

City of Metter
Regular Meeting/Public Hearing Minutes
Monday, January 14, 2019
5:30 p.m.

A regular meeting/public hearing was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Attending were the following officials:

Mayor Ed Boyd
Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease
Councilman Paul MacGregor
Councilwoman Amy Harrelson
Councilwoman Rashida Taylor
Councilman Brandon Sikes
City Manager Mandi Cody
City Clerk Angie Conner
City Attorney Brent Carter
Finance Manager Cindy Collins
HR/Purchasing Manager Missy Edenfield
Fire Chief Jason Douglas
Police Chief Robert Shore
Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix
Carvy Snell, Metter Advertiser

The following guests were present:

Bryan Aasheim – Candler County Administrator
Glynn Thrift – Chairman, Candler County Commissioners
Dale Fordham
Rob Bowen
Vina Faye Slater
Alton Slater
Victoria Gaitten, Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce
Nhu Phuong Nguyen
Slayde Holloway
Mac Brown
June Dipilito – Pineland BHDD

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

Councilman Sikes gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the agenda adding Item M, Fair Housing Resolution for the Community Development Block Grant Application (CDBG). Councilman MacGregor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on Monday, December 10, 2019. Councilman MacGregor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments were reserved for the public hearing portion of the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Pineland Mental Health

Ms. June Dipilito was present at the meeting to request that council consider a request from Pineland Mental Health to utilize City of Metter facilities (former school property) located at Register Street (Boys & Girls Club). After her presentation, Mayor Boyd announced that council would take this request under consideration.

Judicial Alternatives of Georgia ((JAG)

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve Services for Agreement between Judicial Alternatives of Georgia (JAG) and the Metter Municipal Court/City of Metter for the provision of probation services. Councilman MacGregor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Environmental Conservation, On-Site Sewage Management and Permit Ordinance

Councilman MacGregor made a motion to approve an ordinance to regulate Environmental Conservation, On-Site Sewage Management and Permit Ordinance in accordance with the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Plan. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. This was the second reading.

Public Hearings/Zoning

Mayor Boyd called the public hearing to order at 5:55 p.m. to consider two zoning issues.

The first consideration was a request to approve Application C-1809 (M33-099) Nhu Phuong Nguyen for a conditional use variance for .33 acres of property located at 328 Southwest Broad Street to allow part of the commercially zoned property to be utilized as a residence – Tax Map Parcel Number M33-099.

The Planning Commission and staff are recommending the approval of this request.

After no comments from the public, the public hearing was closed at 6:00 p.m.

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

Mayor Boyd called the second public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

The second consideration was a request to approve Applications RZ-1809 (M47-012), RZ-1809 (M47-042), and RZ 1809 (M47-030) Pillman Enterprises, LLC to amend the zoning map for 1.1 acres, .38 acres, and .37 acres located on South Lewis Street from the corner of S. Lewis Street and E. Lytell Street to the corner of E. Stripling Street on the east side of S. Lewis. The request is to rezone the parcels from R-2 Single Family Residential to HOC-1A Limited Highway Oriented Commercial.

Pillman Enterprises has a contract on the property. It is zoned residential and they are requesting it rezoned to commercial. The recommended zone is HOC1-A. Planning Commission and staff are recommending the approval of this request.

Mr. Slater spoke up objecting the rezoning request. He said that this would be infringing on the residential area. It would reduce the value of the residential property. He said there are several other lots in the area that are already zoned commercial, which this business could locate.

Mayor Boyd asked Mr. Bowen which of the three lots would the drug store be located? Mr. Bowen said that he may put the building in the center. He said he has no other plans for the property at this time.

Councilwoman Harrelson wanted to know how many jobs this would create. Mr. Bowen said 12 jobs.

Councilwoman Taylor was concerned about a turning lane. Ms. Cody said that the Georgia Department of Transportation will have to review the area for a turning lane.

After no further comments, Mayor Boyd closed the hearing at 6:10 p.m.

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve Applications RZ-1809 (M47-012), RZ-1809 (M47-042), and RZ-1809 (M47-030) Pillman Enterprises, LLC request to amend the zoning map for 1.1 acres, .38 acres, and .37 acres located on South Lewis Street from the corner of S. Lewis Street and E. Lytell Street to the corner of E. Stripling Street on the east side of S. Lewis St. from R-2 Single Family Residential to HOC-1A Limited Highway Oriented Commercial.

