City of White Georgia City Council Meeting September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Present at the council meeting were Mayor Curtis Powell, Councilmembers Gary Crisp, Stephanie Nichelson, and Karissa Noland, City Clerk Robin Cochran, and City Attorney Harold Lemoine. Absent was Councilmember Jean Swank.

Mayor Powell called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led with the pledge of allegiance. Councilmember Nichelson followed with the invocation.

Mayor Powell started with the review and approval of the agenda for the meeting striking the CCTV cameras and systems from unfinished business and add the Public Works Superintendent recommendation for approval under new business. Powell asked for council comments, none were heard. Councilmember Nichelson made a motion to make the changes to the agenda. Councilmember Noland seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a 4-0 vote.

Mayor Powell moved to the approval of the August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Powell opened the floor for discussion. There were none. Mayor Powell asked for a motion. Council member Nichelson made the motion to approve. Councilmember Crisp seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a 4-0 vote.

Mayor Powell moved to public comments. Citizen, and mobile homeowner, Kim Cook addressed the council. Cook explained she and her husband had questions about the city ordinance changes. She continued by saying they wanted to add two mobile homes to their lot. Mayor Powell stated with the proposed changes they'd be looking at smaller square footage in the homes down to 800sqft from the 1200sqft it currently is, but the vote would not be until October's council meeting. Powell offered to stay after to talk more about this with Mrs. Cook. Mayor Powell closed the public comments portion of the meeting.

Mayor Powell moved to announcements and reports. City Clerk Robin Cochran gave her report on city business. Cochran gave an update on the audit saying she and her Deputy Clerk, Brianna, have completed about 99% of items needed for the audit. Police Chief Jason Smith gave his report on his department stating it was business as usual and that the vehicle cameras were up and operating.

Mayor Powell moved to New Business starting with the first reading of the revision of the zoning ordinance. Powell opened the floor for public comments. There was some chatter from an unknown citizen who asked about what the zoning ordinance would consist of, and Powell replied that City Attorney Brandon Bowen should have the draft of the ordinance sent over Wednesday or Thursday. There was more chatter amongst the council and citizens. Mayor Powell closed the public comments and moved to the retirement of Jimmy Nichols, the former Water Superintendent. Powell read aloud the proclamation of Nichols' retirement. Powell opened the floor for discussion and comments. Councilmember Nichelson took the moment to thank Nichols for his service. Powell closed the public comments.

Mayor Powell moved to the Georgia Municipality Association resolution, City of Civility. Powell read the resolution aloud. He opened the floor for discussion. None were heard, Powell asked for a motion. Councilmember Nichelson made a motion to adopt the resolution. Councilmember Noland seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a 4-0 vote.

Mayor Powell moved on to the proposal recommended by Georgia Rural Association, Southern Water Group to have Jon Holland maintain the City's water system. Powell opened the floor for council discussion. None were heard, Powell asked for a motion. Councilmember Nichelson made a motion to approve Jon Holland to maintain the water system. There was some chatter amongst the council. Councilmember Nichelson again made the motion to accept Jon Holland's proposal to maintain the water system until the city has a trained operator. Councilmember Noland seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a 4-0 vote.

Mayor Powell moved on to the proclamation to accept September 30<sup>th</sup> as Georgia Reads Day as proposed by Governor Kemp. Kemp asked all cities to make a proclamation to push literacy and Powell read the proclamation aloud. Councilmember Nichelson made a motion to approve September 30<sup>th</sup> as <u>The City of White Reads Day</u>. Councilmember Noland seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a 4-0 vote.

Mayor Powell introduced Shawn Chastain as his recommendation to take the job of Public Works Superintendent and gave a brief description of his work background and opened the floor for discussion. None were heard, Powell asked for a motion to accept Mr. Chastain as the Public Works Superintendent. Councilmember Nichelson made the motion to approve. Councilmember Noland seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a 4-0 vote.

Mayor Powell moved to PFAS and PFOA updates stating they did get the test results back. The numbers have come down from the first testing but are still high. Powell stated he had a Zoom call with EPD and gave details of that meeting and what's to be expected. City Attorney Harold Lemoine spoke on PFAS and explained how it is a forever chemical and went into details on what that means according to EPD regulations. Mayor Powell asked for any comments from the council. None were heard and Powell asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Nichelson made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Crisp seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a 4-0 vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cochran

City Clerk

Attest:

Curtis Powell, Mayor