

**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
PROCEEDINGS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2013
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Connie George presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council members present: Don Dillman, Greg Wilson, John Parker and Joy Thompson. Mayor Connie George, Interim City Administrator Bruce Lundy, City Attorney Emily Bauman, Chief of Police David Vincent and City Clerk/Treasurer Beth Kar were also present. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall on October 18, 2013. The meeting was audio recorded.

Approval of Agenda – Joy Thompson motioned to approve the agenda as printed. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Minutes -- Don Dillman motioned to approve the minutes of October 7, 2013. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Public Testimony --- There was a Boy Scout present, earning his merit badge.

Larry Proctor: Request to change speed limit on Banyon – Proctor lives at 208 S. Banyon between Price and Main Streets. He would like the current 25 miles per hour (mph) speed limit on that street dropped to 15 mph. The traffic has greatly increased due to the new Dollar General location and people use the street as a short cut. When there is a lot of activity at the American Legion and 4 H fairgrounds, the street narrows to a one lane road. There are also kids and walkers on the street. City Administrator Bruce Lundy asked if No Parking signs were needed on one of those sides. Proctor didn't think so. John Parker asked about traffic flow. Joy Thompson asked Police Chief David Vincent if lowering the speed limit would make a difference or if more patrolling was needed. Normally there is one police officer on duty and it is hard to dedicate one officer to patrol one block. However, it would not hurt to lower the speed limit. John Parker motioned to make Banyon Street 15 miles per hour and to order the necessary signs. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes. Mayor Connie George asked about adding Children Playing signs. If the public works has those signs, the crew will also post those in that area.

Bids – Auditor Services

Three auditor bids were received. The lowest bidder, Lisa Wright, had very limited experience auditing cities and none as large as Savannah. Clifton Larsen was the second lowest bid. Clifton's firm is out of St. Joseph and includes Harold Ray who did a previous audit for the City when he worked for another company, Arthur White. Greg Wilson motioned to accept Clifton Larsen's bid for audit services. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

City Administrator's report

City Administrator Bruce Lundy reported:

Bids – There are three items out for bid: City Hall copier, Water Plant truck, and the solar project. Water Superintendent Dale Watson put together specifications for a used truck. Greg Chevrolet thought they could price a new 2013 truck with the incentives for a similar price to a used truck. Incentives end on October 31st. The bid opening is October 30. Lundy asked if the bid for a new truck is the best deal, can the City have the approval to purchase it while the incentives are still on. The other local dealership, Walton's, was offered the same information on the bids as Greg's. The City inspector also needs a vehicle. The thought had been to provide him with Watson's old truck but it needs too much work. Greg's has a 2007 truck with two wheel drive with 70,000 miles. It has been on the lot for awhile so the City might be able to purchase it for closer to \$9,000. Don Dillman motioned to allow the authority to purchase up to two vehicles with a maximum cap at \$33,000. Greg Wilson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

1967 Ford fire truck – Lundy explained that the City's 1967 truck will not pass the annual pump test. Would Council consider selling or donating the truck? He has come across an online company that sells surplus items. The truck would need to be declared surplus. Any money could be put aside for a new fire truck. Fire Chief Tommy George explained that the truck is not likely to be used again. The truck is in good condition and a smaller fire department could still use it. Would it be sold as a strip down truck? It could be sold either way. The truck could have other uses than as a fire truck. Collectors might be interested. Joy Thompson motioned to declare the 1967 fire truck as surplus, sell it, and put back the monies toward a future truck. Greg Wilson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Park Board -- The Park Board has changed their monthly meeting to the second Tuesday of the month.

Sewer Line Break – Lundy has spoken several times with Mr. & Mrs. Christensen about the sewer line that is broken behind their Savannah Rose property on Main Street. They do not have the money to make the repairs. The City Attorney is researching further options including a tax lien on Christensen's property if the City paid to have the line fixed. Caryl Walker has been hired by Forrester's to fix their sewer line next door. Director of Public Works Kenny Lance mentioned possible damage to the foundation of those buildings. Don Dillman commented on the danger that there may be other projects like this. Is there a danger of setting precedent? The City does not want those buildings downtown to be empty. Could Mo-Kan Regional Council help? Joy Thompson recommended contacting Annette Weeks; there might be small business loans for things like this. It looks like Christensens want out of having a business but the sewer would need fixed possibly before the building is sold. Council made no decisions.

