



Cleveland City Council
Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 11, 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, Jeremy McClure (Mayor Pro Tem), and C.J. McDonald

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

- 2. Invocation – Student Ministries Pastor Garrett Kersey, The Bridge Church, and White County Ministerial Alliance**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Approve Agenda**

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member McDonald, and voted, unanimously, to approve the agenda with the following amendments:

- Remove item 14 from the agenda
- Item 15 will be re-numbered as item 14
- Item 16 will be re-number as item 15 and will be a discussion of Real Estate only then the Council will come out of Executive Session for a vote
- Item 16 will be an Executive Session for the discussion of Real Estate and Personnel

PROCLAMATION

- 5. Proclamation for presentation at a later date**

Mayor Turner stated that it is a proclamation recognizing a former member of the Council.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McClure, and voted, unanimously, to approve the proclamation.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

6. Economic Development and Planning– Director Tom O’Bryant
 - August 2023 Report

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

- Occupational Licenses – 2 (Apex Bank, AC Home Renovations)
- Building Permits – 8 (combination of commercial and residential)
- Building Inspections – 22 (combination of commercial and residential)
- Sign Permits – 3 (North Ga. Hardwoods, Lifestyle Studio)
- Plan Reviews – 2 (Anderson LDP, Truett McConnell remodel)
- Current Commercial Activity – 5 (Apex Banks, Waffle House, Scooters Coffee, Berry IGA, Wendys)
- Development Inquiries – 3 (Canada Residential LLC, Tom Williams Residential, Soaring Therapy)
- Grant Applications
 - Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Grant for the wastewater treatment plant – full application is currently under review by ARC in Washington, DC
 - EDA Grant application related to Disaster Declaration FEMA-4600-DR, for resiliency relief to help fund the proposed waste water treatment plant – application is under review
 - FEMA AFG – Administration set-up, ladder truck specs and vendor have been submitted to the grant administrator
 - GDOT Transportation Alternative (TAP) grant application for preliminary engineering for sidewalk and crosswalks connecting Freedom Park and City Park – Cost estimates have

increased which increases the local match – a revised scoping meeting is scheduled in September.

- Infrastructure and Planning
 - The Angel Lane developer has received the Land Disturbance Permit (LDP) and has held a meeting regarding the implementation of water and sewer infrastructure
 - Well #6 (new well) is currently under bid
 - Church Street culvert has been replaced and the intersection improvements are complete
 - Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Meeting is scheduled for later this week

7. Fire Department – Chief Ricky Pruitt

- August 2023 Report

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

- Total of 114 Calls: 74 inside the city and 40 in the County
- White County Fire Department responded 6 times in the city

Chief Pruitt stated that he was in communication with the grant writer for the ladder truck.

8. Police Department - Chief Jeff Shoemaker

- August 2023 Report

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

- Total occurrences – 2,237
 - Public assists - 442
 - Premise checks – 1,249
 - Field interviews - 7
 - Incident reports - 44
 - Accident reports - 19
 - Investigative/supplemental - 59
 - Citations Issued - 97
 - Warnings - 212
 - Warrants - 8
 - Juveniles – 0
- Citations

- Misdemeanor, non-traffic - 8
- DUI, Alcohol, & serious offenses - 2
- Driver's license, Registration, & Insurance - 31
- Moving violations, traffic control, etc. - 37
- Equipment, seatbelt, etc. - 19

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

- August 2023 Report

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

- Inside New Water Cut-In & Sewer – 1
- Water Quality – 2
- Meter Change Out – 12
- Miscellaneous – 1
- Check for Leak – 17
- Final Reading Do Not Lock – 15
- Garbage Request 13
- Meeting with Customer – 1
- Final Read and Lock Meter – 14
- Payment Agreement – 2
- Street Repair – 3
- Meter Inspection – 16
- Residential Cut On – 1
- Residential Turn On -29
- Commercial Turn On – 1
- Speed Bump – 1
- After Hours Work – 3
- Line Inspection – 90
- Street R-O-W Maintenance – 4
- Meter Readings – Monthly – 2,274
- Meter Re-Reads – Monthly – 29
- Utility Locates – 119

