

**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2014 7 P.M.
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Connie George presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Members present: Don Dillman, John Parker, and Joy Thompson. Greg Wilson had notified the City before the meeting that he would be absent. Mayor Connie George, City Administrator Bruce Lundy, City Attorney Emily Bauman and City Clerk/Treasurer Beth Kar were also present. Chief of Police David Vincent was absent. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall on February 28, 2014. The meeting was audio recorded.

Approve Agenda -- Joy Thompson motioned to approve the agenda. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Minutes: February 18, 2014 -- John Parker motioned to approve the minutes. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Public Testimony -- Ralph Stanton read in the City Code about taking an oath. He also read about the Mayor having the power to swear someone in for testimony.

City Administrator's Report

City Administrator Bruce Lundy reported:

Standard & Poor's -- The City's Auditor Harold Ray and City Clerk Beth Kar recently completed the S&P questionnaire and follow-up interview. Standard & Poor's Ratings Services raised its issuer credit rating (ICR) to 'AA-' from 'A' on Savannah, Mo., based on the application of our local general obligation (GO) criteria released Sept. 12, 2013. They also raised our long-term rating to A+ from 'A-' on the City's series 2012 certificates of participation (COPs).

Resignation -- Last week Trevor Moss submitted a resignation letter. He was full time at the golf course and had been helping Building Inspector Mike Malhiwsky on renovations and repair projects this winter. Trevor has a business education and took a job as the manager of a business in St. Joseph. He was a good worker. Don Dillman motioned to accept Trevor Moss' resignation. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Police Car -- The police car that was damaged in the accident back in December has been repaired. The cost of the repair was \$6,500 and the City has a \$1,000 deductible. MIRMA said if the damage would have exceeded \$7,700 it would have been totaled.

Nuisance Violations -- The City has been receiving a few nuisance complaints. Lundy followed up with the residents, contacting some by phone and others he sent out a notification letter. Normally residents are given 7 days to take care of the issue but when the weather is poor like it has been he allow more time. Building Inspector Mike Malhiwsky and he will be working on

these violations together. John Parker asked if there was a conflict of interest if Lundy talks about items he may have written a ticket on. City Attorney Emily Bauman didn't think so.

Snow Blade -- The surplus snow blade the City sold on the Public Surplus website has now been picked up and payment has been received. The blade sold for \$865.00 to a company from Crystal Lake, Illinois. They were supposed to pick it up around Christmas but the snow kept them too busy to come get it.

Purchasing Policy -- As part of the state auditors recommendations we have made adjustments to our purchasing policy. He believes we have tuned it up a bit and created a chart that will make it easier to follow and understand. Under City Code 135.060 section 2 we added sole source purchases (ex. Neptune water meters) and the chart that simplifies the amounts, type of bid required, whether we must advertise and who shall approve the purchase. In City Code 135.130, Section 2 was added to give more detail to emergency purchases. An emergency purchase up to \$2500 can be approved by the Mayor or City Administrator and over \$2500 is approved by Council informally and formally done so at the next meeting. John Parker wanted to make sure the emergency purchase did not have to wait until the next meeting for approval. No approval can be written in email or verbal, and then formally approved at the next Council meeting.

8th and Main Project -- Snyder and Associates have put out the 8th and Main drainage project for bid. The bids will be accepted and opened on March 14th, 2014 at 1:00pm.

Mural -- The plaque on the wall in the Clasbey Center Multipurpose Room with the mural picture says it was donated by Gary Swanson. It made sense to talk to him about what he thought the City should do with it. Lundy talked him. Swanson did not seem in favor of getting rid of the mural. Joy Thompson asked if he would pay to get it redone. Swanson will be back to town in a few weeks.

John Parker motioned to approve the City Administrator's report. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

State warning test -- The state siren testing day was changed from Tuesday to Thursday this week. We will be setting off siren tests after 1:00 p.m. beginning with possibly the chimes and voice message options. At 1:30 p.m. we will be sounding the warning horn since it is the statewide test. John Parker suggested talking to the school and see if they will put it out on their text messaging service to families about the test. City Administrator Bruce Lundy reminded that the City is looking to add its own text messaging service. He is looking at obtaining sponsorship to pay for a system similar to the school.

City Attorney's Report -- City Attorney Emily Bauman had two items. **Oath for appointed persons** -- John Parker and Ralph Stanton had asked about members of all boards being given an oath. She reviewed the City Code section. It could be interpreted as the oath could be given to all appointed persons. It depends on what Council wants to do. She needs more information about what would be involved. Where the board members would be sworn in? City Hall? Council meeting? Other? What will be the language for the oaths? Will it be similar to that of Council members' oath or something more specific to the board? Right now it seemed like the oath was more for Planning & Zoning members regarding accountability. The City needs to weigh the pros and cons of having all boards take an oath. It can be hard enough to get people to serve on boards. How difficult will it be to schedule everyone to take the oath? She didn't know if it would be necessary to have the boards other than Planning & Zoning take the oath. She

asked for Council's guidance. John Parker felt that having all of the members on all of the boards take the oath, it would show accountability and sense of pride. He thought if the city tried to have one board take an oath and not the others, it would ruffle feathers. He thought the individual might have a better sense of involvement by taking an oath to uphold rules and regulations. In the past, elected officials were the only board members that took an oath of office. No board members from Zoning, Park, Adjustments, Golf, Public Utility and Tree have taken an oath. John Parker would like to see everyone take an oath. Ralph Stanton was in favor of the oath. He thought on the Zoning board, every once in a while a person had trouble looking at best interest of the City instead of best interest of self. Stanton felt if board members went by the City Code and took an oath, people would have more pride. Parker thought it didn't hurt to pat board members on the back now and then. Bauman asked where the board members should take the oath. John Parker suggested the oath be given at the board's regular meeting. The Mayor attends most meetings and could give the oath then. Bauman asked would it be similar to the Council members' oath to uphold the ordinances of the City and of the State. John Parker thought it should add the name of the committee. Parker asked Golf Course General Manager Mark Christopher what he thought about the Golf Committee members taking an oath. Christopher liked the idea. Christopher would like to have posted who is on the committee.

Board Name Change -- The second item Bauman had asked about was changing the name of the Planning & Zoning Commission to Planning & Zoning Board? Everyone seems to refer to it as the Zoning Board instead of its actual name. State Statutes still call it a Commission. Council decided to leave the name alone.

She has been asking for donations for the animal shelter. Joy Thompson asked if it had to be classified as 5013C to accept donations. It is not necessary.

Don Dillman motioned to approve the City Attorney's report. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Bill 2014-7 US Bank Financing for Golf Course Mowers was read for the first and second readings.

ORDINANCE NO. 2634

This ordinance pertains to financing the two golf course mowers for the Golf Course through US Bank. John Parker motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2634. Joy Thompson seconded. Vote: Dillman: aye; Parker: aye; Thompson: aye; Wilson: absent. Motion carried.

Bill 2014-8 Amend property harmed by fire or disaster was read for first and second readings.

ORDINANCE NO. 2635

This ordinance updates the policy on property harmed by fire or disaster where the property owner has the ability to rebuild. Joy Thompson motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2635. John Parker seconded. Vote: Parker: aye; Thompson: aye; Dillman: aye; Wilson: absent. Motion carried.

Bill 2014-9 Amend Purchase Policy was read for the first reading.

Second Public Testimony: No testimony.

City Attorney Emily Bauman added that she is working on revisions to the Personnel Policy, adding a requirement for return to work physical. The updates include adjustments to address items recommended from the state auditor.

ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

Mayor's report -- Mayor Connie George reminded everyone that the Chamber of Commerce lunch is Noon on Wednesday at First Christian Church. The Planning & Zoning meeting was cancelled.

Council Discussion

John Parker asked if there was any progress on the City obtaining solar panels. There had been nothing new since the last emails received on possible credits. It will take the electric company KCPL awhile to go through all the City's applications for rebate credits. The City can still look at putting in solar panels on the buildings that do not qualify for the credits. There will be new program on rebate credits for this year too. Parker would like to pursue solar panels on any City property where there is a cost savings power-wise. There is a rate reduction on electricity at the facilities that have high usage. At places like the Wastewater treatment plant the City's usage is so high and rate reduced; there might not be a savings to put in solar panels. Parker would like to look at if it is still worth pursuing on buildings that didn't qualify for the credit rebates. Fire Chief Tommy George had heard residents saving money on electricity with solar panels but had not but hasn't heard much about the commercial ones saving. Ralph Stanton asked would solar panels at Water Plant be susceptible for vandalism.

City Administrator Bruce Lundy asked about leaving on a row of lights in the Council Chambers even when there aren't meetings. Then people who are in the Clasbey Center can see where the City does business. If it is okay, he'll leave the row of lights on even when don't meet. Council liked the idea.

ADJOURNMENT

No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 7:50 p.m. on a motion by Joy Thompson and seconded by Don Dillman. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Connie George, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Beth Kar, City Clerk