Flushing Hydrants – Fire Chief Tommy George and Water Plant Operator Ann Wilkerson flushed fire hydrants last week. The hydrants were in good shape Greg Wilson noticed better water pressure. John Parker knew Scouts who might help with painting the hydrants.

Building/Zoning Inspector – The new inspector Mike Malhiwsky started on Monday, October 14th. He is already taking calls and answering questions. He is doing a great job.

Ironwood Ribbon Cutting -- Last Saturday was the ribbon cutting for Ironwood Street. There were a few Ironwood residents who came down to attend as well as the Mayor, City Clerk Beth Kar, Greg Wilson, Joy Thompson, plus Donnie Knorr and Jason Smith from the Parks department and Leslie Speckman from the Savannah Reporter.

East Main update-- Inspector Mike Malhiwsky, Director of Public Works Kenny Lance, and Lundy met with the contractors (Hoggatt) and engineers (Snyder) to inspect East Main Street and sidewalk. Malhiwsky worked for Loch of Maryville, and has experience with road and bridge projects. The sewer line extension was discussed. It is not clear who is responsible for the sewer line that is supposed to be extended across the creek. Lundy has not found anything except that the sewer line is not covered under the CDBG funding. It will need addressed before the project is completed. Greg Wilson asked if the City knew the cost for the pipe. Lance will talk to the contractor who did a similar job on Swenson on the cost to put in pipe and then put concrete underneath. Wilson suggested obtaining a ballpark figure and move forward.

Barkley Street -- Herzog's has been working on Barkley Street this week.

Greg Wilson motioned to approve the City Administrator's report. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Treasurer's report & 6 Month Statement – City Clerk Beth Kar presented the Treasurer's report on September's financial reports and the 6 month statement. The 6 month statement will be published in the Savannah Reporter this week. Greg Wilson motioned to approve both the Treasurer's report and 6 month statement. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Resolution 2013-19 Approve New Street Lights – Joy Thompson asked if citizens pay for their street lights. She sees charge on her bill. City pays for street light electricity. John Parker motioned to approve Resolution 2013-19 adding street lights to East Main, Cypress and Market to match the other lights. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Bill 2013-36 Approve Muse for Lagoon Cleaning was read for first and second readings.

ORDINANCE NO. 2621

This ordinance pertains to approving Muse to clean two lagoons for the Water Plant. Joy Thompson motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2621. Don Dillman seconded. Vote: Dillman: aye; Wilson: aye; Parker: aye; Thompson: aye. Motion carried.

Bill 2013 –37 Approve Layne Christensen to Treat Well Number 2 was read for first and second readings.

ORDINANCE NO. 2622

This ordinance pertains to approving Layne to treat well number 2 for the Water Plant. Greg Wilson motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2622. John Parker seconded. Wilson: aye; Parker: aye; Thompson: aye; Dillman: aye. Motion carried.

Bill 2013- 38 Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an Agreement for Auditor Services was read for the first reading. John Parker asked if it would help if the bill was read for the second reading. John Parker motioned to add the second reading to expedite the audit. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried 4 yes.

Bill 2013-38 was read for the second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2623

This ordinance pertains to authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement for Auditor Services with Clifton Larsen. Joy Thompson motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2623 and Greg Wilson seconded. Wilson: aye; Parker: aye; Thompson: aye; Dillman: aye. Motion carried.

Second Public Testimony – No testimony.

ELECTED OFFICIALS DISCUSSION

Mayor's Report – Mayor Connie George had two Board Appointments to Planning & Zoning: Randy McKnight and Ross Svendsen. Don Dillman motioned to approve the Mayor's appointments. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

George attended the Park Board meeting. Sport activities are winding down. She received a complaint from a gentleman about people walking in the street when a sidewalk is available. He would like police to write tickets. Chief Vincent reported he did not think there was an ordinance that covers it.

Council Members Discussion –

Joy Thompson thanked the police, firemen and public works crew for working hard on the Homecoming parade.

Greg Wilson knew of a few street lights that were out. He thought the stray cats in town were getting out of hand. Is there a way to lessen the problem in a humane way? The concern is also how much the City wants to spend on the issue. Dale Watson reported that the City spent \$400 at St. Joe Animal Shelter in September. The City used to have cages that were loaned out. No decision was made.

Adjournment

No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 8:09 p.m. on a motion by Greg Wilson and seconded by Joy Thompson. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Connie George, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Beth Kar, City Clerk