

**CITY OF METTER
CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2018
6:00 P.M.**

A called meeting was held at City Hall on Monday, March 19, 2018, at 6:00 p. m. in the Council Chambers.

Attending the meeting were the following officials:

Mayor Edwin O. Boyd
Mayor Pro tem Chyrileen Kilcrease
Councilwoman Amy Harrelson
Councilwoman Rashida Taylor
Councilwoman Marsha Colson
Councilman Paul MacGregor
City Manager Mandi Cody
City Clerk Angie Conner
Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix
Chief of Police Robert Shore
Fire Chief Jason Douglas
Finance Manager Cindy Collins
HR/Purchasing Manager Missy Edenfield
Heidi Jeffers Director of Tourism/Business Development
Jerri Goodman, Metter Advertiser

Attending the meeting were the following guests:

Wade Britt – Savannah Communications
Geoff Thames – Motorola Solutions
Deputy Jaime O'Brien
Deputy Gatlin Holloway
Investigator Justin Wells
Candler County Commissioner Brad Jones

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilwoman Harrelson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Councilwoman Kilcrease gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

NEW BUSINESS

Purpose

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and consider the purchase of new radio equipment for the City of Metter Animal Control, Fire Department and Police Department.

Presentation

Called Meeting, March 19, 2018

Mr. Wade Britt with Savannah Communications and Mr. Geoff Thames with Motorola gave the presentation on the new radio system purchased by the Candler County Sherriff's Department. This is a new regional radio system for Metter and Candler County. The system supports 10,000 radio users. It is Network Core owned by the City of Savannah and Chatham County. They are letting other jurisdictions join this network which makes all radios interoperable.

Mr. Thames explained that this system is a 20 to 30 year investment and will be updated every (3) three to (4) four years. The radios are sturdy and will last 20 to 30 years. Dispatch will be at the Candler County Sherriff's Office.

Chief Douglas said that this system will allow portable coverage that we greatly need. Mr. Thames said that there is a question about the radios working inside the school buildings. He said that he is very confident that it will work. Chief Douglas mentioned that the radios are offered at the state contract price. Ms. Cody stated that we did not go through our purchasing procedures for this investment but also the county has not asked the city to contribute to the investment for service. The city will only be paying for the purchase of our radios.

Mayor Boyd informed council that the incentive to do all of this together at once is that there will be a 35% savings on all radios. Any radios purchased after this initial deal will be at full cost.

Mr. Britt states that the portable and mobile units are 3 watts and the mobile mounted units in the vehicles are 30 to 35 watts. Mayor Boyd said that he is impressed with the noise abatement. The radio shuts out all background noises. Chief Douglas said that all of the radios have emergency buttons.

Chief Shore stated that the present radio system is already failing, that is what brought on the need to purchase a new one. The present system is antiquated. The new system is top of the line and can work with neighboring counties. Mr. Thames said that they are in discussions with Laurens and Twiggs Counties now to get them to join so that there will be coverage on Interstate 16 for evacuation purposes.

Ms. Cody said that the cost estimate to purchase the radios is \$274,235.42. She recommended to council that since Motorola needs a commitment tonight, that they give some flexibility to approve up to \$280,000 or \$285,000 for items that might have been overlooked. This purchase is outside the FY 2018 budget. We can look at reallocating some of the 2005 and 2011 SPLOST monies or there are other financing options. USDA offers a 3 ½ % interest loan with a \$25,000 grant. GMA offers a 5 year lease purchase program at 3.4 % interest and Motorola offers a lease purchase at 4.97 % interest.

Councilman MacGregor made a motion to approve the purchase of new Motorola radio equipment for the City of Metter Animal Control, Fire and Police Departments from Savannah Communications and allow the Fire Chief, Police Chief, and City Manager to tweak the order authorizing the purchase not to exceed \$285,000. Councilwoman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

After no further discussion, Councilwoman Harrelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Angie Conner, City Clerk

Edwin O. Boyd, Mayor