

CITY OF NEWNAN, GEORGIA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 9, 2024

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Newnan, Georgia was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. in the Richard A. Bolin Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Keith Brady presiding.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brady called the meeting to order and delivered the invocation.

PRESENT

Mayor Keith Brady: Council members present: Ray DuBose, George Alexander, Cynthia Jenkins, Rhodes Shell, Dustin Koritko and Paul Guillaume. Also present: City Manager, Cleatus Phillips; Assistant City Manager, Hasco Craver; City Clerk, Megan Shea and City Attorney, Brad Sears

READING OF MINUTES

A. Minutes from the Special Called Meeting on December 12, 2023

Motion by Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman DuBose to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Special Called Council Meeting on December 12, 2023 and adopt them as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

B. Minutes from the Regular Meeting on December 12, 2023

Motion by Councilman DuBose, seconded by Councilman Shell to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on December 12, 2023 and adopt them as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

CITY MANAGER

City Manager wanted to acknowledge Nanette Freeman and Bill Stephenson who are both leaving the City for new opportunities. This is the last week for both of them. Nanette is reuniting with family back in Florida. She helped change the culture in HR, she is very employee first and treats everyone very well and it's going to be hard to replace that. Bill has been with the City for 20 years and he is now changing professions and going into the ministry. He has led one of the most stable and respected inspections department in the State of Georgia. It's going to be hard to replace Bill and all his knowledge and leadership but we wish him the best.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR

C. Resolution in Recognition of Councilmember George M. Alexander

Mayor Brady stated that George Alexander is leaving today after 20 years serving on the Council and 14 years on Planning Commission before that.

Councilman Alexander thanked everyone and said it was a wonderful 34 years serving the City. It has been an honor to serve the citizens and the employees. He charged Council with taking care of the citizens and the employees. He is going to enjoy time with his wife now and grandson and another grandbaby is on the way.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Koritko, seconded by Councilwoman Jenkins to adopt the resolution as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

D. Resolution Certifying the Results for the City of Newnan Municipal Election November 7, 2023 and the City of Newnan Municipal Election Runoff December 5, 2023

Mayor Pro Tem Koritko noted a spelling error in his name on the resolution and asked for an amendment.

Motion by Councilman DuBose, seconded by Councilman Shell to adopt the resolution with amended name change

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

ADJOURNMENT – SINE DIE

Mayor Brady adjourned the meeting sine die.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brady called the meeting to order for January 9, 2024 and delivered the invocation.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Paul Guillaume (District 1, Post A), Dustin Koritko (District 1, Post B), James J. Thomasson III (District 3, Post A) and Cynthia E. Jenkins (District 3, Post B) were duly sworn in by the City Attorney. Councilwoman Jenkins was also ceremoniously sworn in by Pastor Terri Lemons.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

Motion by Councilman Koritko, seconded by Councilman Shell to elect Councilman Guillaume as Mayor Pro Tem for 2024.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

APPOINTMENTS – DEPARTMENT HEADS

City Manager recommended all current department heads be re-appointed for 2024.

Motion by Councilman DuBose, seconded by Councilman Koritko to approve the recommendation and re-appoint all current Department Heads.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

APPOINTMENT – CITY ATTORNEY

Motion by Councilman Shell, seconded by Councilwoman Jenkins to re-appoint Brad Sears as City Attorney for 2024.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

APPOINTMENT – MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

Motion by Councilman Koritko, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume to re-appoint Clay Collins as Municipal Court Judge for 2024.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

APPOINTMENT – MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE PRO TEM

Motion by Councilwoman Jenkins, seconded by Councilman Koritko to re-appoint Rufus Smith, Jr. as Municipal Court Judge Pro Tem for 2024.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

APPOINTMENT – MUNICIPAL COURT SOLICITOR

Motion by Councilman Koritko, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume to re-appoint Danielle Sewell as Municipal Court Solicitor for 2024.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

C. 1 Appointment – Cultural Arts Commission, 3-year term

Continue to next agenda.

