

SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 16, 2015
PROCEEDINGS REGULAR SESSION
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Connie George presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Members present: Don Dillman, John Parker and Joy Thompson. Kenny Maxwell was absent. 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 November 13, 2015. The meeting was audio recorded.

Approval of Agenda – Don Dillman motioned to approve the agenda as posted. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Minutes – November 2, 2015 – Joy Thompson motioned to approve the minutes of November 2, 2015. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Public Testimony: None.

Police Chief's Report—Chief of Police David Vincent reported that there was a fatal accident at 71 and 5th street on November 4th. No official report was received yet from the Highway Patrol. Whenever there is a serious accident, possibly fatal, the Highway Patrol handles it because they have a Reconstructionist who can determine what happened. Savannah Police Officer Dalsing took a job at Rosencrantz. The Savannah Police Department wishes to keep him on as a reserve officer so he can still train on firearms and be an asset to the department. The Police Department has been in contact with the dealer on police cars and hopes to have the sticker package completed this week. There was a delay in ordering because the representative the City was working with was on vacation. The subjects who were caught last spring in front of chief's house were sent to the penitentiary. Don Dillman motioned to approve the report. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Resignation from full time position: Police Officer Philip Dalsing – John Parker motioned to accept the resignation of Officer Dalsing as a full time officer and to retain him as a reserve officer. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Treasurer's report & 6 Month Statement – City Clerk Beth Kar presented the end of year reports. The 6 Month Statement will appear in the newspaper this week. Don Dillman motioned to accept and file the reports. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

City Administrator's report --

Street Light -- City Clerk Beth Kar forwarded the Street Light request to the electric company, KCP&L, and Lundy confirmed the number on the pole. The City was contacted and told that they will be removing the existing light and putting up a brighter one on a longer arm and it should be done in about a week.

Cemetery -- There were two funerals last Monday afternoon. The ladies from Heaton-Bowman were concerned with the City's Policy that Saturday and Monday morning funerals cost an extra \$400. The extra cost is to cover costs of someone working extra hours or weekends. Lundy spoke to Cemetery workers Mike Clark and Davey Poland and found that Monday morning

funerals can be done as graves normally take no more than an hour and a half or so to dig, and could be done first thing Monday morning. Should rates be changed? What about changing rates for Monday mornings? Council decided to keep the Saturday funeral rate. John asked what if they don't know until late Friday/Saturday for a Monday funeral. Whenever they decide on the time of a funeral, if early Monday or on a Saturday, City Hall should be notified and they will notify Cemetery workers. Kenny Lance was not aware of any problems with Saturday funerals. John Parker stated the problem could be on how they contact us. We should establish a procedure that the person has until 4:00 or whatever time is set, to notify the City and we will accommodate the best we can. Parker pointed out if a person notifies City Hall, the employees there have to be contacted during business hours. Joy Thompson asked if more than one person needs to be trained to open a grave.

Another problem exists if it is winter and snow and frozen ground slows that process to almost three hours or more. The City crews ask that the funeral home let them know as soon as possible about graves that need to be dug so they can determine the best time to do the work. Davey Poland also stated that he uses his own cell phone for work and this last week he had several calls from the funeral home one of which he was put on hold. He has a GO phone so he purchases minutes and pays for the time on hold. He said 120 minutes cost \$30. Lundy would like to give him \$20 month to buy minutes for him using his own phone to cover work phone calls. It is a taxable benefit and would be added under payroll. John Parker motioned and Don Dillman seconded to pay Davey Poland \$20 month for his cellphone minutes. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Economic Development -- Lundy attended an Economic Development workshop on Friday in Canton, Missouri, that was put on by Missouri Main Street Connection. It was titled "Unraveling Economic Development in Downtown Revitalization." One good idea is for the City to create a hot sheet on the website, listing all business properties that are for sale or properties where a business could go that are for sale. He will get pictures and contact owners about posting on Savannah's website.

Leadership Savannah – Lundy was recruited to take part in the first class of the new Leadership Savannah. It's a leadership training designed to assist in the development of community leadership skills. Lundy included a copy of the flyer in the packet. The class is open to everyone who is interested. The tuition is \$150 and the class is two days in February and one day a month after that with graduation here at the June 20th Council meeting.

