

City of White Council Meeting January 3, 2023

Present at the meeting were Mayor Pro Tem Gary Crisp, Councilmember Charles Buttrum, Councilmember Stephanie Nicholson, Councilmember Kim Billue, City Attorney Brandon Bowen, and City Clerk Sherry Walker.

Mayor Pro Tem Gary Crisp called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. following with the Pledge of Allegiance. Stephanie Nicholson said prayer.

Councilmembers Stephanie Nicholson and Kim Billue did not want to approve the previous minutes due to some discrepancies that they had. They will listen to the recordings and asked to approve the minutes in February. Gary Crisp asked what the discrepancies were. Stephanie Nicholson stated that there were many and she would bring a list by the City Hall. City Attorney Brandon Bowen suggested that the discrepancies be handled during a work session instead of the meeting. Stephanie Nicholson motioned to review the September 6, December 5, and December 15 minutes in February, Kim Billue seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Gary Crisp asked for a motion to make Jason Smith the Police Chief. Stephanie Nicholson motioned; Kim Billue seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0. Police Chief Jason Smith said that he appreciated the opportunity to serve the city. He stated that he was still addressing Richards Rd. and will continue with that. He also stated that if anyone had any questions or concerns to please give him a call and again, Thanks for the opportunity.

Jimmy Nichols explained that we had a lot of trouble at the tank with the temperatures getting low. He explained that the transducer went out and it took about a week to get it fixed and straightened out. Gary Crisp suggested that we estimate the peoples water billing since they had to leave their faucets dripping. Kim Billue advised him that we could not do that. Kim Billue explained that the citizens can have an adjustment once a year for a water leak if needed. Stephanie Nicholson said that she spoke with Paul Nero which is with Delta Municipal and he stated that if we got everyone together that he could go over line by line and

explain everything. Kim Billue stated that her chart proved that it was working. Stephanie Nicholson says her goal is to get the water billing straight. Charles Buttrum said that he thought that was a good idea. Gary Crisp suggested that the meters needed read manually. Jimmy Nichols stated that was going to be hard since there were three different types of meters. Kim Billue stated that manually reading brings a greater risk of error. Gary Crisp states that we have to start somewhere. No votes were taken.

Curtis Powell with Planning and Zoning said that he has reached out to Ethan Calhoun about training for the Planning and Zoning and Ethan should be getting back to him in February. Curtis Powell says that the zoning on Mingledorf's need to be changed from C1 to general industrial and that is what we are voting on. Mr. Murray states that it is a 6.1 acre site that will have 157,500 sq ft. of warehouse and 3000 small wholesale space. City Attorney asked if they had a state permit and Mr. Murray stated yes that they work with GA DOT. They will have approximately 15-20 tractor trailers weekly in the early morning and about 26 box trucks 4-6 days a week, in and out daily. Stephanie Nicholson made a motion, Kim Billue second the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Voting on John Sweitzer as the city's engineer: Kim Billue stated that we already had a city engineer which was Wrent McDuff and she did not see the point on voting on John Sweitzer. Gary Crisp stated that he was unaware about Mr. McDuff. City Attorney stated that he would like to make a proposal to allow John Sweitzer to work on the PFOS project since it was pressing. Charles Buttrum motioned to vote for John Sweitzer and Stephanie Nichols second the motion for PFOS only. Motion carried 3-0.

City employee raises were put on hold due to not knowing the City's budget for the 2023 fiscal year.

Discussion on appointing a Mayor, Stephanie Nicholson stated that she reached out to the community with about 16 phone calls and spoke to the business owners and everyone was in favor of Curtis Powell. Gary Crisp stated that Christina was also interested in the seat. Gary Crisp against the appointing since no one came forward Stephanie Nicholson asked the City Attorney for his opinion and he stated that we should have had a special election. Stephanie Nicholson

motioned for the appointing Curtis Powell for Mayor, Kim Billue second with no third vote. Motion dismissed. City will have a special election.

Kim Billue made a motion to call a special election at the earliest possible opportunity. Stephanie Nicholson seconded the motion. Charles Buttrum in favor. Motion passed 3-0.

Gary Crisp has three estimates on taking the big oak tree down. High bid was \$3800.00 then \$3000.00 and lowest was \$2000.00. Cheapest bid was with Woodpecker Tree Service. Gary Crisp stated that Anthony Morris brought it to attention that he was afraid that it was going to fall and do damage. Charles Buttrum made a motion. Stephanie Nicholson requested to see itemized statements at the next meeting.

Eddie Billue presented his invoice for the attorney fees that occurred due to Kim Billue having to go to court on the disqualification. Eddie Billue stated that he expected this to be paid within one week without discussion.

Roger Oswald brought years of billing statements in to show the accuracy and errors of the time passing, brought up the fact that the City Hall was closed for two days at Christmas, an open request for audio from January 2022 going forward, 2022 agendas and minutes, 2020, 2021, 2022 budgets, and 2023 operating and capital budgets, and meter reading from January to now. Roger Oswald provided a flash drive to place these items on. Roger Oswald stated that he had major concerns with what he saw and heard at the last month meeting and tonight's meeting as well.

Jean Swank asked about the dates of the special election and dates to qualify. Brandon Bowen advised her that we did not currently have those dates.

Motion for adjournment. Charles Buttrum motioned; Kim Billue seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned.