

COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 3, 2023

Members Present: Mayor Duke, members, Jody Greene, Terry McClain, Celestine Hayes, Walter Cowart and Greg Paige.

Others Present: Mark Barber, Pam Hamilton, Tim Tanner, Chad Castleberry and members of the public.

Invocation was given by Councilman McClain.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Paige.

Approval of Minutes of March 6, 2023: Councilman Paige made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman McClain provided the second. All were in favor.

Consideration of Zoning Change: Councilman Paige made a motion to enter into a public hearing to gain input on the rezoning application filed by Donald and Lea Hazel. Terry McClain seconded the unanimous decision. The application requests that property located at 300 East 4th Street between S. Cleveland and S. Gordon Streets be rezoned from RP (residential professional) to GB (general business). The rezoning is being requested in order that a small bakery can operate. The current building holds a Law Office and will continue to be so with the addition of the bakery. Lea Hazel spoke in favor of the rezoning and no one spoke against. Councilman Paige made a motion to come out of the public hearing and Councilman McClain seconded.

New Business:

Alcohol Application for Adel Food Mart: Due to a change in ownership the applicant is required to apply for a new license. The business is located at 615 N. Hutchinson Avenue. The applicant is requesting a retail malt beverage package license and a Retail wine package license. Councilman Greene made a motion to approve this application. Councilman Paige seconded and all were in favor.

Contract Renewal for Probation Services: The contract for municipal court probation services expired on January 16, 2023. Currently A.D. Probation Services provide supervision of all defendants placed on probation through the City's Municipal Court. This contract is for a period of five (5) Years. The only change from the current Contract is the addition of an electronic reporting feature. Councilwoman Hayes asked if the defendants will be asked questions through this equipment. Councilwoman Hayes also asked the number of supervisors per the number of parolees. Mr. Hancock stated that the average number of parolees is currently 230. Councilman Cowart made a motion to approve this contract and Councilman Greene seconded the unanimous decision.

Municipal Gas Authority Election Committee Representative and Election Committee Alternative: Resolution #23-03 (MGAG Voting Delegate): Mayor Duke stated that he is currently the election committee representative and that John Flythe serves as the alternate. Celestine Hayes asked where these elections took place. Mayor Duke stated that they are held in different locations. Councilman Greene made a motion to appoint Mayor Duke as the election committee representative and Mark Barber as the alternate. Councilman Cowart seconded and all were in favor.

Electric Department Transformer Inventory Replacement Bids: Mayor Duke stated that we need to purchase a 500 KVA and a 300 KVA pad mount transformer to replenish those taken from inventory. Three quotes were received and are as follows:

Vendor	Total Price	Delivery Time
Gresco	\$44,500	30 Days
Irby	\$53,799	2 nd quarter, 2025
Tri-State	\$70,000	60-70 weeks

Councilman Paige made a motion to accept the low bid of Gresco and Councilman McClain seconded the unanimous decision.

Public Comment:

A:

- 1) Dr. Treva Gear: Dr Gear stated that her first consideration was that the Council either change the time of the Council Meetings or change the day. She stated that currently the Council meeting begins at 5:30 and the County Commissioners meeting begins at 6:00. She stated that by making changes to the time or date would insure all citizens the ability to attend both meetings.
- 2) Dr. Gear stated that the second item was Ethics. She said that she wanted the City of Adel to be a City of Ethics. She stated that Ethics is not written into our charter. She stated that the reason she brings this up is because there have been several times during the Council meeting that there were conflicts of interest. Dr. Gear stated that currently on the council is a general manager and this person voted in favor of a company that wanted to come to Adel when in fact he actually should have recused himself. She stated that there is another member who owns a business and does not necessarily use City water but uses an alternate source for water. Dr. Gear stated that these are all issues that should be considered as not being transparent. She said that if it is not wrong then why is it hidden. Dr. Gear stated that most of the council members live in the more affluent path of the community “the east side” while the others live on the “poverty side” for west side. She stated

that this can impact items that are voted on and can cause problems not just today but the day's to come. Dr. Gear thanked the council for allowing her the time to speak.

Comments:

Councilwoman Celestine Hayes: Wanted to know if the Mayor had met with the 6 cities concerning the Blockstream penalties. Mayor Duke stated that it had not taken place. He stated that the consultant is working on this.

Councilwoman Hayes then stated that she wanted to know if John Flythe had returned the computer that he had taken when he left here and who gave him the right to take it. Mayor Duke stated that John had asked him if he could take the computer and he told him that he could. Councilwoman Hayes then asked why he needed the computer, surely he could afford to buy one. She then wanted to know if the computer had been returned and City Manager Barber stated that he had returned all of the equipment that was taken. Councilwoman Hayes then wanted to know if there might have been any compromised information on the computer. Mayor Duke stated that John had had the computer for 11 years and had worked at the City for 35 years and he did not feel like there was anything compromising on the computer.

Councilman McClain made a motion to adjourn.

Pamela Hamilton, Admin. Asst.

Buddy Duke, Mayor