

City Council Meeting  
City Hall – Council Chambers  
June 1, 2023  
6:00 P.M. – Work Session  
7:00 P.M. – Council Meeting

## **WORK SESSION**

Mayor Matthew Santini opened Work Session at 6:02 P.M. Council Members discussed each item from the agenda with corresponding Staff Members.

Council Member Fox made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of Potential Litigation. Council Member Roth seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 4-0

Mayor Santini closed Work Session at 6:52 P.M.

## **OPENING MEETING**

Mayor Santini called the Council Meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

Invocation by Council Member Cooley.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Roth.

The City Council met in Regular Session with Mathew Santini, Mayor, presiding, and the following present: Kari Hodge, Council Member Ward One; Jayce Stepp, Council Member Ward Two; Cary Roth, Council Member Ward Three; Calvin Cooley, Council Member Ward Four; Gary Fox, Council Member Ward Five; Taff Wren, Council Member Ward Six; Dan Porta, City Manager; Julia Drake, City Clerk; and David Archer, City Attorney.

Absent:

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

#### **1. May 18, 2023, Council Meeting Minutes**

Council Member Stepp made a motion to approve the May 18, 2023, Meeting Minutes. Council Member Cooley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Vote: 6-0

### **SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES**

#### **2. 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Reporting Text Amendment**

Randy Mannino, Planning and Development Director stated following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Reporting in November 2022, it was recommended to change the requirements to include four

quarters (Oct-Sept) in the reporting versus the previous requirement of only three quarters (Jan-Sept).

Council Member Fox made a motion to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Reporting Text Amendment. Council Member Roth seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 6-0

Reference Ordinance 28-23 and 29-23

## **FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES**

### **3. Budget Ordinance**

Tom Rhinehart, Finance Director, stated the fiscal year 2023-24 budget ordinance is attached. The proposed budget is a balanced budget and increased \$37,565,020 over the fiscal year 2022-23 budget which equates to a 20.92% increase. The proposed budget includes salary adjustments, a small increase in the City's property tax millage rate, an increase in health insurance premiums for both the city and the employees, and a small increase in the water and sewer rates.

Budget comparison by type for the FY 2024 proposed budget compared to the FY 2023 budget include: personnel expenses decrease by \$47,155; operating expenses increased \$2,985,455; purchase of commodities increased by \$11,145,005; debt service expenses increased \$1,952,165; capital expenses increased \$20,559,550, and transfers to the general fund increased \$970,000. Approval was recommended for FY 2023-24 budget as presented.

This is a first reading and will be voted on at the next scheduled City Council Meeting on June 15, 2023.

### **4. Amendment to Utilities Ordinance Regarding Water and Sewer Rates**

Mr. Rhinehart stated the proposed fiscal year 2023-24 budget includes an increase in the Water and Sewer Fund to help address the maintenance and capital issues of the water fund. The increase is as follows: a 2% increase in the residential water and sewer rates for both inside and outside the city limits customers.

The 2% increase will allow the Water Department to continue the maintenance of the existing water and sewer system as well as update/expand the system to fulfill the needs of existing customers. For residential customers, the water and sewer rate increase equate to \$0.18 per 1,000 gallons used for city residents. The total estimated increase for a residential water and sewer customer is \$1.27 per month for 7,000 gallons consumed.

With the proposed increase in the water and sewer rates, the City of Cartersville residents will remain one of the lowest in the surrounding municipalities. The increase is needed to maintain the existing system and plan for any necessary future expansions. Approval was recommended to increase water and sewer rates beginning July 1, 2023.

This is a first reading and will be voted on at the next scheduled City Council Meeting on

June 15, 2023.

## **CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS**

### **5. Rotary Club of Etowah for July 4, 2023, Celebration**

Dan Porta, City Manager, stated this is a contract between the City of Cartersville and the Rotary Club of Etowah for the July 4th celebration at Dellinger Park. Additionally, JRM Management Services, Inc. has contracted with the Rotary Club of Etowah to coordinate this event and the contract is attached.

Council Member Hodge made a motion to approve the Rotary Club of Etowah for July 4, 2023, Celebration contract. Council Member Cooley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 6-0

### **6. Fire Station 5**

Scott Carter, Fire Chief, stated the Fire Department respectfully request approval of architecture/engineering services provided by Croft and Associates for the construction of Cartersville Fire Station 5, proposed at 51 Carter Grove Blvd. Croft and Associates designed stations 1, 3 and 4. Continuing, Chief Carter stated they are maintaining the current design with minor changes to accommodate the site. The cost of our proposal is \$412,100 with a requested amount not to exceed \$425,000. This will be a budgeted capital project and it was requested to authorize the mayor to sign any and all documents in reference to this proposal.

