

Meeting minutes OF THE REIDSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Date:

June 10, 2024

Time:

5:00 PM

Facilitator:

Vickie Nail, Mayor

Council in attendance

Approval of minutes

These minutes are a draft and are not approved until July 8th, 2024

The Reidsville City Council was called to order and greeted by Mayor Nail. Mayor Nail requested a designee to give the prayer and the audience recited the pledge of allegiance in unison. The Mayor asks for a motion to accept the minutes. Donald Prestage sites that he just received the minutes, at the meeting, and was understood he should have them by email previously. Councilman Prestage makes a motion to table the minutes until next meeting.

Motion by: Donald Prestage

2nd by: Verdie Williams

Motion: Carries unanimously

The Mayor is introducing Rachel Still from Sherwood Designs. Still gave a 35 minute PowerPoint presentation on flooding in Reidsville. Still is a design engineer and is demonstrating a plan created by Sherwood designs and The Army Corp of Engineers to mitigate potential flood zones and redirect standing/flood water to a proposed Storm Water Park that the City Council has to vote to construct a 20+ acre Stormwater Park to reduce any possible flooding to small areas during heavy or torrential pours. Questions asked; by Nivea Jackson, can amendments be made to the project as long as it addresses drainage? Still answers yes, absolutely amendments can be made. The design takes 12-18 months and has left room for small tweaks based on essential needs of the project. Rachel informs the meeting that her role is complete in the process. Next question, "is the design team willing to yield to the advice of the County engineers," Rachel answers that she has consulted with the City engineer, and the Army engineers but would definitely consider what the County recommendation was. Rachel ensures the Council that the plan should follow the same intent, but changes can be made. Still is encouraging the Council to sign the partnership agreement with Anthropocene Alliance so that further design conversation could be had. The design can be changed to help maintain the project during the future. Nivea Jackson asks, "Who tests the collected stormwater to make sure no contaminants are being collected?" Still says that a team would need to be hired to test the water. The State and City would need to do regular testing. Nivea asks who pays for this. Still says the City would have to apply for additional funds for testing costs. Jackson asks what department would the Stormwater Park fall up under. Still said the Park would neither be Water/Sewer nor Parks and Recreation. She states that larger Cities usually manage a project like this under a watershed management scope. Rachel Still encourages the City to continue conversations and changes could be made. Still has provided a report for further advocating for the project in the future.

Next were Dept Head reports. The Fire Chief was out on a call, Police Chief Trey NeeSmith gave the PD report. No discrepancies noted. Building Inspector, