

**CITY OF METTER  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021  
5:30 P.M.**

A regular meeting was held on Monday, January 11, 2021 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 Chyrileen Kilcrease  
Councilwoman Rashida Taylor  
Councilman Paul MacGregor  
Councilman Brandon Sikes  
City Manager Carter Crawford  
City Clerk Angie Conner  
Director of Tourism/Business Development Heidi Jeffers

**Guests:**

Bryan Aasheim, County Administrator  
Brad Jones, Member of Candler County Board of Commissioners  
Ben McKay, Georgia Southern University  
Wes Clifton

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilman Sikes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INVOCATION**

Councilman Sikes gave the invocation.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.  
Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the following minutes:

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a) Regular Meeting, Monday, December 14, 2020

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

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Connector Road between GA Hwy 121 and GA Hwy 129**

City Manager Carter Crawford gave a presentation regarding a request from the Board of Commissioners of Candler County to the Georgia Department of Transportation for supplemental LMIG funding for Candler County, Georgia, for constructing a connector between GA Hwy 121 and GA Hwy 129. He explained that the county is asking the city to support them in their request. Mr. Crawford said that he suggested that the council support this issue. This will be a dead project if there is no funding from GDOT.

Councilman Sikes made a motion to support the request from the Board of Commissioners of Candler County to the Georgia Department of Transportation for supplemental LMIG funding for Candler County, Georgia, for constructing a connector between GA Hwy 121 and GA Hwy 129. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Resolution Appointing Mayor Pro tem**

Councilman MacGregor made a motion to approve a Resolution by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Metter, Georgia, to appoint Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease as Mayor Pro-tem of the City of Metter for 2021. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

#### **Resolution Appointing Metter Municipal Court Judge**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a Resolution by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Metter, Georgia to appoint Mr. Kendall Gross as City of Metter Municipal Court Judge for 2021. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

#### **Resolution Appointing Metter Indigent Defense Attorney**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a Resolution by the Mayor and Council Members for the City of Metter, Georgia to appoint Mr. Duff B. Ayers as the

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City of Metter Indigent Defense Attorney for 2021. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**Resolution Appointing Metter Municipal Court Prosecutor**

Councilman Sikes made a motion to approve a Resolution by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Metter, Georgia to appoint Mr. Brent Carter as the City of Metter Municipal Court Prosecutor for 2021. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**Resolution Appointing Metter City Attorney**

Councilman Sikes made a motion to approve a Resolution by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Metter, Georgia to appoint Mr. Brent Carter as the City of Metter City Attorney for 2021. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**Public Notice Setting Qualifying Fees**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a Public Notice publishing the qualifying fee for Mayor at \$207.00 and Council Member at \$90.00 for the General Election on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 as required by O.C.G.A. 21-2-131(a)(1)(A). Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**Resolution Calling for Special Election.**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a Resolution to provide for the Call of the 2021 Special Election for the City of Metter, Georgia; to provide for the qualifying fees and dates and times to qualify for City Council Seat 1 District 1 to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Council Member Amy Harrelson; to provide for the appointment of the Candler County Probate Court Judge as the Elections Superintendent and to provide for the appointment of the City of Metter City Clerk as Qualifying Officer. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**Feasibility Study on Shared Kitchen**

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve s Shared Kitchen Feasibility Study Analysis to be conducted by Center for Business Analytics and Economic Research (CBAER)/Georgia Southern University for a total cost of \$10,000.00 with Georgia Grown paying half the cost (\$5,000.00). Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Ms. Jeffers stated that this is Phase II of the Georgia Grown project. Mr. McKay informed everyone that the study will be used to see if it is feasible to add to the incubator. A shared kitchen could be used to encourage food services and restaurants to come to Metter. This would grow and provide jobs for the Candler County Community.

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Councilman Sikes asked Mr. Crawford where the funds would come from to pay for this study? Mr. Crawford explained that the city's \$5,000 will come out of next year's economic development budget. Ms. Jeffers explained that the first \$5,000.00 will be paid for by Georgia Grown at the beginning of the study and the city will pay the remaining \$5,000.00 after the study is complete which will be in the city's FY 22 budget year.

### **COVID-19 Sick Leave Extended**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve COVID-19 sick leave extension for sixty (60) days effective January 1, 2021. Councilwoman Taylor 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 announced that it is time to start working on the FY 2022 budget. We will hold pre-budget workshops in February. He asked council to be thinking of things or projects that they would like to include in the FY 2022 budget.

Mr. Crawford informed council that he and staff will be working on a long-term financial plan (5 to 10 years) for the city. There will be 2 different levels – best scenario and worst scenario.

The Welcome Center renovation project is complete, and it is open for business.

Mr. Crawford announced that Better Fresh Farms will be adding an additional container on February 3, 2021. There are 11 businesses in the incubator, and we have two more prospects.

On January 16, 2021 Georgia Public Television will begin a 12-show series on Georgia Grown. The pilot project was done in Metter. Metter will be the spotlight of one of the shows.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Boyd thanked the guests for their comments and for being at the meeting.

Mayor Boyd announced that he selected Dustin Durden to fill the expired term of Brian Tootle on the Industrial Authority Board.

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Mayor Boyd said that he is proud the Welcome Center project is complete. It is beautiful inside and now open to the public. He thanked the Department of Corrections for their assistance.

Mayor Boyd said that he is excited to start the construction on the animal shelter as soon as the weather allows.

Mayor Boyd announced that the S. College St. construction is about halfway complete. They will finish the sewer lines and then pave.

Mayor Boyd informed the council that we have one person, so far, interested in the vacant seat on council.

Mayor Boyd said he hoped everyone had a great holiday. He hopes to see the light at the end of the tunnel with the vaccine for COVID-19. Hopefully, we are weathering the storm and looking for better things to come.

Mayor Boyd asked council members to sign up for the Georgia Cities Summit that will begin on January 25, 2021.

Mayor Boyd, on behalf of council and citizens, thanked the city workers for all their hard and dedicated work. He thanked the fire department and volunteers for their services. He also thanked Streets and Lanes and Sanitation for their hard work in the cold and the heat. He said that he, council, and citizens appreciate all employees.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

After no further discussion, Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 p.m. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

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Angie Conner, City Clerk