Council Member Roth made a motion to approve Fire Station 5. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 6-0

## **CERTIFICATION**

### **7. Stormwater Management Program Certification**

Wade Wilson, Public Works Director, stated the City of Cartersville is a community with a Phase II Municipal Separate Storm System (MS4). The General NPDES Permit No. GAG61000 allows us to discharge stormwater from our corporate limits into state waters. Every 5 years, this general permit is revised by the Georgia EPD. To be in compliance with the permit and Notice of Intent that was submitted in November of 2022, the city is required to submit a revised Stormwater Management Program (SWMP). Public Works is requesting Council approval to authorize the mayor to sign the updated SWMP. We also request approval to authorize the City Manager, Public Works Director, or City Engineer to sign all future documents which may contain the City's revised stormwater permit, annual reports, and inspections.

Council Member Fox made a motion to approve the Stormwater Management Program Certification. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 6-0

## **GRANT APPLICATION/ACCEPTANCE**

### **8. LMIG Grant Application**

Mr. Wilson stated the City of Cartersville is applying for a Georgia Department of Transportation LMIG Safety Action Program grant. In April, The Georgia Department of Transportation notified Cartersville Public Works about additional LMIG money that can be used to pay 70% for safety projects under \$200,000. Public Works is requesting approval to authorize the mayor to sign the grant application, and to allow Public Works to purchase a rectangular rapidly flashing beacon (RRFB) system to be installed at the existing crosswalk crossing Pine Grove Road near Dellinger Park. The cost of the RRFB system is \$9,050. Once installed and approved, GDOT will reimburse 70%, which is \$6,335. This is a non-budgeted item but can be paid for by Maintenance Funds.

Council Member Roth made a motion to approve the LMIG Grant Application. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 6-0

## **BID AWARD/PURCHASES**

### **9. Water Treatment Plant Expansion Engineering**

Sidney Forsyth, Water Department Director, stated due to projected significant and rapid water demand, primarily from Bartow County water system customers, it is necessary to expand the capacity of the Water Treatment Plant. The estimated total yield of the City's current lake water storage capacity plus the newly reallocated storage is 37 million gallons per day (MGD), which was Bartow County's 2050 projected demand as determined by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District in the 2022 Water Resource Management Plan. The current 24-hour treatment capacity of the plant is 20.5 MGD. The Water Department recommends expanding the treatment plant capacity to 37 MGD. Wiedeman and Singleton Engineers have provided a proposed cost of \$6,992,000.00 for design, permitting, bidding, and construction management for this project. This is a budgeted expense in the FY23\_24 proposed budget and recommended for approval.

Council Member Hodge made a motion to approve Water Treatment Plant Expansion Engineering. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 6-0

### **10. Water Meters for Stock**

Mr. Forsyth stated the Water Department needs to purchase replacement ¾ - inch meters for stock. Kendall Supply is the sole source provider for AMI meters. The cost for one pallet of 192 meters is \$24,921.60.

This is a budgeted item to be paid from account #505.3320.52.2390 and was recommended for approval.

Council Member Cooley made a motion to approve the Water Meters for Stock. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 6-0

### **11. Southway Crane Invoice**

Mr. Forsyth stated the Water Pollution Control Plant required the services of an 80-ton crane to remove and replace two aerator gearboxes and a 2500 kVA pad mounted transformer. Due to unforeseen challenges during operations, the cost exceeded the initial quote which was under \$7,500.00. The cost of the service was \$9,427.00. This is a budgeted maintenance item to be paid from account #505.3330.52.2361 and was recommended for approval.

Council Member Roth made a motion to approve the Southway Crane Invoice. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 6-0

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Ragena Poe, 11 Weaver Street, came forward to state that the Etowah Housing Authority had a tree removed between 11 and 13 Weaver Street. Due to this removal, there is a crack in the street and in her driveway.

Additionally, Ms. Weaver inquired if fees were required to be paid at the Dellinger Park pool for therapy patients.

Mr. Santini stated that Mr. Porta would collect her information and be able to get her some answers pertaining to her concerns.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to discuss, Council Member Stepp made a motion to adjourn.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:33 P.M.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew J. Santini  
Mayor

ATTEST:  
/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Julia Drake  
City Clerk