

**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
FEBRUARY 22, 2016
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Connie George presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Members present: Kenny Maxwell, Don Dillman, John Parker and Joy Thompson. 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 February 19, 2016. The meeting was audio recorded.

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

Minutes – February 8, 2016 – Joy Thompson motioned to approve the minutes of February 8, 2016. Kenny Maxwell seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Public Testimony

Ralph Stanton hoped there would be a specific spot on the agenda to speak on the TIF issue. He was disappointed there was only one City Council member at the TIF Commission meeting. Stanton asked if a street would be put in to the north of the project. He thought if a street to the north was required, the developers would not do the project. Stanton was concerned that the proposed TIF bill included that if it was approved, then the plans as submitted were automatically approved. The submitted plans he had seen did not include a road to the north. The way he interpreted it, the ordinance did not specify that the development went through the zoning board.

Police Chief's Report — Chief of Police David Vincent reported that three of the new police cars are in service. The last one should be finished up this evening. The officers had training today for their new IT system that was budgeted for this year. Once up and running, the system will make the office run smoother. It allows the department to share information on arrests with the sheriff's office and other counties. He provided statistics for 2015 as well as 2014 for comparison. The numbers are similar. Don Dillman asked for an explanation on a few of the statistics field definitions. Joy Thompson motioned to approve the Chief's report. Don Dillman seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

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

Park Board Meeting -- Lundy attended the February 18th Park board meeting. Each one of the separate committees discussed their issues. The Board discussed the future of the Skate Park equipment. Use of that equipment was very low last year by skateboarders and use increased by kids on bicycles that are not allowed. The equipment cost approximately \$25,000 when it was purchased. Lundy asked the City's insurance carrier, MIRMA, to see how dismantling the skate park would affect the City's rates. MIRMA responded that removing the equipment would only affect the City's rates if there was a claim. There have been no claims but it is beneficial to eliminate areas of risk. Park Board member Bryson Ellis resigned due to the fact that he does not have the time needed to commit to the Board. Lundy has helped looking for a replacement and

may have an appointment for the next meeting. There are two people who mentioned interested in applying for the two open spots on the Board. Mike Yuille planned to survey what citizens thought of the skate park. Don Dillman motioned to accept Bryson Ellis' resignation and Kenny Maxwell seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Equipment Auction – Many people have inquired about when the police cars will be sold. Jeff Pittman of West Central Auction Company will hold an online auction for the City. Pittman is in the process of generating the posters and getting the sale advertised. The auction will commence the first week of March and will close on March 16th.

Small Community Engineering Assistance Grant -- Lundy received word from John Brummer of TREKK Engineering that they have the wastewater system mapping from Midland and are in the process of creating the hydraulic model for the City's wastewater system. This will be used to make improvement recommendations in the Facility Plan.

Cemetery Mowers – The City has put out for bids for Commercial Grade mowers for the Cemetery. There have been several groups requesting specs. The bids will be opened on March 2nd.

Rezoning Greg Chevrolet -- It was discovered by associates of Greg Chevrolet that the front of their property is zoned commercial and the back half is zoned residential and has been since 1973. After further research, the carwash behind Chevrolet is also zoned residential. Building Inspector Mike Malhiwsky has started the process to rezone those two properties to commercial.

Suddenlink -- Suddenlink called that they are restructuring their channels. The City information channel will move to channel 14 from channel 72.

Leadership Savannah -- This program kicked off two weeks ago. The first day was a retreat at the Community Building in Helena led by Dr Tim Crowley. The group did a lot of team building, public speaking exercises, getting to know each other and learning strategies to be better leaders and to communicate more effectively. The second day the group met at the Andrew County Museum and was led by Dr Crowley again with similar activities. Leadership Savannah will meet one day per month until June when the graduation ceremony will be part of the June 20th Council meeting. The second leadership Savannah Class is planned for February 2017. Lundy is trying to decide who from the City will attend that class.

Council Meeting Dates – The February/March Council Meeting dates had to be rescheduled to fit schedules. The March meetings will be on Tuesday March 1st and Monday March 21st.

MO DNR Wastewater Permit – He spent quite some time recently filling out the Financial Survey and Community Supplemental Survey to renew the City's Wastewater Permit. There were several questions dealing with the City's budget and finances and ability to pay off debt. This permit is renewed every five years. Once the City's permit is renewed, the City will know what new requirements will be required at the plant.

Region D Solid Waste -- Contacted him recently about an electronic collection event that is scheduled for May 7th from 8 am – Noon. This event will be held at the City Barn at 3rd and Price.

Drug Take Back in April – Chief Vincent reported the police were notified that the program would be on again this year after he was notified last year that it wouldn't continue.

