

**CITY OF METTER
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023
5:30 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the city council was held on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall.

Attending the meeting were the following officials:

Mayor Edwin O. Boyd
Councilman Gregg Stewart
Councilwoman Rashida Taylor
Councilman Brandon Sikes
Councilman James D. McKie
City Manager Carter Crawford
Finance Manager Cindy Collins
Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix
Fire Chief Jason Douglas
Police Chief Robert Shore
Director of Economic Development/Tourism Heidi Jeffers

Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease was not present at this meeting.

Councilwoman Rashida Taylor exited the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

GUESTS

Mr. & Mrs. Tony Wells
Laura Hoover

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman McKie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Councilwoman Taylor gave the invocation.

Regular Meeting, June 12, 2023

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Sikes made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- a) Regular Meeting, Monday, May 8, 2023, 5:30 p.m.
- b) Public Hearing, Monday, June 5, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

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

PRESENTATIONS

Apptegy

Ashley Johnson with Apptegy gave a presentation by zoom regarding the city website. Apptegy uses a “thrill share” program. City Manager Carter Crawford said that this program can alert citizens instantly. We can send alerts to Public Works for potholes. Citizens can access fillable forms. Councilman Stewart said that only the people who have the app on their phones will receive the alerts and notifications. He said that the app can have QR codes to help people get it on their phones. We will have to elect someone to keep up with entering the information. They are customer service. The app should be bilingual to whatever language you have on your phone. Councilman McKie questioned open records request and archives. The program is ADA compliance and maintained.

Laura Hoover

Ms. Hoover stated that the taxpayers on S. Williams Street are given no consideration. There are twenty buses using this street and they are noisy and speeding. It is causing a nuisance for the neighborhood. The Charter School is now located in the area which adds more cars, more people, and more nuisances. Ms. Hoover said that she contacted the head guy in charge to complain about the speeding. He said that he could not do a thing about it but for her to call the police. The buses leave at 5:15 a.m., which also causes a nuisance. Mayor Boyd expressed empathy.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Jerry Weitz & Associates, Inc.

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve an agreement between the City of Metter, Georgia and Jerry Weitz & Associates, Inc. for professional planning services in the amount of **\$37,410.00** to revise the zoning and land use plan. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

Councilman Sikes made a motion to pass a resolution to adopt the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget for each fund of the City of Metter, Georgia, appropriating the amounts shown in each budget as expenditures/expenses, adopting the several items of revenue anticipations, and prohibiting expenditures or expenses from exceeding the actual fund available. Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilwoman Rashida Taylor exited the meeting at this point.

Apptegy

Councilman Sikes made a motion to approve an agreement between the City of Metter and Apptegy in the amount of **\$6,400.00** for a onetime start up fee and an annual cost of **\$6,400.00** to provide a more effective communication program to connect the City with the community. Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. The total for the first year will be **\$12,800.00**.

Conditional Use Request – 976 S. E. Broad Street

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve an application request by Anthony and Tamara Wells Investment for a Conditional Use Request for the property located at 976 S. E. Broad Street as a small business for a Retail Liquor Store. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Lease Agreement – Urban Harvest, LLC

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve a ground lease agreement between the City of Metter and Urban Harvest, LLC by and through its Manager, Morgan Folmar, dedicating the City owned property located at 25 South Terrell Street in Metter, Georgia as a business incubator space for the purpose of improving the general welfare of the citizens of Metter, and encouraging economic growth and entrepreneurial development with the City. Councilman Stewart seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Judicial Alternatives of Georgia, Inc. (JAG) - 5-Year Agreement

Councilman Sikes made a motion to approve a **5-year** lease agreement made by and between Judicial Alternatives of Georgia, Inc. (JAG) and the Metter Municipal Court for probation services. Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution – Opening New Bank Account

Councilman McKie made a motion to pass a Resolution authorizing the Finance Manager to open a City of Metter Bank Account at Queensborough National Bank & Trust for the Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities Program Grant. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. This is a **2.2**-million-dollar grant.

Resolution Appointing Members to the Housing Authority

Councilman McKie made a motion to pass a resolution reappointing members to the Housing Authority of the City of Metter, Georgia to correct an error in terms of office made throughout years past. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution GEFA Loan

Councilman McKie made a motion to pass a resolution approving a Georgia Fund Loan through the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) in the amount of **\$841,400.00** (Loan No. GR20230001) for extending water and sewer services on Lytell Street Extension in the Industrial Park and to authorize Mayor Boyd to execute all necessary documents. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Bid Approval – Riley Contracting, Inc. – Equipment Shelter

Councilman Sikes made a motion to approve the bid from Riley Contracting, Inc. in the amount of **\$97,000.00** for the construction of a public works shelter phase II as recommended by Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix. Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Bid Approval – Ranger Environmental – Sewer Rehab

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve the bid from Ranger Environmental in the amount of **\$1,118,195.00** for the GEFA sewer rehab project as recommended by Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix and EMC Engineering, Inc. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The agenda packets contained written reports provided by each department head for the mayor and council to review.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Mr. Crawford reported on the following:

1. Budget amounts are good for the current year.
2. Police Department received a grant through ARPA funds for a detective.
3. DOT -TIA surplus **\$100,000.00**.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Boyd reported on the following:

1. Juneteenth is scheduled for this coming Saturday.
2. 2023 GMA Convention Update Orientation is online.
3. June 21st is Food Lion Grand Opening.
4. Target date to open splash pad is July 15th.

ADJOURNMENT

After no further discussion, Councilman Sikes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Angie Conner, City Clerk