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

Resolution Selection of Mayor Pro tem

Councilwoman Harrelson made a motion to approve a Resolution by 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 2019. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution Appointing City of 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 2019. Councilwoman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution Appointing City of Metter Indigent Defense Attorney

Councilwoman Harrelson made a motion to approve a Resolution by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Metter, Georgia to appoint Mr. Paul Cook as the City of Metter Indigent Defense Attorney for 2019. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution Appointing City of Metter Municipal Court Prosecutor

Councilwoman Kilcrease 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 2019. Councilwoman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution Appointing City of Metter Attorney

Councilwoman Kilcrease 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 2019. Councilman Sikes seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution Calling for the 2019 General Election

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a Resolution by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Metter, Georgia to provide for the Call of the 2019 General Election for the City of Metter, Georgia to provide for the qualifying fees and dates and times to qualify for the City Council Seat 1 District 1, Seat 3 District 1, and Seat 5 District 2, 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. Councilwoman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Fair Housing Resolution

Councilman MacGregor made a motion to approve the Metter Fair Housing Resolution in support of the CDBG application. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Boyd welcomed everyone to the new year. He also extended a warm welcome to the county officials present at the meeting. He reminded everyone that the Chamber Banquet is on January 17th at the Country Club. He said that all the city departments have a lot going on.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Police Department

Chief Shores submitted a written report for the Police Department and for Animal Control. He added that McKinley Lewis has completed asp baton training. He also announced that the police officers will be attending training on stop-sticks tomorrow.

Public Works

Mr. Hendrix submitted a written report. He added that the S. College and Vertia Street projects should be complete by January 31st.

Fire Department

Chief Douglas submitted a written report.

Administration

Mrs. Conner submitted a written report. She also informed council that reservations for the Mayors' Day Conference in Atlanta are not complete. She explained that there are still a few outstanding issues with the new utility billing software.

Finance

Mrs. Collins reported that she has been working on W-2s and year-end reporting. She said that she has also been working with the software conversion and all modules are now on Edmunds. She said that she has been working with the auditor and they should have the FY 2018 Audit Report by next month. Property taxes have started coming in.

HR/PURCHASING

Mrs. Edenfield announced that Ronnie Medlock retired this month. There are two open positions within the city departments.

Mrs. Edenfield said that she has several projects out to bid. She announced that she and Mrs. Cody have been training on the new fleet maintenance program.

Councilwoman Taylor asked if we have bids on the Welcome Center Project? Ms. Cody said that we are waiting on the final construction plans and should have them next Friday. Councilwoman Taylor asked if the city owns all the property at the Welcome Center? Ms. Cody said that the city does not. Councilwoman Taylor asked if anyone from the city has talked to the property owner. Ms. Cody said that she has not. Ms. Cody said that she is trying to get that scheduled and has some ideas about that.

Mayor Boyd said that he is wishing Ronnie Medlock a happy retirement. We are blessed to have the kinds of employees as we do. He was a very dedicated employee. The City gave him a pair of NASCAR tickets to the Atlanta Motor Speedway.

Department of Economic Development

Ms. Jeffers reported the following;

1. Working with Georgia Grown on the Southeast Conference. There will be a tour here on Friday. They will be visiting farms and our downtown.
2. Working on billboards and banners for downtown.
3. Meeting with IDA and GDA
4. Went to a sister city for a meeting in December.
5. Meeting with DDA on Friday. We will have three basic training sessions. DCA will come in to help. Dan McCray will be here.

Councilwoman Taylor asked for Welcome Center plans and numbers of visitors.

Councilwoman Taylor reminded everyone about the Martin Luther King parade on next Monday at 2:00 p.m. The breakfast is Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m. at Bevricks.

City Manager

Ms. Cody said that staff covered everything, so she did not have a report at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of potential litigation and personnel at 6:30 p.m. Councilwoman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

At 7:33 p.m., Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to go back into open session. Councilwoman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Chapter 12 – Vehicle Operations – Metter Police Department Standard Operating Procedures

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve Chapter 12 – Vehicle Operations – including pursuits – Metter Police Department Standard Operating Procedure Manual. Councilwoman Harrelson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:34 p.m., Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman MacGregor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Angie Conner, City Clerk