

MINUTES

CITY OF HARTFORD, ALABAMA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022

LOCATION: John Hughes Community Center, 405 South Third Avenue, Hartford, Alabama 36344

ATTENDANCE: Mayor, Neil Strickland; Councilmember, Melissa Clements; Councilmember, Ted Thompson; Councilmember, Zane Fowler; Councilmember, Paul Fondren; Councilmember, Ron Adams

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Leah Jensen; John Burton; Jerry Sorrells; Ronnie Driskell; Chief Annie Ward; Nick Holley; Attorney Jeffery Hatcher; See attached list.

START TIME: 6:00 pm

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 3, 2022, MINUTES: A motion is made to approve the minutes of October 3, 2022, by Councilmember, Paul Fondren. The motion is seconded by Councilmember, Ron Adams. All are in favor thereof.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 6, 2022, MINUTES FROM SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING GIVING MAYOR, NEIL STRICKLAND THE AUTHORITY TO SIGN THE POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH “MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA.”: A motion is made to approve the minutes by Councilmember, Ron Adams. The motion is seconded by Councilmember, Zane Fowler. All are in favor thereof.

APPROVAL OF ALCOHOL ORDINANCE: A motion is made by Councilmember, Ron Adams to approve the alcohol ordinance. The motion is seconded by Councilmember, Zane Fowler. All are in favor thereof.

DEBRA DUNN, CHAIRMAN FOR THE GENEVA COUNTY FARM-CITY COMMITTEE FOR 2022- Spoke about the current objectives and projects of the Farm-City Committee and requests the council choose a local farmer and business to be awarded a certificate of appreciation. She also asks that the council sign a proclamation that November 18th through 24th of 2022 be recognized as “Farm-City Week.” A motion is made by Councilmember, Paul Fondren to declare November 18th through 24th of 2022 to be recognized as “Farm-City Week.” The motion is seconded by Councilmember, Melissa Clements. All are in favor thereof. Ms. Dunn also announces that the Farm-City Banquet will be held on November 10, 2022, at the Geneva County Farm Center. Mr. Hatcher asks her when the names for the farmer and business should be turned in. It was determined that she needed the names immediately. Councilmember, Zane Fowler recommends the farmer as “Ran Can Bee Ranch” and the business as “Tate’s Grocery.” With there being no other recommendations, Councilmember, Fowler makes a motion to approve “Wildflower Honey” and “Tate’s Grocery” as the farmer and business to be recognized and receive a certificate of appreciation. The motion is seconded by Councilmember, Ron Adams. All are in favor thereof. Ms. Dunn would like one of Hartford’s councilmembers to consider being a member of the Farm-City Committee so that every town in Geneva County is represented and has a voice.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mayor, Strickland comments that MEAG Power should confirm at their next board meeting on Thursday, the new Power Purchase Agreement, wholesale price will be seventy dollars per megawatt hour.

City engineer, Ronnie Driskell suggests that the Slocomb Road lift station project be declared an emergency and a motion be passed to award the bid for the repair construction. There is a motion made by Councilmember, Paul Fondren to declare the Slocomb Road lift station project and emergency. The motion is seconded by Councilmember, Ron Adams. The mayor asks for a roll call vote. Councilmember, Adams, Yay. Councilmember, Fondren, Yay. Councilmember, Fowler, Yay. Councilmember, Thompson, Yay. Councilmember, Clements, Yay. The yes's have it to approve the project an emergency. There is a motion made by Councilmember, Ron Adams to award the bid for repairs construction of Slocomb Road lift station to lowest bidder, Majestic Homes and Chatham Construction, LLC, at a price of one hundred, nine thousand dollars, to be paid for by the sixty thousand budgeted from the line of credit and an additional forty-nine thousand from the unbudgeted portion of the line of credit to fund the project, and to give the mayor the authority to bind the city to the contract. The motion is seconded by Councilmember, Paul Fondren. The mayor asks for a roll call vote. Councilmember, Adams, Yay. Councilmember, Fondren, Yay. Councilmember, Fowler, Yay. Councilmember, Thompson, Yay. Councilmember, Clements, Yay. The yes's have it to award Majestic Homes and Chatham Construction the bid to perform the repair construction on the Slocomb Road lift station with appropriated funds and to give the mayor the authority to bind the city to the contract.

Councilmember, Melissa Clements asks for a copy of all job descriptions available.

Councilmember, Ted Thompson would like to schedule a work session to discuss extending city limits. Mr. Hatcher responded with remembrance that moving the city's limits does not increase the limits of police jurisdiction. Councilman Adams would like time to read the laws before attending a work session.

Councilmember, Zane Fowler asks Mr. Hatcher what the turnaround time would be before businesses can start selling alcohol. Mr. Hatcher responded that they could go ahead and start the process. The city needs to establish an application. There will have to be council approval for every business, and they will have to advertise it for a period to give the public an opportunity to oppose it if they desire to do so.

Councilmember, Ron Adams recognizes the first responders on their efforts responding to the six wildfires in one night. And complemented them on their response time and a job well done.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS:

Nick Holley announces that Hartford will be hosting the second round of football playoffs this coming Saturday. We were asked to do so by Graceville. They do not have the means to host. We will be receiving all proceeds from the concessions. There will be six games that day. The first game starts at 9:00 am. Furthermore, Mr. Holley suggested that the city do something about the old tennis courts. They look horrible. He would like to see pickle ball courts installed. Reminder, basketball sign-ups are tomorrow evening, October 18, 2022, at the Recreational Park.

Councilmember, Melissa Clements would like to push for a grant writer.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made by Councilmember, Fondren, seconded by Councilmember, Thompson and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Leah G Jensen

MINUTES APPROVED BY PRESIDING OFFICER:

N