MPO Kenny Lance and Lundy both attended the MPO meetings at City Hall in St. Joseph last Thursday. It appears the money has been earmarked for Savannah. The owner for the property will be back on December 8 to negotiate the price. It has been appraised at \$36,000.

ATV Permits -- When the new code came out somehow the City's ATV permits went from needing to be registered only once to a requirement that they be registered each year. This would be a recordkeeping nightmare and would be very unlikely that people would come back to take care of it each year. Lundy would like to change it back: ATVs, side by sides, Golf carts, and anything that requires being registered with the City to operate on the road only needs to be registered once and that fee is currently \$15.00. City Attorney Emily Bauman has researched this and only one registration is needed. John Parker motioned to prepare an ordinance to reverse this back to what it was before. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes. Lundy would like all these vehicles under one ordinance.

203 South 6th -- There's been a few complaints about the house at 203 South 6th. It appears it has settled to the point the front window has fallen out. Lundy has been in contact with the

owner and explained that it is time for something to be done. He provided the names of some developers that have been looking for properties to buy and build on. The owner requested those names and numbers and Lundy sent them to him. He said he would come up and board up the window.

From the City Code Section 710.190: “Property owner liable for unpaid charges, rental of tenant — termination of service. Every property owner shall be held responsible for any charges or rentals left unpaid by any tenant of the premises serviced by water or sewer service and the City reserves the right to shut off any water service where said delinquent charges or rentals are not paid by the owner.” In the past, the City tried to enforce this code and required landlords to pay debt left by their tenants that have moved out and not paid their utility bill. Lundy understood several came to a meeting and voiced their opinions on this matter. This time when the \$150 deposit for renters was established but sometimes that \$150 is not enough to cover the utility bill. When a renter leaves town with unpaid debt, the City shouldn’t have the loss. A landlord who has been collecting rent, or who agreed to allow that person to live in their home, should bear that loss. Maybe landlords could collect a deposit similar to the City’s. Joy Thompson asked if the property owners and talk to them is this is what the Code says. Emily Bauman stated the statute says the landlord is liable. Bauman offered that the reasoning behind the statute, from plaintiff’s standpoint, is that it is much easier to locate the landlord who owns the property versus the tenant who takes off. John Parker thought landlords needed advised about the statute. Bauman said the landlord has the right to sue the tenant. Don Dillman felt most won’t do that for amount of money involved.

Joy Thompson motioned to approve the report. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

City Attorney’s report – City Attorney Emily Bauman researched the state statute on ATVs and she will draft an ordinance on that. She drafted Resolution on Braxes. Trials went 50/50. She has an intern researching nonconforming uses with relevant law and will apply the state laws to Savannah. Don Dillman motioned to approve the report. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

RESOLUTIONS TO CONSIDER

Resolution 2015-8 Change meetings for holidays 2016 – Don Dillman motioned to approve Resolution 2015-8. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Resolution 2015-9 Adoption of Veterans Park Maintenance -- Joy Thompson motioned to approve Resolution 2015-9. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes. City Administrator Bruce Lundy sent the hold harmless agreement form to the Braxes and they already signed and sent it back.

BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Bill 2015-25– 2016 Election was read for first and second readings.

ORDINANCE: 2682

This ordinance pertains to the April 2016 annual election. Joy Thompson motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2682. Don Dillman seconded. Vote: Dillman: aye; Parker: aye; Thompson: aye; Maxwell: absent. Motion carried.

Second Public Testimony: None.

ELECTED OFFICIALS DISCUSSION

Mayor's Report – Mayor Connie George received a lot of calls about people mulching leaves and leaving them in the street. As she drove by, residents pulled out rakes and moved the leaves. Lundy and Vincent agreed that there were not supposed to be leaves/debris left in the street. She reported there was a sign up on Hwy 71 that a new restaurant 71 Diner was coming.

Council Members Discussion

Joy Thompson received complaints on South Catalpa and leaves in the street. She had a complaint about a trash can that Lundy took care of replacing.

Don Dillman attended the Golf Committee meeting. It went smoother. There is still a segment who feel like more time should be maintained on physical inventory.

Adjournment

No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 7:41 p.m. on a motion by Joy Thompson and seconded by John Parker. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Connie George, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Beth Kar, City Clerk