**CITY OF COLBERT**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MAY 1, 2023 – 7 P.M.**

**Meeting held at the Train Depot due to the Auditorium being in use by the Canna Pageant committee.**

**Call to Order and Prayer:** Chris Peck

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of April 3rd Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve: Chris Peck, seconded by Roger Fortson; all approved.

**Motion to Amend May 1st Agenda to Include Reading of Library Ordinance: Roger Fortson; Ray Thomas seconded the vote; all approved**

**Adoption of May 1st Agenda**

Motion to approve: Chris Peck, seconded by Roger Fortson; all approved.

**Present:** Mayor Tim Wyatt, Councilmembers Chris Peck, Roger Fortson, and Ray Thomas; Attorney Dale Perry, Tony Mattox, Kerri-Lynn Phillips, Elisa Grimes; Jonathan Pou (attached list)

***PUBLIC INPUT***

Resident Susan Moore of 4th Street commented on speeders driving much faster than the posted speed limit. Mayor Tim Wyatt stated where the city limits ended on 4th Street. Councilmember Jonathan Pou entered the meeting at 7:05 p.m. due to a prior obligation. Mayor Tim Wyatt also stated that unless the road was a State road, that requesting State help was of no use, however he will be looking into options and contacting the Sheriff’s Department for assistance. Two other residents added their concerns about speeders on their streets. Ms. Moore thanked the council for the repairs that were made to her yard area regarding heavy water run-off in the month of January.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Purchasing Pressure Regulators for Water System**

Mayor Wyatt stated that he was awaiting Mr. Bledsoe to contact him and that the city’s water supervisor T.C. said only one may be needed. The issue was tabled until the regular June meeting.

**Bill Grimes, Assistant to Tony Mattox**

Mayor Wyatt, councilmembers, and staff welcomed Bill Grimes as assistant to Tony Mattox, Maintenance.

**Old First Madison Bank**

It has been noted that the old bank property has become overgrown and the sign is noncompliant. Councilmember Jonathan Pou stated that he had spoken with the property owner about a year ago, at which time the owner told Jonathan that he had been paying someone to come out and maintenance the property. Property owner information has been obtained and the city will mail a letter about the compliance issues.

**Street Sign Payment**

City Clerk, Kerri-Lynn Phillips requested input from the council as to what account the payment for the replacement street and avenue signs should be paid from. It was agreed to pay from SPLOST funds.

**First Reading of Library Ordinance**

The first reading of the city library ordinance was held, provided to the council, and to Mrs. Flo Hix. The second reading of the ordinance will be held at the regular June meeting.

***NO PUBLIC INPUT AT THIS TIME***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Adoption of City Comprehensive Plan**

The City Comprehensive Plan was reviewed by the council and its adoption was tabled until the regular June meeting.

**Bauers’ Variance Request**

After receiving the variance application from the Bauers, the council reviewed the request documents. Discussion was made by Dale Perry, council for the city. He stated that their original application was to build an accessory building in the form of a Quonset hut. Under the §8-1 Standards for single-family and two-family dwellings ordinance, the building cannot be used as a residence due to there being no crawl space, the use of vinyl siding on the exterior, as well as non-permitted roofing materials and roof overhang. Perry also stated that the purpose of zoning R-1 is to have homes that are built as homes.

Jonathan Pou asked for more information from the Bauers regarding the property’s history. Mrs. Bauer stated that the property originally belonged to her grandfather, the late Raleigh Patton, and that only family live around the property boundaries. She also stated that the Quonset hut was weather sturdy, and more financially feasible that renovating the original house due to its state of disrepair. Councilmember Chris Peck made a motion to grant the variance. The motion died due to a lack of a second being made.

**Flo Hix Property Request**

After the council had time to review Mrs. Hix’s request from the April meeting, councilmember Jonathan Pou made a motion to grant her request, and Chris Peck seconded the motion. Councilmember Ray Thomas approved, and councilmember Roger Fortson was opposed.

***PUBLIC INPUT***

Mrs. Flo Hix addressed the council with a library update. She stated that the windows will be delivered this week, the shelving and countertops have been ordered, and the trim will be installed this week.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Mayor Pro Tem, Chris Peck stated that he had spoken with the Word of Life Church and they are interested in annexation.

Fire Department Liaison, Tim Wyatt said that the plumbers for the new fire department should be in this week.

Grass Cutting Liaison Jonathan Pou stated that the grass cutting crew had been doing a good job, but that there were some limbs around some of the Georgia Power operated street lights that need tending. Councilman Chris Peck added that maybe Georgia Power can provide brighter lights for some locations.

Streets & Lighting Liaison Roger Fortson had nothing to report.

Assisting Tony with Maintenance & Repairs, Ray Thomas had nothing to report.

Staff Reports – Kerri-Lynn Phillips stated that the city insurance reports had been filed and the premium paid, however the balance on the fund report does not reflect the amount being withdrawn from the general checking account. Tony Mattox suggested that there be bigger speed detection signs ordered.

Mayor Comments

Work Session to be held on Thursday, May 4th at 6:30 to be held at the Train Depot.

**Canna Pageant: “Under the Sea” SATURDAY, MAY 6 @ 6 P.M.**

**Old Time Gospel Singing: June 10th at 6 p.m. in the Auditorium. No admission; crackers and sodas will be available.**

**July 4th Celebration: “From Sea to Shining Sea” TUESDAY JULY 4 Parade @ 9 A.M.**

Next Scheduled Council Meeting: Monday, June 5 – 7p.m. at the Auditorium

Motion to adjourn was made by Chris Peck and was seconded by Ray Thomas; all approved.