



MINUTES

PUBLIC HEARING (Request for Variance-Heritage Presbyterian Church (OPC), Inc. for 86 Lee St. Royston)

April 19, 2022, 6:15 PM

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 19, 2022, 6:30 PM

PUBLIC HEARING:

Call to order: Mayor Turman: Public Hearing was called to order at 6:15 PM by Mayor Keith Turman.

Request:

- A. Request for Variance: Heritage Presbyterian Church: 86 Lee St. Royston, GA 30662**

Invitation of Public Comment: Michael Crump gave a quick synopsis of the request for variance by Heritage Presbyterian Church to put a church in a building they intend to buy from Ekklesia Center after a request for clarification by citizen James Doyle.

Close Public Hearing: Public Hearing was closed by Mayor Keith Turman at 6:30 PM.

REGULAR MEETING:

Call to Order: Mayor Keith Turman: Meeting called to order 6:30 PM.

Invocation and Pledge:

Approval of Outstanding Minutes: Motion made by Jason Phillips to approve March 8, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes and March 22, 2022, Called Meeting Minutes. Kenneth Roach seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Additions or Deletions to Agenda:

- A. Add Item F (c) : purchase of Mini Excavator by Water Department**
B. Remove Unfinished business Item A: Zoning Amendment request by Crystal Duck due to withdrawal.

Approval of Agenda: Wayne Braswell made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Kenneth Roach seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Main Street Update – Michael Crump: DDA reaccreditation passed the state level and has moved on to the national level. 3rd Thursday Artisan Walk begins this month from 5-7 PM to continue until October. Date for the Farmers Market will be forthcoming. Ga Cities Week events to be published. Events will take place next week. Historic Preservation Month is in May. On May 26th Royston will hold a Business After Hours event at the Old Corner Hardware for merchants. There is a church looking for a location within the city limits if anyone knows of any empty buildings. Mayor Turman invited the public to the Tuesday night Community Planning Session at the Depot from 7-9 PM.

Public Comment: John McLean: Parking Discussion: Mr. McLean wanted to propose to council a 2-hour time limit for parking on Church Street. He stated that the merchants would appreciate the spaces being open to customers.

Unfinished Business:

- A. **Employee Handbook Update:** Tabled again until the May meeting due to waiting review from City Attorney.
- B. **Retirement Plan Update:** The cost study for the change of retirement age from 62 to 65 was completed by GMA. The cost of the change is estimated to be \$23,555. The combination of this increase to the prior increases for an increase of 1.75% benefit multiplier, increase of Officials benefit multiplier to \$50, and Public Safety Employees Retirement Eligibility at Age 55 with 20 years of service equals an increase of \$84,217 per year. Increases in LOST and Franchise Fees should be adequate to cover these increases annually. Matt Fields made a motion to change the retirement age from 62 to 65 for all employees in the plan. Jason Phillips seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

New Business:

- A. **Variance Request: Heritage Presbyterian Church: Michael Crump:** Tabled due to attorney request for a more in-depth review.
- B. **Resolution recognizing April 24-30 as Georgia Cities Week: Mayor Turman:** Mayor Turman read a Georgia Cities Week Resolution. Wayne Braswell made a motion to accept the resolution. Matt Fields seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
- C. **Resolution to appoint Voting Delegates for MGAG Election Committee: Travis Quarles:** Voting Delegates of Tonya Allen and Travis Quarles were designated as Voting Delegates. Matt Fields made a motion to appoint the listed delegates. Wayne Braswell seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
- D. **Gas Capacity Increase: Travis Quarles:** Gas Department Supervisor Travis Quarles gave council an explanation about the capacity increase offered by Transco. He stated it was the same as the previously approved increase offered at the end of last year. The former offer had been withdrawn and replaced by this current offer. Jason Phillips made a motion to accept the offer of a gas capacity increase. David Pressley seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
- E. **Gas System Analysis Authorization: Travis Quarles:** Department Supervisor Travis Quarles requested authorization to have a system analysis performed by the contracted Gas Engineer Eddie Conder. Keck and Wood would be requested to send a Digital Map of the system to Mr. Conder. As Mr. Conder was unable to get an estimate to the city by the meeting date, council opted to table the item until next month. Mr. Quarles also mention a Gas Grant that will be available soon. A PHEMSA grant for rehabilitation of systems and problem issues. The gas department intends to apply for the grant to fix an issue in Franklin Springs near the Food Lion.

F. Water & Sewer Purchases: Gary Fesperman:

- a. **Mission SCADA system for Lift Stations, Raw Water Intake, and Well Sites:** SPLOST funds to be used to pay for the systems cost of \$34,728.44. Wayne Braswell made a motion to authorize the purchase. Kenneth Roach seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
- b. **Security Cameras for Water Plant and Wastewater Plant:** Purchase and installation of systems by Evolve Technologies for the cost of \$5,168.02 and \$4,291.38 respectively to be paid with SPLOST funds. David Pressley made a motion to authorize the purchase and installations. Kenneth Roach seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
- c. **Purchase of Mini Excavator:** Mr. Fesperman proposed to council the purchase of a mini excavator to replace an aged one in the Water Department. The recommended unit is a Bobcat at a cost of \$71,855.48. The FY22 budget allowed for the purchase at a cost of \$64,000. Current price increases have exceeded this original estimate. The Water Department proposed to sell the old unit on Gov Deals with the expectation of the sale making up the difference in cost. Wayne Braswell made a motion to approve the purchase. Matt Fields seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

G. Cemetery Contract Ratification: Patrick O'Brian: Mr. O'Brian answered council questions regarding the contract to have a Lawn Maintenance company maintain the cemetery from April to November at a cost of \$37,500 per season. Wayne Braswell made a motion to ratify the signed contract. Jason Phillips seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

H. Consider a Moratorium on all new Construction on 6 acres or more: Gary Fesperman: Tabled until a later meeting as city did not currently have any proposed construction permits.

I. Consider Proposal to update Land Use Regulations, Zoning Regulations, and Impact Fees: Gary Fesperman: Tabled until a consultation with Jerry Weitz can be arranged.

J. Announce change in City Hall Hours and Council Meeting Times; Mayor Turman: Mayor Turman announced the new City Hall hours of 7:30AM to 4:30 PM to begin on June 1, 2022, and the new Council Meeting time of 5:30 PM and Public Hearing time of 5:15PM to begin with the June 2022 meeting. Jason Phillips made a motion to change the hours. Wayne Braswell seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Executive Session: Personnel: Kenneth Roach made a motion to enter Executive Session at 7:28 PM. Wayne Braswell seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. Matt Fields made a motion to exit Executive Session and re-open the Meeting at 8:43PM. Wayne Braswell seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by David Pressley. Motion seconded by Kenneth Roach. Motion passed 6-0. Meeting adjourned 8:44 PM.

Mayor Keith Turman

Sharleen Ayers, City Clerk

(SEAL)

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