

**CITY OF METTER  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 08, 2021  
5:30 P.M.**

A regular meeting was held on Monday, March 08, 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  
Councilman James D. McKie  
City Manager Carter Crawford  
City Clerk Angie Conner  
Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix  
Police Chief Robert Shore  
Jerri Goodman – Metter Advertiser

Attending the meeting were the following guests:

Nilesh Patel  
Richard and Susan Shanks  
Bryan Aasheim – Candler County Administrator  
Lawana Marlin – Club Director, Boys & Girls Club Candler County Unit  
Phillip Bryant – President/CEO Boys & Girls Club of Central Georgia  
Victoria Gaitten – Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce  
Brad Jones – Candler County Board of Commissioners

**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 adding a presentation by Richard and Susan Shanks regarding a proposal to close an alley. Councilman McKie 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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Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Mr. Phillip Bryant, President/CEO for Boys & Girls Club of Central Georgia**

Mr. Phillip Bryant, President/CEO for Boys & Girls Club of Central Georgia, gave a presentation regarding the generous donation of the building at 423 W. Vertia St., Metter, GA, 30439 and the Georgia Power billing.

Mr. Bryant stated that because of COVID, the Boys & Girls Club of Central Georgia was unable to hold the 2020 awards ceremony. But that did not mean the club was not appreciative of agencies that have played a role in their success. Mr. Bryant and Ms. Lawana Marlin, Director of the Candler County Chapter, presented Mayor and Council with the 2020 Community Partner of the Year Award.

Mr. Bryant announced that Metter is the largest club in the Central Georgia District. This club serves more children than any other club in this region. He said that the club is extremely appreciative for what the City of Metter has done for the Boys & Girls Club.

Mr. Bryant also requested to transfer the Georgia Power bill from the City's name into the Boys & Girls Club's name. That way the bill will come directly to us. We want to be good stewards in paying the bills. Mayor and Council agreed.

Mayor Boyd said that we are thankful to have the Boys & Girls Club here in Metter. Mr. Bryant said that he appreciates Metter sponsoring the Candler County Boys & Girls Club. He said that Candler County is the best club around thanks to Ms. Marlin.

**Richard Shanks – Request to Close Alley**

Mr. Shanks explained several problems he is having with the alley that runs across the corner of his property. He said that he had talked with Mr. Hendrix about it. Mr. Hendrix has temporarily closed the alley. People are driving through there all times of the night. They use it as a cut through. Also, people park there. He requested the city

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permanently close the alley. He had signatures from neighbors who also wants the alley closed. This alley runs from Lee Street to Lillian Street between College Street and Kennedy Street.

Mayor Boyd told Mr. Shanks that the city would take this under advisement and let him know the outcome. He also welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Shanks to Metter.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Annexation – Ganesh SV Metter MPMP, LLC**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance to annex 1.622 acres of property owned by Ganesh SV Metter MPMP, LLC located on South Lewis Street. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

#### **Mutual Aide Agreement with Swainsboro Fire Department**

Councilman Sikes made a motion to approve a Mutual Aid Agreement between the Fire Departments of City of Metter, Georgia and the City of Swainsboro, Georgia. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

#### **Resolution to Apply for FY 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)**

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve a Resolution by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Metter, Georgia, to authorize submission of a FY 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for funding under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

#### **Resolution – Fair Housing**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a Resolution by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Metter, Georgia to let it be known to all persons of the City of Metter that discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, gender or national origin in the sale, rental, leasing or financing of housing or land to be sued for construction of housing or in the provision of brokerage services is prohibited by Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act (Federal Fair Housing Law). Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**Discussion – Letter Received from Candler County**

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to enter a discussion regarding the letter received from the Board of Candler County Commissioners dated February 16, 2021. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion. Councilwoman Taylor began the discussion by saying that she agrees with some of the proposal but not all of it. She said she is not in agreement with giving the County permission to dig a well. Councilman Sikes said he is good with everything except letting them dig a well. Councilman McKie said he is concerned about the well/water issue but has no problem with the other. Councilwoman Kilcrease concurred with the other council members and said that letting them dig a well may set a precedence. Councilman MacGregor concurred that he is against letting the County dig a well. Councilman McKie said that since everything is not acceptable then we need to decline the proposal.

Mayor Boyd said that the way he sees it, there are three options, 1) accept, 2) decline, or 3) let it expire on its own. Councilwoman Taylor amended her motion to reject the proposal from Candler County Board of Commissioners based on council not agreeing to Item 4 in the letter. Councilman Sikes rescinded his second to the original motion and Councilman McKie seconded the amended motion. Mayor Boyd called for the vote. The vote was unanimous to decline the offer from the county.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

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

**CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

Mr. Crawford reported that the city finances are looking good except the Hotel Motel Tax revenue is short. We are having to supplement it with the General Fund.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Boyd called on Victoria Gaitten, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, to give an update on any upcoming events. Mrs. Gaitten announced the following:

- Ribbon Cutting for Better Nutrition on Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.
- Blommin Festival

Mayor Boyd thanked the Chamber for everything they are doing for the community.

Mayor Boyd reported the following:

- COVID things are getting better.
- Police Department did fine work on the incident with the armed suspects.

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- Visited the Animal Shelter and things are going along good with the renovation project. He said that it was very clean, and the credit goes to the workers and volunteers.
- Putting out on bid a mower with an arm to clean ditches. He thanked Mr. Hendrix and the Public Works Department.
- Announced that the Pineland Preserve Housing Project was not chosen for funding. Got information from DCA and gave to Heidi to share with the DDA.
- South College Street is not paved yet due to weather conditions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

After no further discussion, Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

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Angie Conner, City Clerk