



City Council Meeting
Bowman City Hall
August 26th, 2024
7:00 p.m. Bowman City Hall

MEMBERS PRESNET

Mayor, Scott Harpold
Council Woman Mary Clark
Council Member Jeff Spratlin
Council Member, Henrietta Williams
Council Member, Leah Carey
Council Member, Betty Jo Maxwell
Attorney, Adam Nelson
Attorney, Simon Williams

MEDIA PRESENT

Ashley, 105.3 Radio station
Julie Weeks, Elberton Star

STAFF PRESENT:

City Clerk, Tiffany Verdell
Assistant City Clerk, Kendra Jones

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. A prayer was said by Council Woman Mary Clark. The Pledge of Allegiance was said after our prayer. Mayor Scott Harpold called meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (O.C.G.A 50-14-1(e)(2))

Mayor Harpold asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 17th council meeting minutes. Council Woman Henrietta Williams made the motion. Councilman Jeff Spratlin seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Harpold asked for a motion to approve the minutes from July 10th council meeting. Executive session. Council Woman Leah Carey asked if Executive Sessions minutes can be amended, Attorney Nelson stated that Executive Session minutes are not super detailed. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made a motion to accept the minutes. Council Woman Henrietta Williams seconded the motion. Council Woman Motion carried. Leah Carey opposed the motion.

Mayor Harpold asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 8th called council meeting minutes. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made motion to approve minutes. Council Woman Henrietta Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HEARING- WEST HENDRICKS STREET FINAL READING:

Mayor Scott Harpold asks for a motion to approve the Zoning request for the West Hendrick Street proposal. Council Woman Henrietta Williams made a motion to approve the Zoning Request for West Hendrick Street. Councilman Jeff Spratlin seconded the motion. Motion carried.



CHANGING OF MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING DATE:

Mayor asked the council about changing the monthly meeting being held on the 2nd Monday of the month instead of the 4th Monday. Council Woman Leah Carey also asked to change the time of the monthly meeting to 6:00pm instead of 7:00pm. Council Woman Leah Carey made the motion to change council meeting time from 7:00pm to 6:00pm. Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell seconded the motion. Motion carried. No vote on monthly meeting change.

ELEMENTARY BUILDING-GYM INSPECTION AND SHADOW BOX:

Council Woman Mary Clark spoke about moving forward on inspection of the old Bowman Elementary for mold and asbestos. Council Woman Mary Clark made a motion to get the old Bowman Elementary school inspected by Enviro Health Services to complete a preliminary inspection, of the gym, for the presence or absence of mold and mildew, at the cost of \$784.16. Council Woman Leah Carey seconded the motion. Audience attendee David Harper recommended that there is a budget to look at the concrete under the gym floor for standing water. The motion carried. Mayor Scott Harpold asked that council to look at long term plans for the building. Council Woman Mary Clark spoke with the central office of Elbert Co. School systems about the shadow box at the old Bowman Elementary School. Council woman Mary Clark made a motion to donate the shadow box to the Elbert Co School to hang in the central school office. Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell seconded the motion. Councilman Jeff Spratlin suggested that the shadow box be moved to city hall for display. Council Woman Mary Clark amended her motion to have the shadow box move to Bowman City Hall to be hung. Betty Jo Maxwell amended the second to have the shadow box moved to Bowman City Hall to be hung. Motion carried.

CITY STREETS AND TSPLOST:

Councilman Jeff Spratlin talked about the work being done on the city roads. Councilman Jeff Spratlin stated that the road work would be done in phases, beginning with the ones that need the major work first. There will be eight (8) phases to the city road project. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made a motion for the first phase of road work will start on (1) Adams Street, then (2) Jackson Street, and (3) Roosevelt Circle and the bid is from Stratten and Son for this first road project to begin with Mayor Scott Harpold to sign off on the bid. Council Woman Mary Clark second the motion. Motion carried.

ROAD TO THE CITY PARK:

Mayor Scott Harpold spoke about the LMGJ grant that was gained by the city back in 2020 for a road to the park. Mayor Scott Harpold spoke with someone from the DOT about the grant to be able to keep the grant since the monies was not spent in the time limit. The city had to do something quickly, Mayor Scott Harpold made the decision to the project to fix road to the city park. Council Woman Leah Carey had concerns about how the monies had been spent and want clarification on what the council as a whole should do next because she stated she was not informed about the road project. Attorney Nelson made the recommendation that the council as a whole decided if the this is a project that they want to move forward on since it was mistakes done in the process. Audience member Heather Thompson state that the council should come back to this at a different meeting with a date that the grant needs to be spent before what time. Audience member Teri Lunsford asked several questions about the contractor that was used to do the work on the park road. Audience member Tammy Dalton stated that there was a vote years ago to fix the current road and pay ground equipment and will it be look at to do the things that was voted on in the



past. Mayor Scott Harpold asked for a motion to use the 2020 LMIG grant money to finish the road to the park. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made a motion to accept the 2020 LMIG monies to pay for gravel on the park road. Council Woman Henrietta Williams seconded. Council Woman Mary Clark stated that mistakes\error had been made, moving forward to get the work done, Council Woman Mary Clark state that things needed to be transparent and do thing properly. Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell opposed. Council Woman Leah Carey opposed. Motion passes.

EMPLOYEE RAISES:

Council Jeff Spratlin went over the total amounts with all the raises given to the employees at the city it would be a total of \$8.95 per hourly basis a \$358 a week \$18,616 annually. Personal committee came up the recommendation for each employee as for each raise given. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made a motion to give city employees raises based on what was discussed in executive session. Council Woman Leah Carey second the motion. Vote is unanimous. Motion passes.

