

**CITY OF METTER
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2020
5:30 P.M.**

A regular meeting was held on Monday, November 9, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Training Room at the Metter Police Department located at 805 E. Lillian St.

Attending the meeting were the following officials:

Mayor Edwin O. Boyd
Councilwoman Amy Harrelson
Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease
Councilwoman Rashida Taylor
Councilman Paul MacGregor
City Manager Carter Crawford
City Clerk Angie Conner
Police Chief Robert Shore
Director of Tourism/Business Development Heidi Jeffers

Councilman Brandon Sikes was not present at the meeting.

Guests:

Bryan Aasheim, County Administrator
Glyn Thrift, Chairman Candler County Board of Commissioners
Brad Jones, Member of Candler County Board of Commissioners

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilwoman Kilcrease led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Councilwoman Kilcrease gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the agenda adding Item D, Resolution to appoint Angela Mack as Resident Member of the Metter Housing Authority. Councilwoman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the following meeting:

- a) Regular Meeting, Monday, October 12, 2020

Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation by Carter Crawford on behalf of Greg Parker

City Manager Carter Crawford gave a presentation regarding a letter received from Greg Parker, The Parker Companies, requesting changes to Sunday Alcohol Sales under Georgia House Bill 879. Mr. Parker stated in his letter that House Bill 879 allows the City the right to allow package sales by retailers of malt beverages and wine for consumption off the premises on Sundays from 11:00 a.m. until midnight by adoption of a resolution or ordinance.

Mr. Crawford stated that after talking with our City Attorney Brent Carter and legal counsel at GMA, it was determined that since the referendum that was passed several years ago only allows for Sunday sales to begin at 12:30 p.m. this can only be changed by another referendum. Since there is no time left for a special election in 2020, the next times would be in 2021 on the 3rd Tuesday in March or the Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Mr. Crawford reminded council that there is no money in the budget for an election and the cost is around \$12,000. Council agreed not to call for a referendum at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Capital Improvement Plan 2021 - 2026

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve fiscal years 2021 – 2026 City of Metter Capital Improvement Plan. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Bid Award – Metter Ford

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the low bid from Metter Ford in the amount of \$55,637.96 for a 2021 Ford Explorer to be issued to the Metter Police Department. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. This vehicle will be paid for through the Georgia Municipal Association Lease/Purchase Program.

Metter/Candler Airport Authority Appointment

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to reappoint Cliff Hendrix to the Metter-Candler Airport Authority for a three-year term ending December 31, 2023. Councilwoman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution Appointing Angela Mack as Resident Member of the Metter Housing Authority

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a Resolution for Mayor Boyd to reappoint Angela Mack as resident member of the Housing Authority of the City of Metter, Georgia retroactive to July 1, 2020 for a one-year term ending June 30,2021. Councilman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Departmental written reports were placed in the agenda packet for council’s review.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

City Manager Carter Crawford reported on the year-to-date financials. He said that we are a third of the way through this fiscal year and we are in the positive in all funds except for Hotel Motel Tax Fund. The City is in good shape.

The pre-application for the Department of Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for the splash pad and exercise equipment at the Jaycee Park has been submitted. We have received committal letters from businesses and individuals for donations in the amount of \$6,000. He said we should know in January if we are accepted to move forward with the grant application. He thanked the grant committee for all their hard work.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Boyd asked Heidi Jeffers, Director of Tourism Business Development for an update on the Welcome Center project and the Business Center Innovation project.

Ms. Jeffers reported that the renovations at the Welcome Center are complete. We are in the process of putting products back in the building and getting new signage up. We will have a grand opening on December 2nd and December 3rd.

Ms. Jeffers reported that visitors from Arkansas will be coming next week to see the operation of the Georgia Southern Innovation Center and to also observe our agricultural process including the new hemp farms.

Regular Meeting, November 9, 2020

Mayor Boyd thanked Ms. Jeffers for making all this happen. He said that now the bathrooms at the Welcome Center are handicapped assessable.

Mayor Boyd reported that all departments are working smoothly. He has received some complaints from citizens wanting ditches cleaned. He said that we just do not have enough staff and we would also need easements to work in the ditches. He said that the city needs to get with legal counsel regarding this issue.

Mayor Boyd expressed to everyone to be safe during the Thanksgiving holiday. He also explained that the city is not sponsoring the Christmas parade this year due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring the parade this year along with the Pajama Rama.

ADJOURNMENT

After no further discussion, Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 p.m. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Angie Conner, City Clerk