D. 1 Appointment – Development Authority, 4-year term

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume, seconded by Councilman Koritko to appoint Joy Barnes to the Development Authority.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

E. 6 Appointments – Farmer Street Cemetery Commission, 3-year terms

Motion by Councilwoman Jenkins, seconded by Councilman Koritko to reappoint Loren Taylor for another term.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume, seconded by Councilman Koritko to reappoint John Pulicare for another term.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume asked that a thank you letter be sent to Chris Hunt for his years of service.

All other appointments continue to next agenda.

F. 1 Appointment – Housing Authority, 5-year term

Continue to next agenda.

G. 1 Appointment – Planning Commission, 3-year term

Continue to next agenda.

H. 1 Appointment – Tree Commission, 3-year term

Continue to next agenda.

CITY MANAGER

I. Schedule City Floating Holiday for 2024

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume, seconded by Councilman Koritko to approve the recommendation from the City Manager and set the City floating holiday as July 5, 2024.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

NEW BUSINESS

J. Consideration of an Ordinance to Provide for the Adoption of a Budget, Its Execution and Effect for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2024 and Ending December 31, 2024

Motion by Councilman Shell, seconded by Councilwoman Jenkins to adopt the ordinance as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

K. Consideration of a Resolution to Amend the 2024 Pay Plan

Motion by Councilman DuBose, seconded by Councilman Shell to adopt the resolution as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

L. Consideration of MEAG Power Sale of Reserve and Supplemental Capacity to the City of Newnan on behalf of the City of Marietta

Motion by Councilman Shell, seconded by Councilman Koritko to approve the sales presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

M. 60 Sunset Ln – Request a public hearing on February 27, 2024 for structure

Matt Murray, Code Enforcement Officer, explained that this is to request from the building department, to hold a public hearing on February 27th for a dilapidated and unsafe structure.

Motion by Councilman Shell, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume to set the public hearing for 60 Sunset Ln.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

N. Rezoning Request – RZ2024-01 by Robert Beregmann on behalf of Fourth Quarter Properties, LLC; 8.44+ acres located in Ashley Park at 440 Newnan Crossing Bypass (Tax Parcel #086 5043 004); Change in MXD Conditions – For Information Only

No action.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

O. 21 Berry Ave. – Owner update and request extension

Matt Murray, Code Enforcement Officer, explained that this property had been before Council in September and was given 90 days which are now up. The plumbing has been completed and electrical has been started. The owner has struggled with accessibility of the trades. The owner is maintaining the property and is requesting a 90-day extension.

Councilman Shell asked what else needs to be done? Mr. Murray said inspections, interior finishes and dry wall and he does have crew lined up for that.

Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume asked if a progress report could be given at 45 days? Mr. Murray said yes he could do that.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume, seconded by Councilman Shell to grant a 90-day extension with a 45-day report.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

VISITORS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS & COMPLAINTS

P. Request from Mollie Roberts to block 4 parking spaces in front of Vinlyte Records on Saturday, January 13th

Councilwoman Jenkins asked if the time frame will cause any conflicts with the MLK Parade that is the same day. City Manager said he did not see any issues with the timing, they would need to monitor the spaces leading up to the time.

Motion by Councilman DuBose, seconded by Councilman Shell to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume, seconded by Councilman Koritko that we now enter into closed session as allowed by O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4 and pursuant to advice by the City Attorney, for the purpose of discussing legal and personnel and that we move, in open session to adopt a resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor or presiding officer to execute an affidavit in compliance with O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4, and that this body ratify the actions of the Council taken in closed session and confirm that the subject matters of the closed session were within exceptions permitted by the open meetings law at 2:59PM.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

RESOLUTION/MAYOR'S AFFIDAVIT FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume, seconded by Councilman Koritko to adopt the resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the affidavit stating that the subject matter of the closed portion of the Council was within the exceptions provided by O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4(b).

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

HOWARD CLAIM

Motion by Councilman Koritko, seconded by Councilman Shell to deny the Howard Claim.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

PETROVA CLAIM

Motion by Councilman Koritko, seconded by Councilman Shell to deny the Petrova claim.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Shell, seconded by Councilman DuBose to adjourn the Council meeting at 3:30pm.

MOTION CARRIED. (7-0)

Megan Shea, City Clerk

Keith Brady, Mayor