COMMUNITY CENTER A/C:

Council Woman Henrietta Williams inform the council about two a/c units at the community center need replacing and repair. One unit was commercial under warranty and the older unit was not. Healthy Climate will replace the condenser on the new a/c unit under warranty for \$1286.00 (labor) and the older unit will need to be replace at the price of \$8796.00, this monies can come from the 2017 SLPOST, the total cost is \$10,082.00.

GAS VALVE REPLACEMENT ON WEST HENDRICK STREET:

Councilman Jeff Spratlin talked about the gas valve on W. Hendricks St. that was worked on last year, this year it needed work again. Councilman Jeff Spratlin recommends that if the valve could not be shut off manually that it need to be replace for safety hazards. Councilman Spratlin had several quotes and three ways it could be fixed, Southern was lowest bid at doing a two-inch bypass. The process for the gas line will be to neck down from a two in half-inch valve to a two-inch valve do a bypass to a three-inch valve that city has on hand then cap everything off and take that valve totally out of service. It was insured by public work superintendent a gas authority personal that the gas pressure would not be effect. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made a motion to approve the gas valve replace on W. Hendrick Street up to \$14,000. Council Woman Henrietta Williams second. Vote is unanimous. Motion passes.

MAYOR REPORT:

Mayor Scott Harplod state that with a resent open record request, there were several missing pages from past minute report. That is an on-going investigation to see what has accrued. Mayor Scott Harpold asked council about an upgrade for new computers that was voted on and approved in past years but never was done. The public works department is in need of new computer to be in compliance with the new gas systems and have report done by mid-October. Mayor Scott Harpold as for a motion to upgrade city and public works with new computer systems. Council Woman Henrietta Williams made a motion to upgrade computer systems with Best Buy quote. Councilman Jeff Spratlin second. Vote is unanimous. Motion passes. Mayor Scott Harpold thanked the new Attorney Adam Nelson and Simon Williams for come out the meeting. Mayor Scott Harpold looked at the SLPOST money for 2023 for the sidewalks, roads and the



square. Mayor Scott Harpold would like to look into ordering cameras for the recording of council meeting, so the city would have video recording of meetings.

COUNCIL REPORT:

Council Woman Leah Carey - nothing.

Council Woman Henrietta Williams – working on the Bowman Fall Festival. Sept 21st and 22nd. Friday night vendors/music on square. Bingo and the community center from 6 to 9. Saturday vendors on square, cake walk and different activities, also band from 6 to 9. Council Woman Henrietta Williams talked to a young lady to come clean the community center on a regular basis. Council Woman Henrietta Williams made a motion to hire Harmony Rucker as a contract worker to clean the community center as needed. Council Woman Mary Clark second. Vote is unanimous. Motion passes. The discussion was made that the pay would be \$150.00 a month. Council Woman Henrietta Williams amended her motion to hire Harmony Rucker on a month to month basis at \$150.00 a month. Council Woman Mary Clark amended the second. Vote is unanimous. Motion passes. Council Woman Henrietta Williams and Randy Noles talked about bring the senior citizens luncheon back.

Councilman Jeff Spratlin - Councilman Jeff Spratlin asked the citizens if they see anything that need to be done in the park please let him or Council Woman Leah Carey know if they see anything that need fixing. Mayor Scott Harpold stated he would like to get donations to be restroom in the park. Mayor Scott Harpold ask for motion to buy materials from donations and build a restroom in the park. Mayor Scott Harpold stated that he would be the restroom in the park, and ask for donations for materials or using 2017 SPLOST. Council Woman Mary Clark asked could there be an estimation on the cost. Council Woman Leah Carey stated that the project should be bided out, Councilman Jeff Spratlin stated that the project shouldn't cost more than \$2500.00. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made a motion to build the restroom with a \$5000.00 budget at cost. Council Woman Henrietta Williams second. Vote is unanimous. Motion passes.

Council Woman Mary Clark – Two citizens were concerned that there were several business was closed, and she wanted to have the company Bureau Veritas to give reports about building permits that was passed and or denied.

Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell - Thinks that the right person was hired for the job, they are thinking of making a movie of the grocery store here in Bowman. Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell stated she had bids to cut the grass at the cemetery. Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell would like for some tree to be planted in the cemetery as well.

HOSPITAL REPORT: Tammy Dalton let the citizens know that Elbert Memorial Hospital contacted with North Star Emergency transport on August 17th, 2024 for 24 hour services. For the Foundation they are having the Jimmy Johnson 19th annual memorial classic golf tournament on October 4th at Arrow Head Point.

SPEAKERS:

Teri Lunsford asked about the donation of the mini fridge for the Fall Festival, she was concerned about the building of the restroom in the park.

Tammy Dalton let everyone know that Advantage Mental Health and the Anchor club in Madison Co. is doing a mental health walk on Sunday September 9, 2024 at Madison Co. track field.




Christopher Royster asked if the citizens had an issue about the ice machine on the side walk. He also asked if there was any issues about having a U-Haul business in town. Mayor Scott Harpold asked about parking of the U-Haul and Christopher stated that they had private parking for the service. He also asked about the alley that is adjacent to the Beer and Wine Store. He also asked a laundry service here in Bowman.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Scott Harpold made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Woman Mary Clark made the motion for meeting to be adjourned. Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Approved: 10-09-2024



Mayor

Tiffany Verdell

City Clerk