

CITY OF COMER REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 8, 2010 6 PM
MAYOR MCMICKLE PRESIDING

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

City Attorney: Jim Roberts

City Clerk: Missy Queen

Police Chief: Brent Zellner

Public Works Superintendent: Willis Gabriel

Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator: Jim Baird

City Clerk Missy Queen called meeting to order.

1. Minutes: Motion by Council Member Bridges to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2010 City of Comer Regular Council Meeting. Motion second by Council Member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

2. Jerry Phillips: Mr. Phillips has vacated his home on Spring Circle and inquired to leave water on, but no longer be billed for sewage and garbage. Council Member Booth directed Mrs. Queen to contact Mr. Phillips and suggest to turn all services off. If Mr. Phillips needed to go back to residence for cleaning purposes the City would be glad to accommodate.

3. Landscape Project: Project scheduled to begin on November 12th in the medium at Highway 22. Project should not take more than 90 days.

4. Peoples & Quigley, Inc—Sewage Treatment Plant: Mr. Quigley addressed Council regarding the study for the potential county wide sewage treatment plant. He presented a map to the City showing the current system. Mr. Quigley stated that everything flows to the lower part of the city, and the current system can not handle a lot of rain. If the county system is approved, a pump station will be installed at the current facility, and current facility will be used as an overflow. Council Member Yarbrough stated that “the sewage collection is our biggest issue and that should be our main priority.”

Surveys were sent out to current water customers who are not on city sewer to acquire the interest of customers that would be interested in hooking on to a new system. Mr. Quigley suggest the Council keep a check on the results of the survey, as well as entertain updating the current billing/wand software.

5. Department Reports:

Police Department Reports by Chief Zellner

- For the month of October: 6 arrests; 38 citations; 28 incident reports; 4 accident reports (2 with injuries); 205 calls
- Sgt. Ingram and Officer Moody attended and completed a CSX class
- New department building is almost complete, very pleased with work being done.
- Currently completed DOD paperwork to help outfit the new department

Public Works Reports by Jimmy Yarbrough

- Mr. Gabriel absent due to currently working on water leak repairs
- City currently receiving quotes to remove two trees on ROW of Madison Street
- RSC has three backhoes for the City to look at for purchase
- Council Member Threlkeld questioned the performance of tractor. Council Member Yarbrough stated that it is usable but not right. Council Member suggested to contact seller to repair completely or pick up and refund check.

- Mayor McMickle requested authorization from Council to approve lowest bid for tree removal. Council granted.

City Hall Reports by Missy Queen

- Budget hearing was held on October 11th, no one from community in attendance. Council Members Bridges and Threlkeld attended. Work Session scheduled for Monday, November 15th at 5:00 PM.
- Newly Elected Officials Training is scheduled for February 18-19 in Tifton. Mayor McMickle instructed Mrs. Queen to see if there is another class offered in the Athens area.
- Deed for Lift Station has been recorded.
- Mrs. Queen thanked Council for appointing her City Clerk at last Council meeting. Council Member Bridges stated they were incorrect in raise. Motion by Council Member Threlkeld to retro back and increase current salary by \$1000. Motion second by Council Member Bridges. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.
- Furniture to Travel Museum was discussed. Mayor McMickle instructed Travel Museum Committee to check on prices for tables and chairs.

Fire Department Reports by Jimmy Yarbrough

- Nothing to report at this time.

Building and Zoning Reports by Jim Baird

- Motion by Council Member Booth to open a Public Hearing for the purpose of accepting public comments on a rezone request by the City. Motion second by Council Member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

Mr. Baird reported that Charles Upchurch of Caldwell Banker (as owner representative) has applied to change the zoning from C1 to C2 on the property located on Gholston Street the Madison County Property Tax Map as parcel CO01 065 and CO01 051. Charles Upchurch spoke in favor of the zoning change, stating potential tenants do not fall under current zoning. No one spoke in opposition of the zoning change.

Motion by Council Member Threlkeld to go out of Public Hearing and return to regular Council Meeting. Motion second Council Member Yarbrough. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

Motion by Council Member Threlkeld to approve rezone. Motion second by Council Member Yarbrough. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

6. Comer Christmas Parade: Mayor McMickle verified Council was aware of all parties' responsibilities for parade. Mayor McMickle, Council Members Bridges and Threlkeld will be in parade.

7. Royal Christmas Dinner: Christmas dinner for Mayor & Council, City Employees, Police Department Personnel and Fire Department Personnel will be held on Wednesday December 8th at 7:00PM. Dinner will be held in Travel Museum.

8. Travel Museum: No update at this time.

9. Community Service: Council Member Booth would like to see more enforcement regarding Community Service Workers. Mrs. Queen was instructed to speak with judge regarding issue.

10. Royal Oaks Home Owners Association: Marsha Royston spoke as representative from association. Question recourse on neglect of houses. Ms. Royston was asked to give addresses to Building/Zoning Administrator to further investigate.

11. ResCare: Due to current activities, Mr. Baird was instructed to investigate the situation.

12. Executive Session: Motion by Council Member Boothto go into Executive Session to discuss personnel. Motion second by Council Member Threlkeld. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

After personnel discussion, Motion by Council Member Threlkeld to go out of executive session. Motion second by Council Member Yarbrough. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

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

_____ William D. McMickle, Mayor

_____ Missy Queen, Interim City Clerk

_____ Date Approved