

# Meeting minutes OF THE REIDSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

## Date:

August 13, 2024

## Time:

5:00 PM

## Facilitator:

Vickie Nail, Mayor

## Council in attendance

Donald Prestage

Lindsay Bennett (Absent)

Carolyn Blackshear

Verdie Williams

Nivea Jackson- City Clerk

Gina Sheridan-Finance Manager

Duann Davis- City Attorney

## Approval of minutes

These minutes are a draft and are not approved until September 9, 2024

The Council was greeted by a welcome and prayer from Mayor Vickie Nail. Mayor Nail announced to the public that the meetings will be recorded and posted on the City website for viewers. **The Mayor noted that the Mayor, Council, Clerk, Attorney, and Finance Manager will be the only one in the recording to prevent filming of others without expressed permission.**

Pledge of Allegiance was complete in unison by the audience.

The Mayor is requesting a motion to approve Meeting Minutes provided to Council at the last meeting to review. Councilwoman Blackshear offers a motion to approve the last month's meeting minutes.

**Motion by: C. Blackshear**

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

**Motion carries: Unanimously**

Rodney Deloach gives the monthly statistics for the Water/Sewer and Street and Lanes Dept. A stop sign was placed at the fork intersection of East Folsom and Brumby to deter speeding along with the new mph signs. Both SCAG mowers are down. Rodney is requesting to buy at least 1 mower, if possible, two. Deloach has also met with his department head, Councilman Prestage, and Finance Manager, Gina Sheridan, to amend his budget to account for the spending for a mower. Deloach is going to try to repair the mower. The current shop seems to be overrun with repair work and informed Deloach of a 2-3 week wait time on the start of any repair. Deloach attributes the high wait times to the current season, as it is the height of the grass season. Repair is being done on a first come, first serve basis. Donald Prestage makes a motion to allow Rodney to purchase one new SCAG mower in the event he is unable to repair the existing mowers.

**Motion by: Donald Prestage**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: C. Blackshear**

**Motion: Carries unanimously**

Jimmy Brown gave the statistics for the Fire Department. Chief Brown is in attendance with the breathing apparatus trailer. The trailer's purpose is, it can be used to refill oxygen canisters that the firefighters use to fight fires. The Chief has provided the Council with three bids for a new heavy-duty pickup that can haul such a heavy trailer. Councilwoman Williams asks what the Chief would do with his existing pickup? Chief Brown answers, that he would keep and maintain his current truck in its normal capacity. The new truck would be used for the hauling of the trailer. Former Mayor Colwell asked if the truck had extras. Chief Brown answered, "no, it doesn't have all of the bells and whistles. This truck is for hauling." Donald Prestage makes a motion to approve the purchase of a new Super Duty truck for the fire department trailer.

**Motion by: Donald Prestage**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: C. Blackshear**

**Motion: Carries unanimously**

Derrien Renfroe gave the updates for the Recreation Dept. Renfroe announces that football, soccer, and cheer signups are being held over the next week. Renfroe informed attendees that he has been organizing and cleaning the park.

**The Mayor reminds citizens of the upcoming qualifying dates would be August 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. Qualifying ends at 12pm on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Qualifying fees are \$90. Packets would be available on Friday.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Pine Street Update-** the Mayor gave the audience and Council history on the closing of Pine St. dating back to 1974 with deeds. There is an important water main access point that the City would need continuous access to. The City Attorney advises for that reason, the City would need to maintain and not close Pine St. Councilman Prestage also warns that the City would lose access in future developments if it closed that portion.
- **Dilapidation Update-**Don Powell updates the Council on homes with pending due dates. Homes on Kennedy have been completed. Homes on Llyod and Williams that need to be demolish are in discussions with demolition crews. Top targets are homes that may have trees that pose potential hazards for home owners.
- **Mobile Home Ordinance Revisions\***- The Mayor gave each Council member a copy of the revised language for the Ordinance. The Mayor outlined to the Council what changes had been made. The Mayor also explained that her purpose for the revisions were to provide more specific information on the visual aspects and the do's and don'ts of modular or manufactured homes being placed in the City limits. This discussion has been tabled during previous meetings at least twice. Councilman Prestage makes a motion to table the discussion until he can look at something specific to the ordinance.

**Motion by: Donald Prestage**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> by: V. Williams**  
**Motion: Carries unanimously**
- **Amendment to Elected Official Pay\***  
The Mayor is requesting a pay increase for Mayor and Council. There are specific conditions that must be met before a request such as this can be made. The City meets that standard. The Mayor and Council rates have not increased in 20+ years. The notice will have appeared in the newspaper a total of 3 times to inform citizens. Council receives \$250 before taxes and Mayor \$375 before taxes. Council will increase to \$450 and the Mayor to \$600 monthly.

**Motion by: C. Blackshear**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> by: Verdie Williams**  
**Motion carries: Unanimously**
- **New City Holiday Schedule-**  
The Mayor revised the Personnel Holiday Schedule for employees for the current year. Basically, the new schedule removed the before voted employee half days before a major holiday. The employees will take the scheduled Columbus Day holiday at Christmas to include Christmas Eve on the schedule.

