

**CITY OF METTER
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

A regular meeting was held at City Hall on Monday, December 12, 2016, at 7:00 p. m. in the Council Chambers.

Attending the meeting were the following officials:

Mayor Billy Trapnell
Mayor Pro tem Chyrileen Kilcrease
Councilman Ed Boyd
Councilman Gregory Thomas
Councilwoman Marsha Colson
Councilman Paul MacGregor
City Manager Mandi Cody
City Clerk Angie Conner
Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix
Chief of Police Mack Seckinger
Fire Chief Jason Douglas
Purchasing/Human Resource Manager Missy Edenfield
Finance Manager/Deputy Clerk Cindy Collins
Metter Classic Main Street Director Jaime Riggs
Jerri Goodman, Metter Advertiser

Attending the meeting were the following guests:

Heidi Raposa
Shelley Strange
Smith Holloway

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Trapnell called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Boyd led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Councilwoman Kilcrease gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Regular Meeting, December 12, 2016

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- a) Regular Meeting, November 14, 2016
- b) Called Meeting, November 28, 2016

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

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Alcohol Ordinance Amendment to Allow for Sunday Sales

Councilman Boyd made a motion to approve the amendments to the Alcohol Beverage Ordinance to allow for Sunday Sales. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. This was the second reading of this ordinance.

Fees for Sunday Sales of Alcohol

Ms. Cody explained that this is in regards to the permit fee for the sale of alcohol on Sunday. We did some research from some other communities to have passed this same sort of ordinance. We are not recommending a change in the permit fees for the applicants. There is no additional regulatory burden or paperwork burden on any of us at staff level. We are recommending keeping the alcohol fees as they are now. If the applicants decide to sell on Sunday, they will fall under the rules of our alcohol ordinance and the state laws regarding service on Sunday. Mayor Trapnell said that this means if they have a regular alcohol license then they are licensed for Sunday sales. Ms. Cody said that is correct. Ms. Cody said that there were a handful of communities that did charge a permit fee for Sunday sales but we didn't see where we needed to do this since it is not an extra burden on the city. Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion not to charge a separate permit fee for selling alcohol on Sunday. Councilman Boyd seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Trapnell informed council that he had met with the Citizen Review Panel for the Transportation (TIA) SPLOST. The original revenue forecast for Heart of Georgia region was \$136,991,000. The actual received \$109,433,000. We are down 20 % from what was projected. The good news is that they are still absolutely confident that we will be able to do all the projects that were put on there for the primary reason that the bids

are coming in reasonable and in some cases low. We are the biggest discrepancy among the three regions. Mayor Trapnell said that his concern is what we are going to do in that last band. Are we going to have the money to do the projects? Unless something changes they feel like we will.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Department Report

Chief Seckinger submitted a written report. He added that the shooter from the incident at Club 46 has been arrested. There are still two more suspects that charges will be forthcoming but they are in Florida. By January 3, 2017 the police department will be fully staffed, for the first time in a long time. We are working on promotional assessments that will be effective on January 6, 2017.

Public Works Report

Mr. Hendrix submitted a written report. He reported that everything is good in the public works department. There was a little hold up with the park construction due to the recent rain. The rain did help with the new grass in the park. Weather permitting, they will form up and pour the fountain this week.

Fire Department Report

Chief Douglas submitted a written report and added that the fire department had a busy month.

Classic Main Street Report

Mrs. Riggs reported that we had a great Sweet Southern Stroll and an even better Lighting of Metter. We are currently looking for a lot more committee members to help with this event. We have a lot of contacts for the empty downtown buildings.

Administration Report

Mrs. Conner reported on the following:

1. The city storm team met with representatives from FEMA and reviewed information to be submitted on the recovery from Hurricane Matthew. They were very impressed with the information which the city provided.
2. Staff is still working with the auditor. Blake Bloser was here at City Hall on Wednesday, December 7th reviewing documents and gathering information.
3. Direct Deposit has been tested and we should go live next week.

