

**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2016
PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Connie George presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Members present: Kenny Maxwell, Don Dillman, Joy Thompson and John Parker. Mayor Connie George, City Administrator Bruce Lundy, City Attorney Emily Bauman, City Clerk Beth Kar and Chief of Police David Vincent were also present. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall February 26, 2016. The meeting was audio recorded.

Approval of Agenda – Don Dillman motioned to amend the agenda to add Deputy Clerk Brooke Bell’s certification and to approve the agenda as amended. Kenny Maxwell seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Minutes – February 22, 2016 – Joy Thompson motioned to approve the February 22, 2016 minutes. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Public Testimony – None.

City Administrator’s Report -- City Administrator Bruce Lundy reported:

Cobblestone Hotels -- A Cobblestone Hotel Company representative met to discuss the possibility of a hotel in Savannah. The project would be built by local investors and the Company would operate the facility. It would require a feasibility study to determine the need for a hotel, typically costing between \$7,000 and \$12,000. He had a list of companies that provide the study. In his experience, the City pays for this feasibility study. Lundy explained he would share the information at the Council meeting, which meant it would also be reported in the local newspaper. The City will see if there are any responses and if any local investors show interest. Lundy attended the Brownfield conference at the Remington Center that dealt with properties that are no longer usable. USDA offers grants which include feasibility studies like the hotel project. The hotel representative said it would require at least two acres and no location had been selected. John Parker mentioned Leavenworth just put in two small hotels. The City could see what kind of financing was used.

Sidewalks -- Lundy was contacted by business owner, Jodi Nellesen, about who is responsible for the replacement or repair of the commercial sidewalks around the Square. In 2002 the City worked with the Missouri Department of Economic Development that created a Neighborhood Improvement District (NID) to build the new sidewalks and period lighting around the Square. Each business paid a special property tax to pay for the improvements. The City has a Sidewalk Incentive program. It does not mention in that section of the code about the 50/50 shared replacement cost but does describe such in the Sidewalk Replacement Request applications. Lundy walked the Square and found three spots that are in need of replacement. His concern is if the property owners are not willing to pay half, is the City going to pay for 100% of the repairs or leave the sidewalks in the condition they are in. City Attorney Emily Bauman researched the statutes on sidewalks. By statute, property owners are responsible for sidewalks and curbs. Chapter 88 Missouri State Statute allows municipalities to lien the property with a special

assessment for items like sidewalks. Property owners are required to fix sidewalks. The City could send a letter requesting the sidewalk be fixed or cost assessed for the cost. Joy Thompson asked if the property owners had paid off their NID or not. Nellesen will fix her sidewalk. City Administrator Bruce Lundy will send a letter to the two other property owners and allow them a chance to fix theirs.

Park Board Appointments -- Since the last meeting two citizens applied for the Park Board. Tim Jones and Casey Clark read Lundy's Facebook post about the openings on the board. Both filled out applications. With their appointments, the Board will be full. Mayor Connie George appointed both Tim Jones and Casey Clark to the Park Board. John Parker motioned to approve the Mayor's appointments of Tim Jones and Casey Clark to the Park Board. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Audit -- Harold Ray from Clifton Larson reported the City's annual audit is complete and will be presented at the March 21st Council meeting. .

Deffenbaugh – Lundy spoke with Mike Wayman of Deffenbaugh about picking up the trash and recyclables in the alley across from the Green Hills grocery store on Main Street. Wayman responded that there were low wires on the west end that would keep a trash truck from going that way. However, Deffenbaugh always has a pickup truck in town and they will pick up those accounts so the totes are not sitting on the sidewalk all the time. The four residents affected will be contacted to put their trash totes in the alley.

Rezoning – Building Inspector Mike Malhiwsky is processing the request to correct the zoning on Greg Chevrolet Property. For some reason the back half of the property was zoned Residential in the early seventies. The front half is zoned correctly. The new owner, Victory Chevrolet, would like this done as soon as possible. However, there is a time requirement and regulations require a public meeting and 14 days for anyone to protest. The City may be asked to have a special meeting towards the end of the month to complete the process more quickly.

From the City Code 510.200 Sidewalk Replacement Incentive Program – Lundy described the City's sidewalk replacement incentive program. The purpose of this program is to encourage property owners to replace or install commercial and/or residential sidewalks within the City of Savannah and for the purpose of setting up an agreement regarding contribution and cooperation between the City and residents and businesses for the purposes of establishing new sidewalks or replacing existing sidewalks. Don Dillman asked if the Code should list requirement for sidewalk to be 5 feet to meet ADA standards. Any new sidewalk must meet ADA requirements. Repairs require sidewalks to match what is existing: four or five feet.

Job Opening -- One of police officers, Gary Cook, has accepted job as a school district janitor. The City has not received the official resignation but expects to within the next day or so. Once his resignation is received, the City will start the process to hire another officer. He wanted to let Council know ahead of time for advertising.

Deputy Clerk Brooke Bell – Certification – Don Dillman motioned to approve the City Administrator's report and to approve Brooke Bell's \$1,000 raise for receiving her MOCCFOA Clerks' second level certification. Kenny Maxwell seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

City Attorney's report – City Attorney Emily Bauman researched sidewalks which she spoke on earlier in the meeting. She attended the LEAP luncheon workshop. The attendees set goals to accomplish before the next LEAP day. Don Dillman motioned to approve the City Attorney's report. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Second Public Testimony – None.

ELECTED OFFICIALS DISCUSSION

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Connie George attended the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting. She received several calls from citizens.

Council Members Discussion

Joy Thompson received compliments on the new Water Superintendent.

City Administrator Bruce Lundy mentioned that City employee Mike Clark was out on worker’s compensation for a few weeks. The back brace seems to be helping.

John Parker attended the Planning & Zoning meeting, including the presentation on TIF proposed project. He asked why a plat had not been presented earlier. The answer was cost.

Don Dillman enjoyed the LEAP vision meeting. Every age group was represented and there was a lot of good discussion on what it would take to maintain growth and keep people here.

Adjournment

No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 7:33 p.m. on a motion by Joy Thompson and seconded by John Parker. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Connie George, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Beth Kar, City Clerk