**Motion by: C. Blackshear**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> by: Verdie Williams**  
**Motion carries: Unanimously**

- City Millage Rate- Finance Manager, Gina Sheridan explains to the audience what the totality of the Millage rate. The City will increase its tax payer revenue \$85k. The City will also lose some of its tax base being that the County now owns the buildings in the old IGA plaza where DFACS and the Extension office are located. The new Sheriff's office is a loss in tax base. The City has published the proposed millage rate and tax increases in the local newspaper. Three separate public hearings were conducted to hear citizen concerns.

**Motion by: C. Blackshear**

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

**Motion carries: Unanimously**

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## NEW BUSINESS

- Radar Placements- Radar were taken up during the storm, but have returned to their previous locations. Citizens are reacting positively to the slowing down of traffic.

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- City Wide Cleanup- New dates must be chosen. The before agreed upon date conflicts with the already planned and Council approved Wire Grass Festival. The Council wants to move the dates to October to allow for the City to be clean for the holiday season. October will also allow for cooler temperatures to really get the town clean. Verdie Williams makes a motion to look at the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in October to consider the City wide Cleanup. Williams is advising to amend the dates if it causes conflict.

**Motion by: Verdie Williams**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: D. Prestage**

**Motion: Carries unanimously**

- Auxiliary Boards-Councilwoman Blackshear has requested the Mayor to get a clear understanding of who is listed on all of the City's auxiliary boards to include; Downtown Development, Zoning Board, Airport Authority, Housing Authority, Surrency Atkins Playground, The Recreation Board, and Library Board. The Council has the responsibility of replacing members. The Mayor and Councilwoman Blackshear have a meeting scheduled for August 13<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 5:30 with the Recreation Board.

- Retirement Resolution\*  
City Clerk, Nivea Jackson advises Council that the retirement resolution is a formality that Council is expected to approve yearly that binds the agreement with the City and GIRMA for retirement provisions.

**Motion by: C. Blackshear**

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

**Motion carries: Unanimously**

- **Mark Foster's Heart to Hand Program-**

An Application was made in reference to a special event for Mark Foster's event to be held at Veteran's Park. The County is responsible for that Park but the application was made to make the City aware and gain City support. October 27<sup>th</sup> 2024 from 1p-8p is the event dates.

**Motion by: Verdie Williams**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: C Blackshear**

**Motion carries: Unanimously**

- **County Dirt Request-** The City has identified an area near the Sprayfield that will yield good dirt. The County Chairman is asking to add this to our MOU to extract dirt to help with the washing out of the roads from the storm. Councilman Prestage is cautious to not jeopardize the City in any way with our EPD grant or relationship.

**Motion by: Verdie Williams**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: C Blackshear**

**Motion carries: Unanimously**

- **City Hall Air Conditioner and Roof-**

Several places in the City Hall office has been saturated with water. The Mayor has ascertained bids and a diagnosis for the issue. The City hall roof needs to be vented and replaced. This situation is emergent and the Mayor is asking for immediate repair. Councilman Prestage is asking where the money for the repair would come from, Finance Manager Gina Sheridan states that it would come from SPLOST. Councilwoman Williams wants to know how quickly could we get the work done, the Mayor answers very quickly. The roofers understood and conveyed the imperative action needed. Carolyn Blackshear offers a motion to allow a local company Bright Roofing to complete the job. The roof quote came with a lifetime warranty and keeps business local.

**Motion by: C. Blackshear**

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

**Motion carries: Unanimously**

The Air conditioner ducts will need to be rewrapped or replaced. Bids include the price to complete this process. Dehumidifiers are in 2 of the bids. The City will not require this. The Council voted to table the Air conditioner wrapping after the roof is fixed. The existing unit is from 1998. Councilwoman Blackshear would like for the City to look into an AC maintenance contract.

**Motion by: Donald Prestage**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: C. Blackshear**

**Motion: Carries unanimously**

Edgar Johnson is again inquiring about Pine St. After few discussion the Council reiterates that is in the City's best interest to keep that access. Mr. Johnson believes there is no water lines where Pine St. is on his property.

**Motion by: Donald Prestage**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: V. Williams**

**Motion: Carries unanimously**

Executive Session- Motion to move into Executive session for Real Estate and for Personnel as added by Verdie Williams at 5:55pm

Motion to return to regular session by C. Blackshear at 7:05pm

The City will look into contributing the parking lot behind the old Main St and Brazell St. buildings as an incentive to create prospective purchases of those properties concurrently with the sale of those properties.

The Council, during Executive session discussion about real estate, the topic relating to Mobile homes was brought up. The Council has reactivated the earlier tabled discussion. Donald Prestage makes a motion to accept the proposed Mobile home agreement.

**Motion by: Donald Prestage**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: V. Williams**

**Motion: Carries unanimously**

The Council also recognizes that the next scheduled planning session will fall on a scheduled holiday. Donald Prestage suggest that the meeting day should be moved to the following day which will be Tuesday September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Duann Davis completes the first reading of the Mobile Home ordinance. There was one discrepancy noted concerning the street distance to be changed before the next reading.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26