

**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 7, 2013
PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
9 A.M.**

Mayor Dave Ingersoll presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council members present: Don Dillman, Vernon Townsend, Joy Thompson and John Parker. Mayor Dave Ingersoll, City Administrator Jill Cornett, Chief of Police David Vincent, Public Works Director Kenny Lance and City Clerk Beth Kar were also present. City Attorney Ron Holliday was absent. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall February 1, 2013. The meeting was audio recorded.

Approve Agenda

Vernon Townsend motioned to approve the agenda as posted. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Minutes – January 22, 2013; January 31, 2013

Vernon Townsend motioned to approve the minutes of January 22 and 31, 2013 as submitted. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Public Testimony

Marion Boyles reported his mom, Ethel Boyles, had been living in the trailer on the cemetery property. He had to put his Mom in a nursing home. He will sell the trailer and needs to know what to do with the property. He wanted to know what all will be involved with the property reverting back to the City. Joy Thompson asked about the rent. The Boyles will continue to pay the rent to the City as long as the trailer is on the property. He provided his contact information. John Parker recommended having Director of Public Works Kenny Lance look at the property and see if anything needs done.

Ty Nagle – Rails to Trails Presentation

Ty Nagle, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), described the Rails to Trails program. Nagle presented drawings of the proposed trail. It would run 11 miles from Krug Park in St. Joseph to downtown Savannah. Council member Vernon Townsend is part of the Rails to Trails group. Townsend talked about the larger trail: Quad State Trail. There are state/city share grants available to develop the trails.

Resolution 2013-2 Authorizing Approval of Rails to Trails Inventory Plan

Mayor Dave Ingersoll asked if Council wanted to go ahead and vote on the Resolution on Rails to Trails. Vernon Townsend motioned to approve the resolution and Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Mayor's report

Mayor Dave Ingersoll reported: it was a big day yesterday when the RedBox DVD rental in front of Family Dollar store was installed.

City Administrator's Report

City Administrator Jill Cornett reported:

“RAILS TO TRAILS” RESOLUTION -- The Metropolitan Planning Organization, or MPO, has adopted a “Rails to Trails” plan that includes portions of land in the City of Savannah. Last summer the City heard from a representative from Vireo who explained the plan and how it could benefit the City, the citizens and visitors passing through. MPO requests a resolution of support from the City Council, indicating that Savannah supports the project, but is in no way financially responsible for implementation. Ty Nagle was here from MPO and presented this request for a resolution and answer any questions you may have.

REQUEST BIDS TO REPLACE WASTEWATER INTERNAL SUBMERSIBLE MOTIVE PUMP #2 -- Jason Long reports that Internal Motive Pump #2 quit working the week of January 21. Jason was able to install an old, used motive pump we had on the shelves to operate on a temporary basis. Staff recommends the purchase of a new internal motive pump. The City replaced Pump #1 in the summer of 2012. The City budgeted for the replacement of Motive Pumps at an estimated total cost of \$9,000. Money is available in the Wastewater Fund to make this purchase. Jason will keep the old pump in case of another emergency. There is a request motion to put this out for bid. Jason was present to answer any questions. Don Dillman motioned to approve the purchase of a new internal motive pump. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

REQUEST PROPOSALS FOR MAINTENANCE OF AMAZONIA WATER WELLS -- Staff recommends contracting for annual inspection and routine service on the pumping equipment at the Amazonia Water Wells. Recently, Layne (Water Resources) replaced motor and ancillary equipment on Well #2 as the result of an unplanned outage. During that time, staff recognized the value of professional inspection and maintenance to prevent unplanned outages. Staff recommends a request for proposals on annual service agreement to inspect, maintain and change oil on three wells in the Amazonia well field. Once a responsible bidder is selected, staff will contract for annual services, including an option for three sequential one-year renewals. John Parker motioned to approve putting out well maintenance for bid. Vernon Townsend seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

SURPLUS SNOW PLOW -- Staff recommends declaring an old 11-foot HENKE Snow plow as surplus property. City purchased a new plow this fiscal year because the old unit was no longer functioning at optimal capacity. There are small snow removal businesses or other towns that might be able to utilize this unit. Staff requests motion to surplus old snow plow. Vernon Townsend motioned to approve putting out the snow plow for bid. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

WEATHER RELATED CLOSURE OF CITY HALL – John Parker asked Cornett to put this item on the agenda a few weeks ago. Would Council like to enact a policy wherein the City Hall is closed whenever the School District closes due to inclement weather? Council discussed the

different factors. Mayor Ingersoll summed up that it would be hard to set a hard and fast policy since the conditions could vary.

POLICY REGARDING CITY CONTRIBUTIONS TO NONPROFITS -- Since Sullivan is actually reviewing our City Code right now, rather than create an ordinance to change the Code, Cornett would recommend the Council pass a resolution until the City determines where in the City Code a permanent policy should be placed. It could go in several places like “conflict of interest,” or “procurement,” or “council responsibilities.” She would prefer to have guidance prior to changing the Code, rather than reactively rewriting or amending the Code. Staff recommends passage of a resolution. She said it would not exclude membership with organizations such as Chamber of Commerce and Northwest Facilitation.

Resolution 2013-3 Prohibiting Expenditure of City Funds on Contributions and Donations of Nonprofit Organizations or Events

Joy Thompson motioned to approve the Resolution and Vernon Townsend seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

UPDATE ON AUDIT -- Michael Keenan of Cochran, Head and Vick came to City Hall last Monday to begin his on-site audit work. He indicates that the report to Council should be available by the second Council meeting in February. It may require a separate meeting as it has more detail than previous audits.

DEMOGRAPHICS – The budget document includes information on the demographics of Savannah. Since the Council has begun considering what expenditures are beneficial to a particular segment of our citizens, Cornett created a chart showing a breakdown of age by category. She sent it to Council by email but also provided a printed copy. Mayor Ingersoll wanted to make sure that Chamber of Commerce has a copy.

UPDATE ON GREAT NORTHWEST DAYS – Vernon Townsend and City Administrator attended the Great Northwest Days at the State Capitol. Topics of concern continue to be economic development and school funding. She asked Townsend’s feedback. He was impressed with the amount of networking. He was proud of the City Administrator for networking on the City’s behalf. He looks forward in the future to go back and be part of the event again.

PLANNING & ZONING – Planning & Zoning Commission are reviewing the zoning map for updates. Council will receive the map for approval.

Vernon Townsend motioned to approve the City Administrator’s report. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Bill 2013-6 Approving the City Administrator’s contract was read for the first reading.

Second Public Testimony

No testimony.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Joy Thompson will not be able to attend February 13 Park Board meeting since it is the day before Valentine's Day and very busy for her florist/green house business. Mayor Dave Ingersoll said he thought he could attend. She asked about the shut off water dates on the bills and on the public access TV channel; they are two different dates. The ones on the bill appear to be correct; it is channel 19 that needs updated.

Vernon Townsend felt his trip to Jefferson City was an eye opener and he enjoyed it very much. He attended the Variance board and the zoning meetings. He commended City Administrator Jill Cornett for Public Relations at the Jefferson City event.

Reminder: The next Council meeting is Tuesday, February 19th.

ADJOURNMENT

No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 9:48 a.m. on a motion by Vernon Townsend and seconded by John Parker. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Dave Ingersoll, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Beth Kar, City Clerk