

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
March 14, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

Mayor Pro Tem Currie called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6pm.

The invocation was given by Council Member Wease followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the City Clerk called the roll. Mayor Pro Tem Currie and Council Members Miller, Murphy, Thurman, and Wease were all present. The office of Mayor is vacant.

1. Agenda Approval: Council Member Murphy requested to remove Action Item D. 911 Board Appointment.

Motion to approve the agenda with amendment made by Council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

2. Consent Agenda to include:

a. Approval of Minutes:

1) February 14, 2023, Regular Council Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from February 14, 2023, Regular Council Meeting made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

2) January 19, 2023, Special Called Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2023, Special Called Meeting with the Council Member Murphy, seconded Council Member Wease. All in favor.

b. Approval of Check Register - Check #'s 44938-45064

Motion to approve the check register with checks numbers 44938-45064 made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Thurman. All in favor.

c. Approval for Invoices/Quotes over \$5,000

1) Emerald Transformers - \$9,229

Motion to approve the Emerald Transformers quote for \$9,229 made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

3. Citizen Comments

The Citizens Comment section of the agenda allows citizens who sign up to address the City Council for not more than three (3) minutes on specific topics. The City Clerk will keep time. Please be courteous of the 3-minute time limit.

Sheila Jones, 737 Sands Drive, questioned the conditions of District 1 and if the Code Enforcement Officer was still contracted by the city. Mrs. Jones stated she is willing to help and encouraged the council to do better.

James Belcher, 125 Gainey Road, in Hillsboro Street, thanked the Council and City Manager Sands for supporting Jasper County Day of Kindness.



DeAshley Thurman, 983 Spruce Street, introduced herself to the council as one of the candidates seating the Office of Mayor.

4. Presentations/Delegations

Presentations/Delegations allow scheduled speakers to address City Council for not more than six (6) minutes on specific topics or for recognition of citizens, city employees, or other events by Mayor and Council.

Sands Drive Park Baseball Field – Donald Outlaw, gave a brief overview of the Monticello Outlaws, 9u baseball travel team, and express how the baseball team could benefit from using the Sands Drive Baseball Field. Mr. Outlaw informed the council he could have someone who's willing to help landscape the inside of the field and would need to City to provide dirt and to haul debris in the dump trucks. Finally, Mr. Outlaw stated there's a village willing to contribute to the park but requests aid from the City in maintaining the park.

5. Action Items

a) Permatherm Expansion– Over and Under Invoice \$12,815.91

Motion to table Over and Under Invoice to the March 21st meeting made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

b) SEPA Renewable Energy Distribution

Motion to use MEAG to manage the RECs for SPEA made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

c) Sanders Heights/Kelly Lane Repair

City Manager Sands advised the Council that Alpha Striping denied the bid offer due to restructure of the company and the next recommendation was to Houston Asphalt in the amount \$17,200. The bid amount was still good, and Houston Asphalt was two to three weeks out depending on the weather.

Motion to move forward with Houston Asphalt to repair the Sanders Heights and Kelly Lane repairs made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

~~d) 911 Board Appointment~~

e) Attorney Budget Line Amendment – Council Member Wease

Council Member Wease and City Manager Sands briefed the Council on the current status of the City Attorney budget line item and stated when the budget was completed the LOST Negotiations and Annexation wasn't factored into the FY 2023 budget. Mayor Pro Tem Currie recommended to move the additional funds from the General fund.



Motion to increase attorney fees to another \$10,000 from the general fund made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Murphy.

Discussion:

Council Member Miller questioned the original line item amount and if the status was now over the budgeted amount. Council Member Miller then suggested to table until there is an accurate view of the actual finance.

Council Members Wease and Murphy withdrew their motion and second.

Motion to table the city's attorney budget line amendment to the next meeting made by Council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Murphy all in favor.

f) Funding for Utility Building Amendment – Council Member Wease

Initial motion was made on January 19, 2023, at the Special Called Meeting to fund the electric and gas utility shop building with \$700,000 from American Rescue Plan Act funds, \$592,027 from Blockstream funds, and \$100,000 from SPLOST 18 funds by Council Member Wease and seconded by Council Member Thurman.

Council Member Wease withdrew his motion from the Special Called Meeting.

Motion to fund the utility building with \$82,000 from SPLOST 18 and the remaining amount of \$1,310,027 to come from Blockstream made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

g) Policy Approval

1) Application Fee – Nonrefundable – Mayor Pro Tem Currie

Motion to make application fees nonrefundable after processing time of 24 hours made by Council Member Murphy seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

2) Cellphone Policy - Tabled

3) GPS Tracking Policy

Motion to accept the GPS Tracking Policy made by Council Member Murphy, Council Member Miller. All in favor.

4) Vehicle Policy - Tabled

5) HR Policy Amendment

Motion to approve the Human Resource Policy amendments with the insert of eight hours made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.



6) Fuel Card Policy

Motion to approve the fuel card policy made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Miller. All in favor.

7) Utility Policy Amendment

Motion to accept the utility policy amendment made by Council Member Murphy seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

8) Travel Policy

Motion to accept the travel policy with the amendment to remove the section receipts Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease 4-1 Council Member Murphy did not vote.

Motion to table the vehicle and cellphone policies made by Mayor Pro Tem Currie, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

6. City Manager Update

- a. Funderburg Park Bridge is now complete.
- b. Cities Week is April 23rd through the 29th and ideas could be to meet the staff in the park, or movie night for the kids and then requested suggestions to host for the community. Council Member Murphy mentioned Macon Braves have great group deals and suggested taking a charter bus to see a game.
- c. Steel Co. reached out to Robert Jordan to request a land disturbance permit and won't be able to move forward until the annexation is final.
- d. Budget Calendar – discussed the number of meetings, if Tuesdays and Thursdays would work best for everyone's schedule, and if council would like to have a session with DDA and the Get Ahead House.
- e. RFPs for janitorial and landscaping services have been placed on the website and the last day to submit bids are on April 7, 2023, at 3pm.
- f. MOU with the Get Ahead House has expired and will be reaching out to the Get Ahead House to inquire on any requests they may have to get it to legal to present.
- g. Revolving Loan Fund committee nomination is still needed, or the funds will have to be returned to Department of Community Affairs.
- h. Website maintenance to cut the annual cost and will compare the details.



7. Council Update

Mayor Pro Tem Currie proposed for everyone to look at the community to see what can be done to make the city safer and more beautiful.

Council Member Miller stated she plans to get with Mrs. Jones on identifying the issues for District One and then make plans execute them. Mrs. Jones had an excellent idea to help the citizens feel proud of their area.

No comments from Council Members Murphy, Thurman, and Wease.

8. Executive Session – Personnel

Motion to entered into executive session at 7:23pm made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in Favor

Motion to end executive session at 7:47pm made by Council Miller, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

9. Action Items

a) Employee Transfer

Motion to approve the employee transfers: Frank Dumas to the Electric Department from the Maintenance Department and Johari Stone to the Meter Reader from the Water Department and increase his pay made by council Member Murphy, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

b) City Manager Contract – No Action Made.

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 7:48pm made by council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.