

City Council Meeting
City Hall – Council Chambers
August 3, 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 into Executive Session for the purposes of Personnel and Litigation. Council Member Roth seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 4-0

Mayor Santini closed Work Session at 06:45 P.M.

OPENING MEETING

Mayor Santini called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Invocation by Council Member Roth.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Fox.

The City Council met in Regular Session with Mathew Santini, Mayor, presiding, and the following present: 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; Ashley Peters, Deputy City Clerk; and Keith Lovell, Assistant City Attorney.

Absent: Kari Hodge, Council Member Ward One and Jayce Stepp, Council Member Ward Two.

REGULAR AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1. July 20, 2023, Council Meeting Minutes

Council Member Cooley made a motion to approve the July 20, 2023, Meeting Minutes. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
Vote: 4-0

Council Member Wren made a motion to add one item to the agenda. Council Member Roth seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote 4-0

ADDED ITEM

2. Oath of Office

Mayor Santini stated David Archer and Keith Lovell would be exchanging titles effective immediately if approved by Council.

Council Member Wren made a motion to approve the change and title of David Archer to Assistant City Attorney and Keith Lovell, City Attorney. Council Member Roth seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote 4-0.

Ashley Peters, Deputy City Clerk, swore Mr. Lovell in as the new City Attorney, and Mr. Archer in as the Assistant City Attorney.

CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

3. Mission Road Sewer Project Closeout

Sidney Forsyth, Water Department Director, stated the Mission Road Gravity Sewer Replacement Project has been completed. The final payment to the contractor, K.M. Davis Contracting Co., Inc. has been processed for payment. A reconciliation change order was provided that adjusted the final project cost to \$2,319,971.18, representing a \$68,757.12 deduction from the original contract price. I recommend approval for the mayor to sign the final reconciliation change order to close the project.

Council Member Fox made a motion to approve the Mission Road Sewer Project Closeout. Council Member Roth seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 4-0

4. Addendum to GMA Customer Service Training Contract

Dan Porta, City Manager, stated Addendum No. 1 to the contract with Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) included additional or “make-up” customer service training sessions for city employees.

Council Member Fox made a motion to approve the Addendum to GMA Customer Service Training Contract. Council Member Cooley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 4-0

5. Updated Hydrology Study Proposal

Scott Carter, Fire Chief, stated the Fire Department requests approval for Croft and Associates to complete an updated hydrology study for the new fire station at Carter Grove. The latest study that we are aware of is believed to have been conducted in 2005. We reached out to the original firm, but they have been unable to provide us with the data. The Public Works Superintendent recommended updating the study to include all changes to stormwater regulations and best management practices. The cost of the study is \$12,500.00 and is a budgeted expense.

Council Member Fox made a motion to approve the Updated Hydrology Study Proposal. Council Member Roth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Vote: 4-0

6. CMR at Fire Station #5

Freddy Morgan, Assistant City Manager, stated this was the professional services agreement between the City and Reeves Young to perform CMR services for Fire Station #5.

Council Member Fox made a motion to approve the CMR at Fire Station #5. Council Member Roth seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 4-0

Pension Plan Resolution and Amendment was removed from the agenda.

RESOLUTIONS

7. 178 W Main Street Concept Plan

Mr. Porta stated the Womack Brothers LLC are seeking approval of conceptual plans for City Overlook, a proposed townhome development located at 178 W. Main Street.

Matt Womack, 716 West Avenue, came forward and stated 30 days was sufficient for closing.

Discussion commenced among the Mayor and Council Members and ultimately decided that 60 days was needed to provide further detailed drawings and information on materials that would be used.

Mr. Womack agreed to the 60-day extension and agreed to provide the Mayor and City Council with the requested details.

Council Member Roth made a motion to add an item to the agenda. Council Member Wren seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote 4-0

Council Member Roth made a motion to adjust the concept plan 178 W Main Street Concept Plan as well as extend the due date to 60 days. Council Member Wren seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 4-0

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

8. Amendment and Restatement of the 1967 Retirement Plan

Mr. Porta stated this ordinance amendment and restatement will allow the city to move our plan assets for the 1967 Pension Plan to the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) to allow them to manage our pension plan assets and provide the monthly benefits to city retirees. Moving to GMEBS is a win for the city as it reduces our costs to maintain the defined benefit plan offered to our employees hired before January 1, 2017.

This was a first reading and will be voted on at the September 7, 2023, Council Meeting.

9. Amendment and Restatement of the 2017 Retirement Plan

Mr. Porta stated this ordinance amendment and restatement will allow the city to move our plan assets for the 2017 Pension Plan to the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) to allow them to manage our pension plan assets and provide the monthly benefits to city retirees. Moving to GMEBS has allowed us to increase the pension plan benefit multiplier to 2%, which helps us retain and recruit new employees. This plan is for employees hired on or after January 1, 2017.

This was a first reading and will be voted on at the September 7, 2023, Council Meeting.

10. Amendment to Retirement Plan Ordinances

Mr. Porta stated moving to GMEBS created a need to amend several of our existing retirement plan ordinances.

This was a first reading and will be voted on at the September 7, 2023, Council Meeting.

BID AWARD/PURCHASES

11. Loftness Mulcher Head for Skid Steer

Steve Roberts, Parks and Recreation Director, stated Parks and Recreation requests to purchase a 61” Loftness mulcher head for the skid steer to improve the efficiency of clearing and maintaining properties. This item will be shared among departments. Sunbelt Rentals had the lowest quote of \$33,000. The request is not budgeted, but funds are available in the general fund.

Council Member Cooley stated he has seen this in action and makes the areas that are being. Mr. Porta said this purchase will be something that other departments will be able to use.

Council Member Cooley made a motion to approve the purchase of the Loftness Mulcher Head for Skid Steer. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote:4-0

12. Fingerprint Machine Replacement

Frank McCann, Police Chief, stated the Police Department is requesting approval to purchase a replacement fingerprint machine. Our current fingerprint machine is constantly malfunctioning and is over ten years old. Fibercom personnel recommended purchasing an IDEMIA fingerprint machine after researching different companies. The cost is \$27,634.00 and is a budgeted request.

The E-Verify and E-Save documents have been submitted to the police department and are on file. Support and recommendation for this purchase was requested.

Council Member Wren made a motion to approve the Fingerprint Machine Replacement. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 4-0

13. Matthews Garage Invoice

Mr. Porta stated one of our patrol vehicles was damaged during a call in December 2022. The cost to repair the vehicle from Matthews Garage is \$8,222.24, and Mr. Porta recommended approval to pay this invoice.

Council Member Wren made a motion to approve the Matthews Garage Invoice. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 4-0

14. 167kVA Transformer Purchase

Derrick Hampton, Electric Department Director, stated the Electric Department is requesting approval to purchase (2)-167kVA single-phase-pad-mount transformers from Gresco for the best bid of \$17,902.00

Council Member Wren made a motion to approve the 167kVA Transformer Purchase. Council Member Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Vote: 4-0

OTHER

Mayor Santini wanted to bring attention to the council and community that there have been flyers circulating in the downtown area regarding adult entertainment facilities. Mayor Santini wanted to clarify that the flyer circulating is false advertisement, and this type of establishment is not allowed in the downtown area.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting Adjourned at 7:31 P.M.

/s/ _____
Matthew J. Santini
Mayor

ATTEST:
/s/ _____
Ashley Peters
Deputy City Clerk