NEW BUSINESS

10. City Park Security Enhancements, Phase II

Mr. O'Bryant addressed the Mayor and Council to discuss the enhancement of fiber optics to create a more reliable system at the park.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McDonald, and voted, unanimously, to approve entering into a contract with Habersham Electric Membership Cooperation (HEMC) for Cleveland Woodman of the World City Park fiber build at a cost of \$49,000 to be paid for by SPLOST funds.

11. Alcohol Review Board Guidelines

Mr. Harris discussed the guidelines.

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member McClure, and voted, unanimously, to approve the Alcohol Review Board Guidelines as submitted.

12. Purchase of the following vehicles for the Public Works Department

- 2023 Ford Maverick
- 2023 Dodge Ram 4WD 1500

Mr. Harris discussed the needs for the two trucks.

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member McDonald, and voted, unanimously, to approve the purchase of the 2023 Ford Maverick and the 2023 Dodge Ram (SPLOST V funding).

13. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- September 5, 2023 Called Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McClure, and voted, unanimously, to approve the Minutes of the September 5, 2023 Called Meeting with corrections.

~~**14. Approval of Executive Session Minutes**~~

- ~~• September 5, 2023 Executive Session Minutes~~
- ~~• September 5, 2023 Executive Session Minutes~~

Item was removed from the agenda and scheduled for approval at the next scheduled meeting, during the approval of the agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. Package Store Applications Update

Item was renumbered during the approval of the agenda.

Mr. Harris stated the following:

- There are four applications eligible out of the five that were submitted
- A lottery will be held to determine the outcome
- Four applicants qualified to be in the lottery

- One applicant was initially denied and allowed the opportunity to appeal the decision within 15 calendar days
- If no appeal is submitted the lotter will take place earlier

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judy Lovell addressed the Mayor and Council Members and read from the January 5, 1945 newspaper which stated information about businesses and current events during 1945.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR KEVIN HARRIS

CITY ATTORNEY KEITH WHITAKER

Mr. Whitaker did not have any items to report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to enter an Executive Session at 7:13 p.m.

15. Discussion regarding real estate ~~and personnel~~

Amended during the adoption of the agenda for the Executive Session to be for Real Estate only.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the City Council Meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Council Member McDonald opened the door to allow citizens to return to the regular meeting.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McDonald, and voted, unanimously, to approve the Purchase and Sale Agreement, as presented by Ms. Palmour, between the City of Cleveland and Julia Ann Palmour pertaining to the purchase for the price of \$350,000, of the water rights on certain property owned by the City of Cleveland and which water rights are the subject of a water agreement between the city and John D. Palmour, resulting in the termination of that water agreement. Council Member Bowen continued the motion for the Mayor, Josh Turner, to be authorized to sign the Purchase and Sale Agreement and all closing documents to complete the purchase on behalf of the city. The purchase shall be funded by ARPA funds.

Mr. Harris stated that the city was paying a monthly fee for the water off of the property. He said this purchase will resolve the lease agreement and provide Cleveland with resources for the community.

Executive Session, item 16, was added during the adoption of the agenda.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to enter an Executive Session at 7:57 p.m.

16. Discussion regarding real estate and personnel

Council Member McDonald opened the door to allow citizens to return to the regular meeting.

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the City Council Meeting at 8:33 p.m.


Council Member McDonald opened the door to allow citizens to return to the regular meeting.

ADJOURN


Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the City Council Meeting of September 11, 2023, at 8:34 p.m.



Josh Turner Mayor



Jeremy McClure Council Member
Ward 3
Mayor Pro Tem



Nan Bowen Council Member
Ward 1



C.J. McDonald Council Member
Ward 4

VACANT Council Member
Ward 2

ATTEST:


Lisa A. Ritchie City Clerk