

**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
OCTOBER 22, 2014
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Connie George presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Members present: Don Dillman, John Parker, Joy Thompson and Greg Wilson. Mayor Connie George, City Administrator Bruce Lundy, City Attorney Emily Bauman, Chief of Police David Vincent and City Clerk Beth Kar were also present. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall October 15, 2014. The meeting was audio recorded.

Approval of Agenda – Don Dillman motioned to amend the agenda and add Resolution 2014-3 on sidewalks. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Minutes – October 6, 2014 Joy Thompson motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Public Testimony: None

Police Chief's Report—Chief of Police David Vincent provided background on recent arrests including Breaktime robbery and other incidents. Officer Dalsing was injured in taking a suspect into custody. The Homecoming parade went well. The police picked up the new patrol car. John Parker motioned to approve the report as presented. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes. Thompson commented she is very impressed with what police officers have been doing.

City Administrator's report -- City Administrator Bruce Lundy reported:

CDBG/Senior Center & East Main-- Closeout Public Meeting – On Tuesday of last week Gary with Mo-Kan was in town for the CDBG Closeout Public Meeting. This is a required meeting that gives the public an opportunity to be heard about how a project was completed and answer any questions they have. We did two meetings, one for the Senior Center Project and one for the East Main Project. No one from the public attended so it went well. Lundy talks with Hoggatt regularly about East Main. Travis Hoggatt was in town Wednesday and Thursday pouring concrete and is getting closer to finishing the project. As of meeting time he believed he poured his last concrete, finishing his part of the project. It is the City's responsibility to seed and fertilized. Council agreed to take bids for this task.

Planning & Zoning Commission Lundy was contacted by Kirk Larson, the Chair of the Zoning Board. He spoke with Jason Long and Councilman John Parker last week about a sewer issue. They all looked around Larson's neighborhood trying to figure out what is causing his sewer backups. The next morning the Builder, Mr. Puckett, called Lundy and said he would fix Larson's sewer. Puckett said he would install a second back-flow preventer. He did that at his own home and it fixed the problem. On Thursday morning Kirk Larson called and said someone threw a For Sale sign in his yard; he took that as a threat so he has resigned from the Zoning board. We have an application for the Board from Jim Noble if you all will approve his appointment.

John Parker motioned to accept Kirk Larson's resignation and appoint Jim Noble to Zoning. Greg Wilson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

John Parker mentioned that during a conversation with Kirk Larson and Jason Long it was decided the sewer manhole that was always overflowing, physically needs to be extended. This is a task that Long would know how to do. Parker questioned if another manhole in the area that is already buried might contribute to the volume. Long has not found it yet. He will put in the extension as agreed.

Meetings Lundy missed the Park Board meeting on Tuesday evening. He attended the Golf Committee meeting Monday. Golf discussed inventory and pricing to make sure prices are appropriate as requested by the state auditor. This will be their last meeting for this calendar year.

Lundy attended the Region D meeting on Thursday evening in Clarksdale. Deffenbaugh has been bought out by Waste Management of Texas. Region D believes that the employees will stay as they are and services will continue as they are. Region D mentioned that the price to dump at the St Joseph Landfill has been climbing because of the shrinking numbers of haulers that are dumping there. Deffenbaugh takes it to its own landfill and another trash company operating in the Cameron area takes theirs over to Macon.

Clifton Larson Last year Council approved an ordinance to hire Clifton Larson Auditors for one year with a 2 year option. We need a motion to approve extending that contract with Clifton Larson for two more years. Don Dillman motioned and Joy Thompson seconded to approve Clifton Larson for the 2 years. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Speeders on Cypress St In an attempt to slow folks down on Cypress we put the orange flags on the Speed limit signs and parked the radar trailer there. Lundy was happy to say that we have not had any other complaints in that area. We are planning to move the trailer over to Duncan St by the Clasbey Center next week. We will collect data once they pick it up. John Parker suggested putting the radar trailer by T Hwy and 14th Street. They would have to come back and reprogram it for a different speed limit at that street.

Candle Light Walk Kodi Moore with Andrew County Alliance contacted Lundy. The Candlelight Walk is scheduled for **Saturday, November 29**. They are hoping to start the event a little earlier this year to accommodate some performances and get the vendor shopping open during the day. They ask if it may be possible to start at 3 on that date & have the square blocked off. Council agreed that would be fine.

Sewer Issue Wastewater Superintendent Jason Long has been able to identify a location that stormwater is entering the sewer. He created a sleeve to put on it but recommends having it lined right away. He is contacting the two companies that he is aware of that provides this service, to get an estimate. Lundy encouraged Long to keep looking in hopes he can find other places to repair it if we are going to have some work done.

Nuisances Lundy has had a steady flow of nuisance violations going out but he has not had the time to update the list to provide to you all.

Contacted policy on vacation – Employees would like to see the vacation policy adjusted. Current policy: 1 to 2 years: 1 week; 2 to 9: 2 weeks; 10-19: 3 weeks; 20+ 4 weeks. Proposed: 1 year: 1 week; 2 to 5 years: 2 weeks; 6 to 9 years: 3 weeks; 10 to 19 years: 4 weeks; 20+: 5 weeks. Would Council consider re-thinking the City's employee vacation policy? Lundy will

send out information before the next meeting. John Parker would like to see a policy of use it or lose it on vacation time. City Attorney Emily Bauman will add in a rule that when employees are off for an extended time, they do not accrue leave.

