**COUNCIL MEETING**

**August 11, 2022 – 7 p.m.**

**Auditorium**

**Present:** Jonathan Pou, Roger Fortson, Ray Thomas, Kerri-Lynn Phillips, Tony Mattox, Gregory and Sheila Magrum, Cynthia Fortson, Tim Wyatt, Michelle Cole, Elisa Grimes, Carl and Ellyn Trinrud

**Call to Order**-Jonathan Pou

**Praye**r-Kerri-Lynn Phillips

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**No Quorum to Adopt August 11 Agenda or to Approve July 28 Minutes**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Pro Tem introduced Elisa Grimes, candidate for the assistant clerk position. Jonathan and Kerri-Lynn interviewed her prior to the meeting. She brings to the table excellent qualifications and experience. Pending a background check, her first day will be August 15, 2022 and she will be formally introduced at the September meeting.

LMIG Project Update-Mayor Pro Tem has been in contact with Chris Dills who has stated that the two worst surface-condition streets in the city were Shoal Creek Road and Hardman Morris Road. In order to receive the funds, the City has to have a project list to use the funding for. The Council may be able to have a vote as soon as November.

Tree Cutting Update-several trees within the city have been cut and/or removed. There were some that were diseased and in need of attention. There was also damage done to some trees in recent thunder storms. Remaining stumps will be ground.

ARP Funding and Uses-The bank account that the ARP funds will be deposited to has been verified and should be coming in within the month. ARP funds can be used for revenue replacement, storm water run-off maintenance and repair, and hazard pay. Mr. Bledsoe, the City Engineer, will be coming back out at a later date to assess the next stages of the project(s).

Current 2022 Budget Report-Mayor Pro Tem presented the existing Council members with the current 2022 budget report. The budget may be voted on as soon as November. Further budget discussion was made about reamending the contract with the Fire Department to include the telephone, cable, and internet bills that the City pays, as it was not listed on the updated contract, nor has been in the contact up to this point.

Park Agreement Update-City Attorney Dale Perry has updated the Park Contract and will be sending it over for review.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Ellyn Trinrud asked if the owners of the old bank property could be contacted about the state of the grass on the property, and it badly being in need of cutting.

The gun shop is also up for sale. They will be moving to the old Dollar General building.

Carl Trinrud asked about the status of the possible rental of the depot office to Mrs. Hallan. Mayor Pro Tem stated that she has had all inspections that are necessary completed, but did not have any updated information. Carl made the suggestion of using that same space for a county sheriff’s office annex to create a presence of law enforcement in the area.

Mayor Pro Tem was also asked whether it was possible to use ARP funds to pay grant writers. He stated through NEGRC the City has a connection to grant writers and is currently working with the Chamber of Commerce to obtain grants available to possibly update our auditorium.

**Department Reports**

Ray Thomas-none

Roger Fortson-none

Staff-The additional surveying for the cemetery has been completed and paid for. Tony Mattox also met with Brett Smith to check on the A/C at the depot meeting room. Brett was able to diagnose that there had been separation from the unit and its plenum in the attic, and will be coming back on August 15 to make necessary repairs.

Mayor Pro Tem Comments-The accounts and account numbers have been updated in the office to the unified chart of accounts used by local governments in Georgia, as well as the City Auditor.

The next scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday September 13, 2022.

Adjourned Meeting without further Motion.