From the City Code 1. § 205.080 Cats or Dogs At Large. – Lundy described cats and dogs are required to have annual licenses as well as other related regulations. Don Dillman motioned to approve the report. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

City Attorney's report-- City Attorney Emily Bauman reported that she attended the Leadership program. She prepared the TIF minutes as well as the related ordinance. The TIF Bill is amendable. Sections 3 and 4 can be reworded to include following approval by Planning & Zoning Commission. Tonight is first reading with only discussion. The wording can be updated to include “conditional upon approval of Planning and Zoning after submission and review.” Next time Council can have a vote on approval of the bill as written or as amended. Bauman researched a variety of issues including zoning variances and City land sale to individual. Variances can go before the board of adjustment. It depends on what kind of variance. Variances on subdivisions go to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Other Variances go to the Board of Adjustments. She researched state statutes on land sale. She did not find much on land sales to private individuals. It would be similar to other types of disposal of equipment or property. Don Dillman motioned to approve the City Attorney's report. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Bill 2016-7– Approval of the TIF Project was read for the first reading. Council discussed the TIF Commission votes. Don Dillman asked if any of the Commission member said why they voted No. If anyone was changed on the project, would they vote differently? Dillman felt the City had to expand its tax base or people will continue to have to pay more to maintain the infrastructure. There are negatives but more positives than negatives with the project. Nancy Blake, the attorney for the proposed development described the benefits of the project such as the tax revenue. Currently the total taxes for the property are \$68.60/year. The developer is proposing 50% TIF. During the development, the tax entities will receive half of new taxes until the development is complete. For example, of the current taxes, the City receives \$10.86. During the TIF, the City would receive approximately \$5,000; once completed, over \$12,000. The school receives \$41.52; during TIF \$20,000; when completed \$45,000/year. Blake also detailed the benefits to the local construction companies and other businesses in the area during the project construction. Kenny Maxwell had not seen much growth since he moved to Savannah in 1964. He asked what it would do to the other homes for sale. Blake responded that the development would bring new people to town. She also talked of the benefits of potential new businesses that look to see if cities have approved tax incentives and population growth. Blake Rudel from the Ambulance Board and TIF Commission was present. He told of how he had planned to vote No, until the TIF meeting. The 50% taxes back was what swayed him. John Parker asked the statutes on the TIF timeline. He would like to see a public hearing and more information. Why did TIF members vote No? Don Dillman motioned to amend Bill 2016-7, sections three and four adding conditional language per the City Attorney Emily Bauman. John Parker seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes. City Attorney Emily Bauman will continue to research the timeline and the potential for a public hearing and of delaying the TIF ordinance.

Second Public Testimony:

Ralph Stanton stated that the process would be a lot more time consuming than seemed to be talked about. Architects draw up plans, check sewers for capacity and other steps. It took him over a year to complete his project. He mentioned another option that has not been talked about: what if the TIF was put on the ballot for citizens to vote for or against?

Marty Lyle wanted to speak on behalf of the TIF. He works at Realty Executives. He is not the realtor for the project. He has a huge group of clientele who are looking for houses such as these

people want to build and they cannot currently find them. He thought there were a lot of advantages. It seemed pretty straightforward and he hoped everyone would keep an open mind.

Clifford Carter asked about the messy trash cans on Main Street across from Green Hills which were an eyesore.

ELECTED OFFICIALS DISCUSSION

Mayor's Report – Mayor Connie George asked if the trash company had ever called City Administrator Bruce Lundy back about the trash cans? He had not received a call back. Lundy asked Director of Public Works Kenny Lance if a trash truck could go in the alley by Main Street so the trash cans could be moved to the alley. Chief of Police David Vincent thought trash trucks used to go up there. Lundy will call back Deffenbaugh. Mayor Connie George attended a Second Harvest meeting. It was interesting especially the school Backpack Buddies program. The challenge is the kids end up putting food in sacks because they don't want others to know from their backpack where their food came from. There are 250 children in that program. Eric Gentry from Chevrolet volunteered that if the Mayor found out how many need backpacks then the new Chevy dealership would provide the backpacks. Mayor George attended the Park Board meeting. She received numerous calls from residents' trash not being picked up. She thought some of the problems were because of the holiday and people not realizing pick up was not delayed but on the regular schedule. Chief of Police David Vincent thought it was confusing to the Deffenbaugh trash driver that per their route he could only pick up one side of the street then had to go back and do the other side. It would be easier to allow them to cross and pick up both sides of the street

Council Members Discussion

Joy Thompson asked if apartments and businesses were supposed to hire their own trash carrier. City Administrator Bruce Lundy confirmed that businesses and apartments have to provide for their own trash. Thompson will talk to the resident who had the issue.

Don Dillman described the Legacy motorcycle ride put on by the American Legion. There will be a planning meeting February 27, Noon, Senior Center including the heads of state of Missouri. The event will be June 24 and bring an estimated 200 or more motorcycles through town. The charity raises money for kids of soldiers killed in battle since 9/11. Last year they raised over \$40,000.

Adjournment

No further business to discuss. Council adjourned at 8:15 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