**City of Colbert**

**Council Meeting 7:00 PM**

**December 13, 2021**

**Present: Mayor Chris Peck, Council Members: Roger Fortson, Jonathan Pou, Ray Thomas, Evelyn Power; Staff: Kerri-Lynn Phillips, Vicky Smith, Tony Mattox**

**Citizens: Anita Peck, Bruce Scogin, Ellyn Trinrud, Carl Trinrud, Cynthia Fortson, Debbie Lovelady, Greg Magrum, Sheila Magrum**

**Call to Order and Prayer – Mayor Peck**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adoption of December Agenda – Motion was made by Evelyn Power and seconded by Ray Thomas.**

**All approved.**

**Approval of November Minutes as typed.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Fund Report was read

Adoption of 2022 Budget – Motion was made by Evelyn Power to adopt the 2022 Budget. Motion was seconded by Ray Thomas. Jonathan Pou asked that before the vote was cast, he wanted to recommend that the budget could be amended after the end of December and all funding was completed.

All approved.

Park Proposal Quote – This proposal was presented by McAllister Site Consulting, LLC. Copies were presented to all council and Jonathan Pou explained that the proposal was a master plan for the development of the park. He stated that this project would be completed in phases as funds allowed. The cost of the master plan is $9825.00. A motion was made by Jonathan Pou to accept this master plan and motion seconded by Ray Thomas. There was discussion that a committee could be appointed to help develop this plan and Jonathan would be key person of that committee. All approved.

Park Lights – A quote was presented from Georgia Power Company to place 6 poles, wiring, and lights from the nearest transformer down Park Avenue would cost approximately $217.02 per month. They would do the work. The City would be responsible for trimming trees where necessary. Jackson Electric gave a price of $28 per month per pole for 3 poles. They would do all the trimming necessary and run the power from the transformer near the restrooms in the park. It was mentioned that the City needed a quote in writing before proceeding with this project. This project was tabled until next meeting.

Waste Pro Sanitation Contract – Waste Pro has announced a price increase of $2.00 for all customers. Inside City Limits will increase from $12 to $14. Outside City Limits will increase from $17 to $19. This contract will be effective January 1, 2022 and will be voted on by council at January meeting.

Training for newly elected officials will be February 23 – 25 at UGA – Carl Vinson Institute for Learning.

This will be paid for by City and the newly elected official is Greg Magrum.

Auditor – Mayor Peck asked permission from council to seek a new auditor for the city and dismiss our present auditors, Hawkins and McNair. Motion was made by Ray Thomas and seconded by Evelyn Power to give him permission to look for new firm. Motion approved by: Roger Fortson, Evelyn Power and Ray Thomas. Jonathan Pou abstained from voting due to his affiliation with Hawkins and McNair firm.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Third Street Drain Project - Mayor Peck presented copies of the contract in the amount of $117,928.29 from Jason Smith, Owner, Smiths Grading Clearing & Demo, 2071 Waggoner’s Grove Church Road, Colbert, GA. Mr. Smith can begin the project at his discretion.

Election Results and Announcement – Mayor Peck read the election results and mentioned that Greg Magrum was the winner of the 2021 election and will serve a 4-year term (which will be 2022-2025. Mayor Peck thanks all those who ran in the election and complimented them on a job well done.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Jon Pou stated that the grass cutters had done a good job. He asked a question about the State Funding program. There had been no word from the State.

Vicky Smith stated that the QuickBooks program had been installed and that they had been getting ready to enter the accounts.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Carl Trinrud asked if there was a long-term plan to budget funds for capital out-lay. Mayor Peck addressed the question by stating that the budget was for a year at a time. Funds are looked at each year with goals and plans in mind that the city feels necessary to accomplish. Attorney Perry stated that the City cannot obligate funding longer than the terms of present council. There was some further discussion on long-range plans and how funding was handled.

Cynthia Fortson stated that her prayer was for the council and leaders to keep in mind that all citizens were important and to be aware of the needs of the citizens and not be afraid to speak and to lead the city. She stated everyone should be served the same. She said she felt the water system improvements and the need for sewage should be addressed.

**MAYOR COMMENTS**

Mayor Peck stated the railings had been installed at the Municipal Complex.

He mentioned the Madison County Board of Elections had sent a registered letter of termination, but more information would follow.

Celebrate Christmas was a complete success and a great turn-out.

Mrs. Evelyn Power is retiring after this year. He thanked her for her years of service to the City and for being a faithful council member since 2009, when she was first elected. He also stated she was the first female to serve on the council and a job well-done. She stated it had been good to serve her city in this way and that she wished her successor a successful term.

**Adjourn**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Evelyn Power and seconded by Ray Thomas.

All approved.