CITY OF NEWNAN, GEORGIA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MAY 14, 2024

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Newnan, Georgia was held on Tuesday, May 14, 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, Jim Thomasson, Rhodes Shell, Dustin Koritko and Paul Guillaume. Absent – Cynthia Jenkins. Also present: City Manager, Cleatus Phillips; Assistant City Manager, Hasco Craver; Assistant City Manager, Meg Kelsey; City Clerk, Megan Shea and City Attorney, Brad Sears.

READING OF MINUTES

A. Minutes from the Regular Meeting on April 23, 2024

Motion by Councilman Shell, seconded by Councilman Koritko to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on April 23, 2024 and adopt them as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

AMEND AGENDA

Mayor Brady stated there was a need to amend the agenda to include consideration of a resolution establishing the voting delegates for the MEAG Annual Meeting.

Motion by Councilman Shell, seconded by Councilman Koritko to amend the agenda and include the item under the Mayor's heading for consideration.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

B. 3 Appointments – Bicentennial Committee

Continue to next agenda.

C. 1 Appointment – Christmas Commission, 3-year term

Continue to next agenda.

D. 1 Appointment – Newnan Urban Redevelopment Agency, 3-year term

Continue to next agenda.

E. 1 Appointment – Youth Activities Commission, 3-year term

Continue to next agenda.

CITY MANAGER

Mr. Phillips introduced Ms. Carole Ann Fields, the new HR Manager.

MAYOR

Mayor Brady explained that for years Councilman George Alexander served as the voting delegate at the annual MEAG meeting and Councilman Rhodes Shell was always the alternate. He suggested appointing Councilman Shell as the delegate and said that Councilman Koritko expressed interest in serving as alternate.

Motion by Councilman Thomasson, seconded by Councilman DuBose to adopt the resolution appointing Councilman Shell as the voting delegate and Councilman Koritko as alternate.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

NEW BUSINESS

F. Public Hearing – Application for Alcohol Beverage License – TG Diplomat LLC dba Everhome Suites – 61 Diplomat Pkwy

Mayor Brady opened a public hearing on the application for a Retail Off Premise (Package) Sales of Malt Beverages and Wine for Everhome Suites at 61 Diplomat Parkway.

A representative of applicant was present for the hearing. No one spoke for or against the application. Mayor Brady closed the public hearing. The City Clerk advised that all the documentation had been received and everything was in order.

Motion by Councilman DuBose, seconded by Councilman Koritko to approve the application for a Retail Off Premise (Package) Sales Malt Beverages and Wine License.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

G. Consideration of a Contract Award for Pavement Repairs on LaGrange Street

Ray Norton, Public Works Director, stated that at a previous Council meeting Phase 1 repairs on LaGrange Street had been discussed. There was one bidder that responded. Staff recommends entering into a contract with Piedmont Paving.

Motion by Councilman Shell, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume to approve the contract award as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

H. Consideration of a Contract Extension for Debris Monitoring and Disaster Recovery/Public Assistance Services

Mr. Norton explained that these contracts were executed during the tornado. This is a one-year extension and there is no cost unless they are activated, it is just to have the resources available if needed.

Motion by Councilman Thomasson, seconded by Councilman Koritko to approve the contract extension.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

I. Consideration of a Contract Extension for Debris Removal Services

Mr. Norton stated this is the same as the previous item.

Motion by Councilman DuBose, seconded by Councilman Koritko to approve the contract extension.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

J. Consideration of Amendments to the 2023 Fiscal Year Budgets per Audit

Meg Kelsey, Assistant City Manager, explained that as part of the annual audit process, a series of accounts have been looked at that need budget amendments. The majority are conservative revenue numbers that have been elevated and some were line items that did not have budgets.

Ms. Kelsey also commented that Staff is going to stay on top of this on a more regular basis throughout the year. So, there will be other amendments on the next agenda as well.

Motion by Councilman Thomasson, seconded by Councilman Shell to approve the amendments as presented. 2nd and Final Reading next agenda.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

K. Consideration of a Resolution to Reclassify and Annul Obligations Under the American Rescue Plan Act

Andrew Moody, Special Projects Manager, said that this is to reclassify and annul obligations under ARPA. In 2022, $6.85 million was obligated to storm water improvement, which Treasury has now clarified can go into the water sewer category instead of revenue replacement. The second portion of the resolution is to annul a $425,000 obligation that was intended for Covid sick time and was not used.

Motion by Councilman Shell, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume to adopt the resolution as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

L. Consideration of a Resolution to Set an End Date for the Use of American Rescue Plan Act Funding for Administrative Purposes

Mr. Moody explained that this just sets an end date as Treasury has asked for this. This will go on the July 31st report so the request is for the end date to be June 30th.

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

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

M. 21 Berry Ave – Owner update and request extension

Patrick Ramirez, Code Enforcement Officer, said that in the last 30-60 days the owner has installed new windows, siding, insulation and dry wall. The owner is requesting a 90-day extension.

Mr. Douglas Calderon, owner of the property, said he feels 90 days is enough time to complete, once he gets power and water turned on.

Motion by Councilman Shell, seconded by Councilman Koritko to grant a 90-day extension for completion.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

VISTITORS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS & COMPLAINTS

N. Request from First Baptist Church to Close Brown St. between W. Washington and Madison St. the week of June 10th – 14th for Vacation Bible School

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

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

O. Request from Bridging the Gap to host Summer Lunch at CJ Smith Park, May 28th – July 26th, Monday-Friday from 11:30am-1:30pm

Motion by Councilman Koritko, seconded by Councilman Thomason to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

P. Request from Brian and Kelley Morrissey to waive late fees for occupational tax renewal due to issues with USPS

Mayor Brady explained that he had this put on the agenda after receiving an email from Mr. Morrissey. Everyone is aware of the issues with the local post office.

Mr. Phillips suggested that instead of handling this individually that Council extend the penalty provision from April 15th by 60 days and also for the City to issue refunds to anyone that has incurred the penalty since April 15th. Ms. Kelsey is working on some processes for next year that will hopefully make these renewals easier and not rely on the postal service as much.

Motion by Councilman Thomasson, seconded by Councilman Shell to approve the 60-day extension as recommended.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

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 real estate 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 2:55PM. Mayor Brady recused himself due to a business relationship.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

RESOLUTION/MAYOR'S AFFIDAVIT FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Councilman Koritko, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Guillaume 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. (6-0)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Koritko, seconded by Councilman Thomasson to adjourn the Council meeting at 3:09pm.

MOTION CARRIED. (6-0)

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Megan Shea, City Clerk Keith Brady, Mayor