**COUNCIL MEETING**

**Monday, December 5, 2022**

**7:00 p.m.**

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

**Call to Order** – Mayor Tim Wyatt

**Prayer** – Chris Peck

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adoption of December Agenda** – Motion to adopt by Chris Peck; motion seconded by Ray Thomas; All approved.

**Approval of November 15th Special Called Meeting Minutes** – Motion to approve by Jonathan Pou; motion seconded by Chris Peck; All approved.

***NO PUBLIC INPUT***

**Rezones**

Rezones requested by Donna Jordan were tabled until more thorough research may be done.

Motion to Table by Chris Peck; motion seconded by Roger Fortson; All approved.

**Annexation**

Motion to annex properties owned by Randy Michaels and Edwin Hart Jr. made by Jonathan Pou; motion seconded by Ray Thomas; All approved. Jonathan Pou asked Dale Perry how long will it take to change; Perry responded to send the information to the Department of Community Affairs and that it would take effect immediately.

**2023 Budget**

Motion to approve the 2023 Proposed Budget was made by Roger Fortson and was seconded by Chris Peck; all approved. Councilman Pou included that in the 2023 Budget there was a 6% raise for staff, a pension fund for the Fire Department, as well as funding for the Red Canna Park. Chris Peck stated that there would need to be monies set aside to repair and/or replace the roof on the Log Cabin, repair the leak at the old Fire Hall and clean out the septic tank there, as there were issues there on Friday night’s Christmas in Colbert event.

**Recommendation of City Credit Card**

Councilman Pou made the recommendation of the City obtaining a credit card. Currently, the City has never had a credit card and staff has been reimbursed for purchases made for the City. Pou stated that for auditing purposes that practice could be viewed as a “red-flag,” and not really the best practice, in general. Also, when staff make purchases, the sales tax exemption the City holds isn’t being used and it winds up costing more. Chris Peck acknowledged it being electronically necessary for online purchases. Ray Thomas added there should only be one card, and Tim Wyatt was also in agreement stating it is the year 2023 and there is a need. Dale Perry stated there would need to be a new ordinance drawn up as well as a use-policy written. Jonathan Pou and Dale Perry are to be working up a policy.

**Yard Sales on City Property**

A question was raised by a City resident about whether or not the Depot property could be used as a Community Yard Sale location. Attorney Dale Perry stated that the property is owned by the railroad company, CSX, and he did not think it would be a safe option. Mayor Tim Wyatt expressed concern about clean up after said yard sales. Jonathan Pou added there should be a permit applied for and a deposit made by the organizer to avoid the City having to incur further clean up after the event is over. A suggestion was made to use the Red Canna Park instead of the Depot, as there would be greater space for tables and parking.

Attorney Dale Perry advised the Council that the organizer should also be insured to avoid potential legalities in the event of an accident. He also stated that there needs to be a Yard Sale Ordinance drawn up.

***PUBLIC INPUT: OLD BUSINESS***

Cynthia Fortson presented the Council with questions about the Park Committee. She asked Mayor Tim Wyatt and the current Council what their vision was for the park and is it the same as before. Mayor Wyatt explained to her that nothing regarding planning had changed to his knowledge, but questioned how does the committee know what the public wants in a park. Discussion was made about the organization of the Park Committee, as well as how it functions. Another citizen responded questioning whether the 501(c3) status is needed. Councilman Pou and Mayor Tim Wyatt stated they did not believe there to be a reason not to have the 501(c3) status, and that some donors are more willing to donate to a City Fund through the 501(c3) rather than directly to the City.

**Request to Rename Pinckard Avenue**

The petition written and submitted by the Pinckard family to the Council to rename Pinckard Avenue has been reviewed and a motion to rename Pinckard Avenue was made by Jonathan Pou and seconded by Councilman Chris Peck; all approved. The family expressed their gratitude.

**Jason Smith’s Updated Quote for Fifth Avenue Project**

Mayor Tim Wyatt and Councilmembers have received Smith’s updated quote for the project totaling $30,886.00. City engineer Mike Bledsoe agreed with Smith’s quote and work plan. Discussion was made about the ARP funding covering the cost of this project, as has been the plan. Jonathan Pou made a motion to approve the bid with an added ten-percent contingency added, bringing the cost of the project to $33,974.60. If the contingency would not be needed, it would go back into the ARP fund. The motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Peck; all approved.

**Scheduling of Comp Plan Adoption**

The Council agreed to hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in order to adopt the Comp Plan for the City. Ms. Marilyn Hall from Hall Consulting will be in attendance on January 9th for the City Council Meeting agenda as well.

**Department Reports**

Jonathan Pou-park grass did not get cut

Chris Peck-Update Charter and draw up ordinances

Tim Wyatt-Add signs and speed limit signs to next meeting agenda to be able to vote on, as well as Tiller Quote for tree trimming and cutting on Brookshire

Staff-City Clerks expressed gratitude for a successful Christmas in Colbert

Tony Mattox-announced a fundraiser that he plans to organize for future Christmas in Colbert events

**Mayor Comments**

Mayor Wyatt would like to see input by City residents through a survey to be drawn up in the near future.

The next City Council meeting will be on Monday, January 9, 2023, as the regularly scheduled meeting date falls on a federal holiday.

Motion to Adjourn made by Councilman Chris Peck. The motion was seconded by Jonathan Pou; all approved.