**CITY OF COLBERT**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**APRIL 3, 2023 – 7 P.M.**

**Call to Order and Prayer**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of March 6 Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve: Chris Peck, seconded by Ray Thomas; all approved.

**Adoption of April 3rd Agenda**

Motion to approve: Jonathan Pou, seconded by Roger Fortson; all approved.

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

*NO PUBLIC INPUT AT THIS TIME*

**Bruce Bauer Property Request**

Local part-time residents Bruce and Annette Bauer addressed the council concerning their property located at 312 Diamond Hill Colbert Road. According to county records the house was built in 1955, has no heating or cooling systems in place, and listed to be in poor condition. He stated that the house is partially demolished inside and no running water. It was their original intent when they purchased the property in early 2022 to renovate and remodel the house. Once they began working on the inside of the house, it quickly became apparent to them that the house was in further disrepair than they cared to invest more into. They requested of the council that they be allowed to move into the shop out-building also located on the property. Per Colbert zoning, having two residences on less than three acres is not allowed. Also the shop has vinyl siding on it, which per ordinances is not allowed, as well as being constructed on a concrete slab. The residents requested they be granted a variance in order to live in the shop and have the existing house demolished. They would use this property on an as-needed basis when their employers have them working in the area. Attorney Dale Perry suggested they formally write their request and bring it back to the council, and that the matter be tabled until such a date.

**Flo Hix Alley Request**

Citizen Florence Hix, owner of 5584 Hwy 72 W submitted a request to the council to have the adjacent alley quitclaimed to her stating, “Long abandoned for the current road system many of these alleys remain in place, however, they represent parcels too small to do anything except provide/block legal road frontage in many cases.” Discussion was made between councilmembers and the city attorney. Councilmember Jonathan Pou addressed Mrs. Hix stating that he did not have a problem with her request, but he made a motion to table further discussion until next month. Chris Peck seconded the motion and all approved.

*NO PUBLIC INPUT AT THIS TIME*

**Library Renovation Update**

Florence, or as most know her, “Flo,” Hix spoke briefly about the ongoing library renovations. The demolition began on Wednesday, March 22. Windows have been ordered, all plaster has been removed, and a heating/cooling quote has been received. Mrs. Hix hopes to turn the old bathrooms in the back of the building into greenhouses and have local students or children plant a garden in the court yard. She is also looking into custom book shelves, having the chalk board refinished, the addition of a conference table with seating, computers for children and adults, a separate seating area for children and adults, and the possible donation of a smartboard. The sheetrock crew will be coming at the end of this week as well. Attorney Dale Perry spoke briefly and read from the Official Code of Georgia §20-5-20 and will draft an ordinance to create the community library’s Board of Trustees.

**Old Fire Hall Plumbing Update**

The septic lines at the old fire hall became backed up during the city Christmas event in December. Smith Plumbing Solutions was called in to inspect. They rodded the lines twice and jetted them once. The tank was pumped also. They recommended adding longer fill lines, so a permit has been obtained by the county for septic work to be done, however councilmember Chris Peck stated they may just need to be shut down and abandoned. Further information will be provided later.

**Tornado Siren Update**

Chris Peck spoke briefly about the tornado siren again. Upon further inspection, the siren will need a part that will cost about $400-$500. Discussion was made between councilmembers and the city attorney, and Tim Wyatt will be looking into a new siren.

**Street Sign Order Being Finalized**

Street sign order is being finalized by Tony Mattox.

**Back Doors**

Back doors will be repaired by the demo crew that is working in the library.

**Street Paving Update**

Tony Mattox spoke with Jason Smith and he should be able to start on Second Avenue next week, dependent upon the weather.

**Auditorium Ceiling Replacement**

Auditorium ceiling replacement will take place on Tuesday the 4th and should be completed within a day or two.

**Lighting for Auditorium Completed by Ash Electric in March**

March 21st the auditorium lights were removed and replaced with donated LED lighting and donated labor.

*PUBLIC INPUT*

Drageo Tessanovich with the Madison County Clean Power Coalition spoke briefly to the council and attendees about the GRP located on Hwy 72; later in the month the coalition will host a meeting.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Mayor Pro Tem, Chris Peck had no new information to be shared.

Fire Department Liaison, Tim Wyatt stated the fire department grading complete and is ready for concrete.

Grass Cutting Liaison Jonathan Pou stated the grass is being cut and that he wants to see the itemized grass cutting invoices from Vendrillo Services.

Streets & Lighting Liaison Roger Fortson had no new updates.

Assisting Tony with Maintenance & Repairs, Ray Thomas had no new updates to give.

Staff Reports - Tony Mattox, Kerri-Lynn Phillips, Elisa Grimes

Tony Mattox stated that he needed posts for the addition of outdoor lighting.

Elisa has contacted a possible part-time on-call maintenance lead.

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

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

**Mayor Comments**

Mayor Tim Wyatt informed the attendees that the city water tank is undergoing inspection-based cleaning and maintenance facilitated by Piedmont Water Company. Water problems occurred when the county water system was turned on and the plumbing at Ferris Well was blown out. TC will get a quote for the addition of a pressure regulator.

**Next Scheduled Meeting Monday, May 1 – 7p.m.**

Motion to adjourn made by Roger Fortson and was seconded by Jonathan Pou. All approved.