4. The Lighting of Metter and the parade were successes. There were 28 entries in the parade. The Grinch theme was used again this year to decorate Downtown Metter. A chili cook-off was also held.
5. Mayor Trapnell, Mayor Pro tem Kilcrease, and Chief Seckinger participated in the GMA Mayors' Christmas Motorcade in Savannah on Wednesday, December 7th. We had a good amount of donations this year including \$500 in cash. We will also be taking some of the donations to the nursing homes in town.
6. Working with alcohol license holders to make sure they have their licenses renewed by December 31, 2016.
7. Submitted all millage rate forms and documentation to the tax commissioner.
8. 2017 GMA Mayors' Day Conference is in Atlanta at the Marriott Marquis starting on January 20th and ending on January 23rd.
9. The City of Metter will be closed Friday, December 23, 2016 – Monday, December 26, 2016 for the Christmas holidays.
10. The City of Metter will be closed on Monday, January 2, 2017 for New Years.
11. The new date for online bill pay is February, 2017.

City Manager's Report

Ms. Cody said that she would really like to congratulate the staff that worked on the FEMA team (Cliff Hendrix, Mack Seckinger, Jason Douglas, Cindy Collins, Missy Edenfield and Angie Conner). We have worked really hard to meet and exceed all the deadlines for maximum FEMA reimbursement. The FEMA rules are not always clear but despite that everyone on the team have maintained an excellent attitude. They have worked diligently together and with the FEMA representatives. In the scope meeting the FEMA representatives made the comment that they have never seen a community that far in the game at that point in the process. Ms. Cody said that she is very proud of them and thanks them for their diligence on this project.

Ms. Cody congratulated Mrs. Riggs on a great job of putting on the gala. She said it was very well done.

Mrs. Cody passed along an invitation from Ms. Catherine Muse to attend the Archway Committee meeting tomorrow morning. Prior to that there will be two presentations both of which could impact the city. One is the findings that the students have worked on historic preservation project. This could help the city become a qualified local government for historic preservation purposes which would really help us to maintain our downtown character and local traditions aesthetically and architecturally.

Regular Meeting, December 12, 2016

The second presentation is on the Made in the Shade grant program for the school. They are requesting the city's help with some of this program.

Also at that meeting, we have put in a request for student aide through an Archway project for help in formulating our comprehensive plan. Every ten years the Georgia Planning Act requires that we as a city put together a comprehensive land use plan. The city's is technically due in October of 2018 but there is some discussion on the table that we might change that to October of 2017. It is a really good time for us because particularly with having a relatively new city manager and moving more into strategic planning and looking at future economic development possibilities for our community. This is a good exercise for us to go through. Ms. Cody told mayor and council that she would be introducing this to them in January. Ms. Cody said that she has asked for aide from Archway so that we can produce that plan in-house. She said that she is certified to do this plan. Ms. Cody said that she has written several at her previous jobs. She said that she would recommend not hiring that out to a consultant which would cost us tens of thousands of dollars. We don't have the resources for the graphics, mapping, some of the formatting, the presentation materials, particularly for public input. The students can do these types of things for us.

Ms. Cody said that her part is moving the city into the comprehensive plan, which will not only be about land use and how we will aesthetically look moving forward in the next ten years but it will also be a strategic operational plan. Beginning in January Ms. Cody said she would be hosting a number of listening sessions that different segments of the community will be invited to. For instance, she will invite the business community to come in and share their ideas and brainstorm the possibilities that they see for our community. We will discuss any challenges that they have had in the past. We will also have some meetings that are dedicated to the general citizens. They can come and talk about potholes, trash pickup or their thoughts and dreams for Metter.

Ms. Cody reminded the mayor and council that she had sent them a link to a segment on 60 Minutes. She asked that everyone please watch it. It talks about economic development activities and the industrial prospecting in the Golden Triangle in Mississippi. She said she showed this video to staff and had a very productive meeting with them. The big take away was that we learned if the poorest communities and the poorest state in the union can do it and be that successful so can we. It is just the matter of having that vision, developing the plan, and executing the plan. We have started this as your management team of the city. This will fold right into the listening session with the public which will fold into the development of the comprehensive plan and long term strategies.

Councilwoman Colson said that she thinks what we just voted on sends a message that we are not trying to make money off of our small businesses. We are giving them

Regular Meeting, December 12, 2016

something else for their money rather than finding a reason to charge them more. She said that she is real proud of that.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Angie Conner, City Clerk

William M. Trapnell, Mayor