

City of White Georgia

City Council Meeting

March 6, 2023

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

The beginning of the meeting was not recording and, due to resignation of Mrs Walker, we do not have any notes of the meeting.

Chief Jason Smith reported on a prowler. Councilman Nichelson asked for an update on moving the No Trucks sign on Hwy 411 that was intended for Richards Rd. Chief Smith was still waiting for some of his phone calls to be returned concerning moving it closer to Richards Rd.

Curtis Powell reported for the Planning and Zoning Committee. He is waiting on Pirtek to send plans for the building behind their business. The owners of the rock house on 3348 Hwy 411 will be submitting site plans and applying for rezoning. It is approximately 6 or 7 acres. There is a company interested in 3607 Hwy 411 across from Toyo to possibly store truck beds. Powell distributed copies of the Future land use map northwest Georgia regional commission for council to review. Powell discussed the map with Attorney Bowen and stated that Planning Commission has voted and approved the future land use map.

For unfinished business Mayor Pro Tem Crisp presented three bids for cutting down the big tree on city property on School Street. Dean Lewis asked if he could speak about the tree. Crisp stated he could speak during public comments. Nichelson made a motion to allow Mr Lewis to speak concerning this topic. Lewis stated that he had taken the liberty of asking a tree sculptor if that tree could be made into a sculpture and another tree person about fixing the rot in the tree. There was someone interested in fixing the tree rot for free and save the tree. {inaudible due to train} Mayor Pro Tem Crisp is concerned about the rotten limbs falling. Lewis is asking we postpone cutting it down the tree until we investigate the sculpture and preservation of the tree. Crisp would like to have an arborist look at the tree. Councilman Buttrum made a motion to table the tree removal, Councilman Billue seconded and motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

Under New business Chief Jason Smith stated that we have two Crown Vic police cars. One we will retain for a spare for our city. He proposed we do an intergovernmental agreement to give one of our Crown Vics to the City of Kingston. They are in need and it will be donated as is. Councilman Buttrum made a motion to donate the car to the City of Kingston, Councilman Nichelson seconded and the motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

Mayor ProTem Crisp proposed a resolution to allow Gary Crisp, Sherry Walker and Kim Billue to sign checks and access banking records. Councilman Nichelson questioned a clause in the resolution. Nichelson asked Bowen if the was standard. Bowen stated that Kim Billue would

only need to sign checks in Gary Crisp' absence but would be able to access accounts anytime. Nichelson made a motion to approve the resolution, Buttrum seconded and the motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

Councilman Nichelson thanked Sherry Walker for working diligently on correcting the water bills and William Watkins on transporting our donated mulch from Heritage pallets for the city playground at no cost to the city. Mayor Pro Tem has spoken to Roger Oswald who spoke to the warehouse manager at Heritage pallets and he stated that there was a chance that the magnets may not remove all of the metal shavings from the mulch but most should be out. Mr William Watkins stated he wished to speak about the subject. Councilwoman Kim Billue stated we have never had any issues with the mulch Heritage Pallets had donated in the past. Watkins stated he had delivered the mulch previously and there was no issues.

During the public comments, there was some confusion on when the sign up sheet was taken up. Mayor ProTem Crisp stated that a person would need to sign up to speak thirty minutes before the meeting begins and that the speaker only had three minutes to speak. Councilman Billue stated that the charter stated that it was the duty of the council to set the rules of the meeting. The section of the charter referenced was 2.20. {inaudible discussion} Councilman Nichelson made a motion that the meeting move into public comments with no time limits, councilman Billue seconded the motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

Pastor Jerry Jude spoke of unity and offered to pray over our meeting and our city. Pastor Jude prayed. Jude asked the council's advice on whether a septic tank or running a sewer line would best fit his needs as a new homeowner in the city. Attorney Bowen stated that the staff should be able to help him with connecting to the sewer.

Mr Roger Oswald spoke of the disfunction and chaos in the city. He withdrew his accusation of malfeasance on the part of Mayor ProTem Gary Crisp. He asked that everyone stop accusing others without evidence. He stated Roberts Rules of order are in the city of ordinances. He stated, in his interpretation, of the duties of the City Attorney and Roberts rules of order. Mr Oswald and Mr Bowen discussed the public comments and the time limits of speakers in the Roberts Rules of order. Mr Oswald contacted many officials concerning the city and Mr Bowen. However, he offered to write letters withdrawing his complaints.

Mr William Watkins stated he is always happy to help the city and wanting to clarify if he needed to pick up the mulch or wait. Nichelson enlisted the advice of Mr Bowen and apologized for prematurely asking Mr Watkins to pick up the mulch. Nichelson stated she would check with the insurance company to verify their position.

Councilman Buttrum made a motion to adjourn he meeting, Councilman Billue seconded and the meeting was adjourned with a 3-0 vote.