Great Northwest Day – Cindy Esely reported that the County can't pay for them to go to Great Northwest Days. Would the City consider paying the \$600 for the booth like last year? She does not want to head up the local organization and wanted Lundy to take it over. He is fine for the City to pay for the booth, but he isn't going to organize it. Joy Thompson thought the City and County could pay for it but it should be a Chamber thing to organize it and promote Savannah.

Joy Thompson had two questions: updates on mural at Clasbey? Nothing is new. Second, she wanted to see the City work to sell water to other districts. Director of Public Works Kenny Lance said we need to talk to District #1 again.

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

LED Lights – received 4 proposals. Lundy compiled a packet with all of the proposals for Council. Rick Williams from Brightergy and Tom Alley from Coral Lighting were present to answer any questions. Waldinger's total was the highest cost but their bid is replacing everything and all new fixtures. The other proposals were retro-fitting. Case Electric had combination of replacement and retro-fitting and was the second highest bid. Council discussed the four proposals and financing. Lundy reported that Coral was the cheapest but Brightergy had an excellent proposal with a five years lease program similar to the solar panels. Case Electric put in LED lights in Andrew County Museum. Brightergy did several in St. Joseph including Habitat and Living Community. Coral did Andrew County Health Department and several shops in St. Joe. Rick Williams described the retro-fit process where they disconnect ballast and put in in-directs and bulbs. The technician can remove ballast or disconnect and bypass. The savings from LED lights are pretty significant. Council discussed lease versus cash option. John Parker asked if the solar project was complete. Rick Williams responded that the last part got installed. The companies would start on the project using the incentives. There are a lot of lights in the Clasbey multi-purpose room. It is hard to put in bulbs because they are so tight. Greg Wilson asked if the City can decide how many bulbs go in each fixture. Yes, they could reduce the number of bulbs. John Parker asked is there a disposal fee. Brightergy's bid includes everything. Lundy asked each to explain their proposals.

Tom Alley described the project and explained the totals. It would be retrofitting except they would replace a few fixtures at police and wastewater plant. He explained payments: \$894 monthly for 46 months. Savings: \$943 monthly. Disposal is figured into the charge. One option is to go without explosion proof lights and option two is with explosion proof lights. Lundy explained: probably should do the option with explosion proof lights. No deposit is needed to start.

Rick Williams explained Brightergy's proposal: 5 years at \$708. Greg Wilson asked for the total cost. \$42,000 would be the approximate out of pocket amount. Lundy asked if it was explosion proof lights. Brightergy put in the same or better fixtures. Council will discuss proposals at the next meeting.

Street Maintenance Hire -- Operator / Laborer New Hire 10 applicants. Called five to interview but only four showed up. A City of St Joseph employee who is a machine operator required a lot more money. Through background checks and interviews the City chose Tyler Swink. He was raised here and his family lives here. He has construction experience and

extensive skid loader experience. He has operated a mini-excavator some. The budget set a salary range from \$31,000 to \$32,000 for an experienced operator. Director of Public Works Kenny Lance, Deputy City Clerk Brooke Bell, and Lundy discussed salary and determined that \$14.00 per hour (\$29,120 annually) seemed like a fair amount for this position. Lance spoke with Swink who said he would take the job for that amount. Tyler Swink was present at the Council meeting. He will give two weeks to his current job. Don Dillman motioned to hire Tyler Swink at \$29,120/\$14 hour. Greg Wilson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

City Attorney's report—City Attorney Emily Bauman forgot to mention a trial in September on a property damage issue. She is working on the trailer park ordinance. She drafted an ordinance to clarify that statute. It is a change to the zoning ordinance so the City will have to publish a legal notice. She is also working on the personnel manual updates. There are quite few tickets from 15 MPH speed limit area on Cypress. Greg Wilson motioned to approve her report. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Treasurer's report – City Clerk Beth Kar presented the September financial statements and described the fund activity. Greg Wilson motioned to approve report. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Resolution 2014-3 Approving to Proceed with Sidewalk Grant Application– City Administrator Bruce Lundy explained for Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to proceed on the grant application they need a resolution approving the Transportation Alternative Program Grant Application. Greg Wilson motioned to approve Resolution 2014-3. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Bill 2014-26 Agreement with United Fiber for Internet Service was read for the second reading.

ORDINANCE: 2653

This ordinance approves a contract with United Fiber for internet service for City facilities. Joy Thompson motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2653. John Parker seconded. Vote: Wilson: aye; Parker: aye; Thompson: aye. Don Dillman abstained since he used to work for United. Motion carried.

Bill 2014-27 Cemetery Rates was read for the first reading.

Second Public Testimony: None.

ELECTED OFFICIALS DISCUSSION

Mayor's Report – Mayor Connie George received a lot of calls thanking the City for fixing up the streets. She went to CDBG meeting for Senior Citizens Center and East Main grants. The Park Board thought it would keep going through the winter.

Council Members Discussion:

Greg Wilson asked to review the LED proposals really closely. The City filled out the paperwork trail for solar panels and then did not get all of them because the rebate incentives ran out. He was surprised the companies said they would start the LED projects without the rebates. He wanted the total value and costs.

Adjournment

No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 8:24 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