

City of Reidsville

City Council Meeting

Thursday January 27, 2022

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The regularly scheduled meeting of the Reidsville City Council was held on Thursday January 27th, 2022 at 5:17pm. Members of Council present:

Mayor, Curtis Colwell

Councilwoman, Carolyn Crume-Blackshear

Councilwoman, Lindsay Bennett

Councilman, Doug Williams (absent)

Councilwoman, Verdie Williams

City Attorney DuAnn Davis and Nivea Jackson, City Clerk were also present.

The audience was welcomed by Curtis Colwell, Mayor. Next, attendees were led by the Mayor in a word of prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, done in unison by the Council and audience. Mr. Colwell reminded everyone that Councilman Conner would be missed from opening the meetings in prayer.

Mr. Colwell announced he would entertain a motion to adopt the minutes from the last minutes if no corrections were needed. Councilwoman Blackshear asked if we could come back to that motion to allow her time to review the minutes.

The Department supervisors reports were done while allowing for extra time to review the minutes for Council. Jimmy Brown, Fire Chief, was absent due to illness and was not available to give the report for the Fire Department. Stacey Wilds, Police Chief, made the report for the Police Dept. No discrepancies noted. Chief Wilds announced that Sgt. Brandon Jones would be resigning his position with RPD to move to Glennville Police Dept. Jones' last day will be Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mayor Colwell announced that he had received a request for the position of Sargent by Jermaine Snell. The Mayor, asked the Chief did he have any objections to the promotion. Chief Wilds is asking to table the promotion to a later date. Rodney Deloach, Public Works Director gave the report for the Water/Sewer and Street/Lanes department. Deloach reports that he has had 5 busted water lines and many rereads of the meters putting a strain on his man power.

Councilwoman Carolyn Blackshear, gave the report for administration. Blackshear noted that the City has been receiving payments for taxes and revenue was in the black. Mayor Colwell interjected that a delinquent bill had been received on January 27<sup>th</sup> with open invoices dating back to 2019. This has been a commonality for the City, Blackshear added. "It is hard to move forward, when having to always look behind and pay past due bills," Blackshear stated. The loan at South Georgia bank has been sufficed and the City is coming along little by little.

The next item on the agenda was the Commission reports. No one from DDA or Atkins-Surrency Commission was in attendance.

Next on the agenda is old business. Derelict Properties is the only item on the agenda. The Burns' property specifically, the old hardware store and the Dixie Motel were issued citation. The City's goal is to make the property safe for all citizens and for it not to be such an eyesore in the community. The fine issued was meant to serve as motivation for the clean up of the property. Davis, City Attorney, informed Council their option of issuance of a new citation imposing another fine. Audience member, Donald Prestage asked why the City is pursuing the Burns property when there were other properties that could be fined. Davis answered by saying letters went out to several property owners and clean up has began with many of them. Also addressed, is the Collins family property on MLK. Not only is the square of property and land an eyesore but it is not safe for human occupancy. Members also asked that a property on Little John Rd owned by Bo Eason be looked at as well.

The Mayor asked if the Council was ready to adopt the last month's minutes.

Motion made by: Carolyn C Blackshear

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Lindsay Bennett

Vote: Carried unanimous

Last topic on the agenda is the sale of City property. Real estate must be discussed in Executive Session. The Mayor asked if there was any further business to be discussed, and with none he would entertain a motion to move to Executive session.

Motion made by: Lindsay Bennett

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Verdie Williams

Vote: Carried unanimous

Executive Session began at 5:55pm

The Council returned by vote to regular session at 6:09pm

Motion by: Verdie Williams

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Carolyn Blackshear

Vote: Unanimously carried

Motion to Adjourn: Verdie Williams