

CITY OF COMER REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 2, 2011 6 PM
MAYOR MCMICKLE PRESIDING

PENDING APPROVAL

Council Members Present: Laquita Bridges, Kevin Booth, and Howard Threlkeld

City Attorney: Jim Roberts

City Clerk: Missy Queen

Police Chief: Brent Zellner

Public Works Superintendent: Willis Gabriel

Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator: Jim Baird (not present)

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Booth called meeting to order.

1. Minutes: Motion by Council Member Threlkeld to approve the April 4, 2011 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Motion second by Council Member Bridges. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

2. Department Reports:

Police Department Reports by Chief Zellner

- For the month of April: 6 arrests, 27 citations; 14 incident reports; 2 accident reports; 168 calls

City Hall Reports by Missy Queen

- DOT Title VI department has requested copies of all invoices from TE project.
- DOT Title VI Webinar was reschedule to May 17
- DOT to resurface Clover Avenue from Hwy 98 to Paoli Street
- Will be testing weather siren at noon on Tuesday June 7. Notice will be placed in Madison County Journal as well as website and water bills.
- During Payroll/Workers Comp Audit found no resolution stating the City's request to cover the Fire Department. New resolution drafted. Motion by Council Member Threlkeld to approve resolution to cover Fire Department under Workers Comp. Motion second by Council Member Booth. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

Water Department Reports by Willis Gabriel

- Wastewater continues to stay within permit limitations
- Chipping is at 95% completion
- DOT requesting approval of relocation plan. DOT with pay 100% of relocation. Motion by Council Member Booth to table until Mayor McMickle speaks with DOT. Motion second by Council Member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.
- Advised Council that will also have to relocate lines at Hwy 98 and Brickyard.

3. Cutting Grass on Private Property: Council Member Booth stated that the City should NOT cut grass on private property. Understands that it was cut because of how it makes City Hall look; however, it is still private property. Attorney Roberts instructed to draft an ordinance to address lawn maintenance.

4. Chicken Alley: Motion by Council Member Bridges to remove the "one-way" signs and make Chicken Alley open as well as install 4-way stop signs at intersection of Chicken Alley and Park Avenue. Motion second by Council Member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

5. Turning Lane at Comer Elementary: DOT would like to address this issue this summer. Mayor McMickle will write a letter requesting an assessment.

6. Madison County Bicentennial Celebration: Mayor McMickle receive email from Chairman Dove asking for \$100 donation from each city to sponsor a game at the September 24th Bicentennial Celebration. Motion by Council Member Booth to donate \$100 to Bicentennial. Motion second by Council Member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

7. Madison County Middle School Attendance Extravaganza: Every year the Middle School has an “extravaganza” to recognize positive attendance of students. Mayor McMickle stated that “if students are gonna learn then they gotta be there”. Motion by Council Member Threlkeld to donate \$100 to Middle School Attendance Extravaganza. Motion second by Council Member Bridges. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council. Mayor McMickle expressed appreciation to Council and challenged other cities to donate as well.

8. Bids for Repair to City Hall: Motion by Council Member Booth to accept Larry Gantt’s bid of \$2950.00 to make repairs to City Hall. Motion second by Council Member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

9. Request for Data for STP: Ecologix out of Alpharetta is in the process of developing a mobile STP (sewage treatment plant) but it is yet to be approved by the EPD. They would like to use the Comer Plant to collect data for their prototype. Mayor McMickle will have Carter & Sloope, Inc. look into Ecologix to make sure there will be no problems with the EPD and Comer for the data collection. Motion by Council Member Booth to allow Ecologix to acquire data from the Comer Plant if approved by Carter & Sloope, Inc. Motion second by Council member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

10. Regional STP: Mayor McMickle addressed council. Regional Sewage Treatment Plant proposed by the IDA does not make sense to Comer. Comer should do their own STP with a capacity large enough to offer to others outside the City. However, in order to fund an adequate STP, the City will need to incrementally increase the rates. In the end the City will have a better product for the citizens.

11. Walking Track: Council Member Threlkeld stated the walking track is being used by citizens. “No Motor Vehicle” signs arrived at City Hall today to put up around track. A water fountain was also installed outside the restroom. Would like to see bleachers installed at each field. Motion by Council Member Booth to order bleachers for Arnold Park. Motion Second by Council Member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

12. Travel Museum: Council Member Threlkeld asked if the Travel Museum is open. Mayor McMickle stated that it is not completed decorated but would not turn anyone away if they wanted to use the facility. Mrs. Queen stated that there are two events already on the calendar for use of the Travel Museum.

13. Sewage Issues on Gholston: During sewage back up issues in the last couple weeks, Mr. Gabriel was approached about the purchase of a portable jetter costing around \$3,000. This jetter would address issues with roots in system. Mr. Gabriel stated that he would like to try before approaching Council to purchase.

14. Bid for Bushhog: Council Member Threlkeld stated that the City did not accept any bids that were received for the bushhog. Council Member Threlkeld was approached by an individual who offered twice as much as the highest bid. Mayor McMickle instructed Council Member Threlkeld to have individual submit a written bid for discussion next Council Meeting.

15. Sunday Beer & Wine Sales: Council Member Booth stated that each Council Member was elected to represent the citizens of Comer. Motion by Council Member Booth to have an “advisory vote” on the November ballot to have Beer & Wine Sales on Sunday from 1-6PM. Motion second by Council Member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

16. Executive Session: Motion by Council Member Threlkeld to go into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation. Motion second by Council Member Booth. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

After possible litigation discussion, Motion by Council Member Booth to go out of executive session. Motion second by Council Member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

Motion by Council Member Threlkeld to adjourn. Motion second by Council Member Booth. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

_____ William D. McMickle, Mayor

_____ Missy Queen, City Clerk

_____ Date Approved