. McDonald Council Member
 Ward 4



 Rebecca Yardley Council Member
 Ward 2
 Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:


 Kevin Harris City Administrator