

Council Meeting (Virtual)
January 18, 2022

Members Present: Mayor Pro-tem Terry McClain, Greg Paige, Walter Cowart, Celestine Hayes and Jody Greene. Mayor Buddy Duke was present by telephone.

Others Present: John Flythe, Rhonda Rowe, Chad Castleberry, Randy Lane. Attorney Tim Tanner was present by telephone.

Invocation was given by Walter Cowart.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Paige made a motion to approve the minutes of January 3, 2022 as presented. Councilman Greene seconded. Councilwoman Hayes stated she did not receive a copy of the minutes with her packet. After discussion, Councilman Paige made a motion to rescind his motion to approve. Councilman Hayes seconded the motion to rescind with all in favor. Councilman Greene then made a motion to table approval until the next meeting. Councilman Paige seconded. All were in favor.

Res. #22-01: This resolution, approving a 3rd amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement regarding the provision of electric power service to Blockstream, was presented to the council. Councilman Greene made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Paige seconded. The decision was unanimous.

Gas Expansion Proposal: The council was presented with a proposal to extend natural gas services south on Hwy. 41 at a cost of \$125,500. The company would use approximately 11,000 MCF per year. City Manager John Flythe stated that we would require a deposit of 10-20% due to the investment. Councilwoman Hayes questioned the type of business the extension would be for and she was advised it would serve a commercial greenhouse. Councilman McClain asked if they would be under contract for a certain length of time. Mr. Flythe advised we could make that a provision. It was the consensus of the council to proceed with the ground work.

Adel Police Department Cameras: Police Chief Chad Castleberry addressed the council concerning body worn cameras. He explained they have proven to be invaluable over the years. When we adopted the BW video, we opted for in house storage of data, based on the information available at that time. We have basically outlived that are having to add additional storage to our current server. We are in need of replacement cameras and is recommending that we take this opportunity to change to a VAAS (Video as a Service) platform. He stated we would receive all new equipment, which is desperately needed and it will ensure that all of our equipment stays in warranty into perpetuity as well as keep our agency in the latest versions of release. It will also give us a fixed cost per year, aiding in the budget process. We eliminate 3rd party IT intervention as well as eliminate the need to update our storage capacity since everything will be maintained in the cloud. He noted that our current cameras are only warrantied for 1 year. We would also get new equipment every 3 years. Councilman Paige asked if the investigators

would also have cameras to which Chief Castleberry replied “yes”. They don’t have them currently because he has been forced to take their cameras and move to the patrol division. The total price is \$103,904 allocated over a period of 5 years with the initial investment being \$26,240. After a discussion, Councilman Cowart made a motion to proceed with the purchase utilizing the asset forfeiture and technology funds as the funding source. Councilman Paige seconded. The decision was unanimous.

Land Bank Appointments: Following the discussion at the last meeting concerning the need to appoint members to the newly formed land bank, the following names were submitted: Celestine Hayes, Walter Cowart, Jeff Taylor, Joey Schramm and Brandie Deberry. It was also discussed that since the school board has to do away with taxes on property that is removed from the tax digest, they would need to have a voting member as well, as opposed to a non-voting member. Needing a minimum of 6 people to serve, Mrs. Hayes stated she would try to come up with a name before the next meeting. Councilman Greene made a motion to appoint Councilwoman Hayes to the board. Councilman Paige seconded. All voted in favor with the exception of Councilwoman Hayes, who abstained. The appointment will be for a 3-year term. Councilman Greene then made a motion to appoint Councilman Cowart to the board. Councilman Paige seconded. All voted in favor with the exception of Councilman Cowart, who abstained. The appointment will be for a 3-year term. Councilman Cowart then made a motion to appoint Jeff Taylor to serve a 2-year term. Councilman Paige seconded. All were in favor. Councilman Cowart made a motion to appoint Joey Schramm to a 1-year term. Councilman Paige seconded. All were in favor. Councilman Paige made a motion to appoint Brandie Deberry to a 2-year term. Councilman Cowart seconded. All were in favor.

Res. #22-02: This resolution, authorizing the execution, delivery and performance of the fourth amendment to the telecommunications project contract with the Municipal Electric of Georgia; and for other purposes, was presented to the council. The resolution is part of the documents to effectuate the sale of our interest in the assets of Georgia Public Web, as previously agreed at the December 6, 2021 meeting. Councilman Greene made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Cowart seconded. The decision was unanimous.

Utility Billing Update: City Manager John Flythe advised the council that we have sent out one cycle of bills. We had a few hiccups with credits but are currently working on the budget billing true-ups and bank draft files. He will then move to the billing for the 2nd cycle.

Work Session: Mr. Flythe stated that we will be scheduling a work session at the next meeting. Councilwoman Hayes has sent him a list of issues for discussion and he advised the remaining members to let him know if they have anything they would like to add.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Rhonda P. Rowe, City Clerk

Terry G. McClain, Mayor Pro-Tem
