

Council Meeting
August 17, 2015

Members Present: Mayor Buddy Duke, members Butch Fausett, Greg Paige, Michael Purvis, Chandler Hill and Jody Greene.

Others Present: John Flythe, Rhonda Rowe, Tim Tanner, Chad Castleberry and members of the public.

Invocation was given by Councilman Hill.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Hill made a motion to approve the minutes of August 3, 2015 as presented. Councilman Purvis seconded with all in favor.

George Ralph Woods: Mr. Woods, a resident of West Meeting Street, addressed the council concerning the restoration and utilization of Jim Battle Park on N. Elm Street. He stated that he saw the sign out front advertising football and soccer and that kids from their community have to be transported to where games and practices will be held when they could have them within walking or bike riding distance. He is requesting that it be opened for the youth of the community. Before it became dormant, this property was used for many years and he, himself, is a product of Jim Battle. Many people could call Jim Battle their father or mentor. When kids weren't in church, they were down there playing baseball. You have to gain respect before children will follow you. It is his belief and intention to be a part of Jim Battle, commemorating the work he done for this community. He stated that Jim is still here and it is an abomination to his name to sit around and not follow what he started. He is proposing to have a volunteer oversee the park and would like a committee of 3 to 7 people. He stated they are losing a lot of their children because there are no structured programs for them to come to. They are committed to making this happen and are asking for the city's support. Mayor Duke stated the Jim Battle Park committee will get with him to talk about his concerns.

Utility Trailer Bids (elec dept): Bids were accepted for an 18' trailer and were as follows:

A & W Equipment	\$5,500
Cook County Welding	\$5,292
Shivers Utility Trailers	\$5,042

Councilman Fausett made a motion to accept the low bid followed by a second from Councilman Hill. The decision was unanimous.

Budget Calendar: The council agreed to hold a work session on Thursday, August 20th at 5:00 p.m. concerning the FY 2015-2016 budget. A second work session was established for Monday, August 24th at 5:00.

Woodlawn Cemetery Board Appointment: Mayor Duke advised the council that three members are appointed by the city to this board and three members by the First Baptist Church. One of the city appointees is deceased and one lives out of town. The other member is Wayne Giddens. Jan Sirmans Schultz has agreed to serve at the city's request or Mayor Duke said they could open up the floor for any other nominations. Councilman Fausett questioned if the duties had ever been defined? Mayor Duke stated they made sure the cemetery is maintained, handle finances, etc. He stated it was his understanding that Jim Paulk had left funds for the cemetery with the church to serve as overseer. The church didn't feel they needed to be the overseers so they asked for the city to also appoint three members. He noted that Judy Stracke has also expressed an interest in serving. Councilman Paige made a motion to appoint Jan Schultz and Judy Stracke as city representatives. Councilman Purvis seconded. All were in favor.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Rhonda P. Rowe, City Clerk

Buddy Duke, Mayor
