

Council Minutes

Regular Meeting

May 2, 2023

A regular meeting of the Millen City Council was held on May 2, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Mayor King Rocker, Council Members Darrel Clifton, Regina Coney, Ed Fuller, Robin Scott, and Giovanni Shumake. Also present were City Attorney Hubert Reeves and City Manager Jeff Brantley.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Rocker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Invocation

Council Member Clifton gave the invocation.

3. Consent Agenda

A. Approve Minutes from April 4, 2023 Regular Council Meeting

B. Approve Minutes from the April 19, 2023 Council Workshop

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Coney to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0, Council Member Scott was not present for the vote.

4. Approve Resolution for 2023 Community Development Block Grant Application

Council Member Coney made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approve a resolution of the City of Millen for Fiscal Year 2023 application for a Community Development Block Grant. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0, Council Member Scott was not present for the vote. A copy of the resolution is attached to the minutes.

5. Review and Approve Ordinance to amend Article VII of Chapter 26 of the Code of the City of Millen to Revise the current provisions and add provisions for Honorary Street and Road Naming

Council Member Shumake made a motion, seconded by Council Member Coney to approve an Ordinance to delete Article VII of Chapter 26 of the Code and adopting a new Article VII of Chapter 26 to revise the provisions for naming and renaming of street; addressing of street; and naming of public parks, facilities, bridges and monuments, and to add provisions for honorary street or road naming. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0, Council Member Scott was not present for the vote.

Council Member Shumake made a motion, seconded by Council Member Clifton to approve the Procedures and Application for requesting honorary road naming for the City of Millen. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0, Council Member Scott was not present for the vote.

6. Review proposed Water Leak Adjustment Policy

Council Member Shumake made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approve the Water Leak Adjustment Policy. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0, Council Member Robin Scott was not present for the vote.

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Shumake to not allow the City to use fire hydrants or firetrucks to assist residents with the filling of swimming pools. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0, Council Member Scott was not present for the vote.

Council Member Scott arrived at the meeting after the vote.

Council Member Shumake made a motion, seconded by Council Member Coney for the Water Leak Adjustment Policy to be retroactive 90 days for Bernice James. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

7. Discuss Water/Sewer/Sanitation Rate Increases

Council discussed proposed increases to the water, sewer, gas and sanitation rates for the next budget year. City Manager Brantley was asked to prepare a list of all fees charged by the city and bring to council.

8. Department Reports

- **Utilities - John Thomas**

Mr. Thomas briefed Council on the recent inspections on the Gas system and the sewer system. He updated them on recent repairs and upgrades to the water well electric systems.

- **Public Safety - Dwayne Herrington**

Chief Herrington reported to Council year to date numbers:

Fire - 36 calls

Police - 43 cases, 20 felonies, 32 accidents and over 500 citations

- **Public Works - Clay Boulineau**

Mr. Boulineau was unable to attend the meeting.

- **Billing - Lottie Kaigler**

Mrs. Kaigler updated Council that billing issues with the new AMI read system were improving between our software vendor QS1 and Sensus Analytics. She also stated that 18 of the 48 apartments at Ella Mae Gardens have turned on utilities.

9. City Manager Report

A. Financials

City Manager Brantley reviewed the monthly financials with Council. The net revenues for the month were -211.17.

B. 2020 CDBG Update

Council was informed the final house for the project at 219 Warren Street was under construction.

Also 2 houses were to be demolished in the next few weeks, one on Warren Street and one on Lincoln Street.

C. 2021 CDBG Update

Council was updated on the progress of the 2021 CDBG:

Sewer – Complete

Water – Complete

Curb and Gutter – to be complete by May 5th.

Paving – to be complete by May 12th

Housing – Working to get paperwork complete

D. Lift Station Replacement Update

Council was informed that the work was progressing on schedule. That the 3-lift station changeouts were scheduled over the next two weeks.

E. Budget Public Hearing

A Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2024 City Budget is scheduled for the June 6th Regular meeting and a called meeting would be set for June 20th for budget adoption.

10. Mayor's Comments/Report

No report

11. City Attorney Comments/Report

No Report

12. Council Member Comments/Reports

Council Member Clifton inquired about Code Enforcement and the Trains blocking the crossings. Council was informed that Bryan Budget has started effective April 28, 2023 as part time code enforcement officer. The trains were discussed and efforts by local, state and federal officials to help with the problem were discussed.

Council Member Scott inquired on the grant sidewalks on Old Waynesboro Road. The grant is for the preliminary engineering for sidewalks and was a long process. He also inquired about sidewalks as part of the CDBG projects on Buckhead Road. Sidewalks can be included in CDBG grants and will be planned if enough funds are available.

Council Member Shumake informed Council that grants were being sought by the Chamber of Commerce for playground equipment in the City.

13. Executive Session

- **Discussion of deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or perioding evaluation or rating of a city officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6)**

Council Member Coney made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott to exit regular session and enter executive session at 7:44 p.m. for discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or perioding evaluation or rating of a city officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6). The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Council Member Coney made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to exit executive session and enter regular session at 8:11 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Rocker adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Approved by Mayor and Council: _____

Mayor's Signature: _____

Attest by City Manager: _____