**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

**Call to Order & Prayer**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Motion to Approve January Special Called Meeting Minutes**: Chris Peck

**Motion Seconded by**: Roger Fortson and Ray Thomas

Jonathan Pou abstained from voting due to his absence in the Special Called Meeting.

**Motion to Approve February 6 Agenda**: Jonathan Pou

**Seconded by:** Roger Fortson; all approved.

Attorney Dale Perry distributed copies of the Engine Brake Ordinance to be implemented. Council will have a month to review. The Second Reading will be at the next scheduled City Council Meeting, Monday March 6th.

No Public Input

Representatives from The Southern Gospel Showcase were present to address the Council in reference to their interest in renting the auditorium for monthly music events. The Council discussed between them some of their concerns, and Dale Perry questioned the representative about their insurance policy. The representative stated there was a policy in effect.

The Council presented the group with a proposed $150 deposit and a $150 rental fee. The deposit of $150 can roll-over to the next scheduled event, but the rental fee would be $150 per event. Councilman Chris Peck made a motion to have a three-month trial period with normal deposit and rental fee. Councilmember Jonathan Pou seconded the motion; all approved.

The rezone for Donna Jordan (previously advertised and heard by community) will be granted as Councilmember Jonathan Pou made the motion to grant the rezone, with Chris Peck seconding the vote, and Ray Thomas in agreeance. Councilman Roger Fortson was opposed.

The City Council was presented with the second reading of the new city council meeting schedule ordinance. At times in the past, a holiday has hindered the scheduling of City Council Meetings and caused some confusion. Discussion was made between the Council. Chris Peck motioned to table to vote on the ordinance until next month. Jonathan Pou seconded the vote. All approved.

No Public Input

Department Reports

Chris Peck stated that the Pastor of The Lighthouse Church is still in need of the repairs to its church doors and there are also some broken windows in need of attention and repair.

Tim Wyatt stated that the recent rainfall has hindered the progress of the construction of the new fire hall. The tornado siren outside the fire hall is still in need of repairs and some of the fire crew will be looking into that. He stated that the previous county chairman and EMA directors did not provide any assistance when presented with its issue. Mayor Wyatt will be speaking with the new officials and to see if they may be able to provide any recommendations.

Jonathan Pou asked the staff to contact Lucas to have him go to the park and cut the ball fields as they have been being used for practice.

Roger Fortson inspected the recent laying of tar and gravel the county had applied and approved of its layout.

Ray Thomas wanted to add the purchase of new city signs back to the agenda for next month.

Tony Mattox said the street signs project is still ongoing and asked about whether the city limits sign should be moved since the recent annexation of Mr. Hart and Mr. Michaels’ properties. He will get in touch with the DOT contact and see what they advise.

Kerri-Lynn Phillips read a letter from the Pinckard family expressing their appreciation of the Council and Mayor. Councilman Jonathan Pou asked about the status of the city audit and Clerk Kerri-Lynn Phillips informed the Council that all accounts from 2021 through January 2023 are all balanced and reconciled. The city auditor has also been provided files for his review and inspection, and clerks will be awaiting his further instruction.

Mayor’s Comments

Discussion about the paving projects on 2nd Avenue *(from Stop sign to Stop sign)* was made and the quote that was received by the City totaling $35,530. The road will need to be completely excavated and it is the worst part of the road. The cost to repair Church Avenue was $12,897 and Barnett Avenue was $10,892. A motion was made by Jonathan Pou to repair Barnett and Church Avenues with the block of 2nd. Chris Peck seconded the motion. Ray Thomas approved. Roger Fortson abstained from voting since he lives on 2nd Avenue.

Michelle Cole provided an update for the park stating that the committee had pressed the developers for a scaled-down plan due to concerns over excavations and costs.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jonathan Pou and was seconded by Chris Peck. All approved.