

**CITY OF METTER  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2021  
5:30 P.M.**

A regular meeting was held on Monday, November 8, 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 Rashida Taylor  
Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease  
Councilman Brandon Sikes  
Councilman Paul MacGregor  
City Manager Carter Crawford  
Police Chief Robert Shore  
Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix  
City Clerk Angie Conner  
Fire Chief Jason Douglas  
Jerri Goodman, Metter Advertiser

Councilman James McKie was not present at this meeting.

There were no guests present.

**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:

Regular Meeting, November 8, 2021

a) Regular Meeting, Monday, October 11, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Fire Chief Jason Douglas shared a conceptual design of a new fire station, which will be built at the current location. Part of the plan includes demolition of the Quonset hut on Vertia Street to be replaced with a parking lot. The fire station will have four bays and administrative offices on the ground level, with residential space on the second floor.

City Manager Carter Crawford informed council that the next step is the bid process for architectural work.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Language Access Plan**

Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease made a motion to approve and adopt the Language Access Plan, City of Metter, Georgia Community Improvement Department November 2021 to satisfy special condition #1 of the CDBG agreement. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

#### **Resolution 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan Reinstatement**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a Resolution and Adoption Agreement for the Georgia Municipal Association, Inc. 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan reinstatement. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

#### **Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)**

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve an agreement between the Georgia Department of Human Services Division of Family and Children Services and the City of Metter for the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

#### **Water Shed Protection Plan**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve Nutter & Associates in the amount of \$58,535.00 to write a Water Shed Protection Plan for the City of Metter Land Application System in accordance with the new Environmental Protection Division

Regular Meeting, November 8, 2021

(EPD) Wastewater Permit. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**Bid Approval – Police Vehicle – Metter Ford**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the bid from Metter Ford in the amount of \$42,341.38 for the purchase of a police administrative vehicle. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**Bid Approval – Police Vehicle – Metter Ford**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the bid from Metter Ford in the amount of \$58,157.92 for the purchase of a police patrol vehicle. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**Alcohol License Application – Jacquelin E. Tucker, End Zone Wings Var & Grill**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a retail alcoholic beverage pouring license for on premise consumption of distilled spirits by the drink applied for by Jacquelin E. Tucker, End Zone Wings Bar & Grill located at 204 SE Broad Street, Metter, Georgia, contingent upon meeting all requirements of the Metter Municipal Code Chapter 5.08 Alcoholic Beverages. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

**\$100 Water Credit from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve applying a \$100 credit from the American Rescue Plan Act fund to every water account that was active as of September 1, 2020. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. Council agreed for this to take place at the next billing cycle.

During the discussion, Mayor Boyd informed council that he was not in favor of the \$100 water credit. The main reason is he would like the money to be used toward a recurring benefit. There are some people that need it and some that do not. Mayor Boyd said that half of the people will not even know they got it. The money would be better spent on the water/sewer system. It could be used to reduce our GEFA debt which could help us to maintain water/sewer rates. It could also keep the city from having to use water/sewer revenue for water/sewer improvements. It would be better used to keep rates from going up. This is just a separate way of looking at it.

Councilwoman Taylor asked how much money we are talking about. Mr. Crawford reported around \$185,000. Councilwoman Kilcrease said that this money could keep some people from being cut-off. Mr. Crawford said that if we give the \$100 credit then the customers can see an immediate use of the funds. Councilman Sikes agreed that people would like to see immediate use of the funds. Mayor Boyd said there is no way to know who really needs it or not. Councilwoman Kilcrease said that we cannot pick and

choose, either we do it or not. We cannot discriminate. If we give it, then they see it as an immediate use of the funds. Councilwoman Taylor said that if we give it to them in the form of a credit on their bill then they will feel like they are getting something. Councilman Sikes said it would just be a little piece back. Mr. Crawford said that the majority of the city population is low to moderate income. Councilwoman Kilcrease said the city will persevere.

### **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Premium Pay**

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve premium pay of \$2,000 to each fulltime eligible city worker and \$1,000 to each volunteer firefighter from the American Rescue Plan Act fund for their hard and dedicated work during the COVID-19 pandemic. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. Council agreed that they would like this paid as soon as possible.

The recommendation was to approve premium pay of \$2,000 to each fulltime eligible city worker and \$600 to each volunteer firefighter. Councilman MacGregor said that he would like to see the volunteer firefighters get at least \$1,000. Councilwoman Taylor agreed. Council decided to give the volunteer firefighters \$1,000 versus the recommended \$600.

### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

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

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Crawford reported on the following:

1. A bill will be introduced in next year's Georgia legislature to add a new source of taxes from internet sales of downloads such as books and games.
2. A bill will be introduced in next year's Georgia legislature to extend the current T-SPLOST collections until the end of the original termination date.
3. It is expected that the Federal Government will expand the approved uses of ARPA funds.
4. It is our recommendation that the Mayor and Council have a planning retreat after the first of next year. Please look at your schedules and see if you could meet on Saturday, February 5 or 12.
5. The annual City Christmas Dinner will be held on Thursday, December 9, 2021. Reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. at the City Depot. There will be a drawing for door prizes.
6. Councilman James McKie and his wife welcomed a new baby girl into the world today.
7. My Granddaughter, Emma Jones who is a junior at Screven County High School, was selected as region 3A girls' softball offensive player of the year for the

second year in a row and set a new all-time batting average for Screven Co. High School girls' softball with a batting average of .603. Granddad just had to brag.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Boyd reported the following:

1. Reminded Council that Commissioner Nunn will be here on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. at the Innovation Center to present the CDBG award checks to District 9 and 12.
2. The ribbon cutting for the newly renovated animal shelter will be November 18<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
3. The Board of Education has asked city officials to accompany them to Macon on November 18<sup>th</sup> to show support for a 1.7-million-dollar grant to build a vocational school.
4. The Chamber will hold the annual gala at Bevricks on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. at Bevricks.
5. The Food Truck Festival was cancelled due to harsh weather conditions.
6. He announced that Councilman Paul MacGregor will have one more meeting to attend before his retirement. Mayor Boyd thanked Councilman Paul MacGregor for his service.
7. Mayor Boyd said he is pleased that the employees are getting the ARPA bonus for well deserved work during the COVID 19 pandemic.
8. He is looking forward to the council planning session.
9. He is looking forward to the GMA Georgia Cities Summit in January.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

After no further discussion, Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

A workshop was held after the regular meeting to discuss plans for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) fund.

---

Angie Conner, City Clerk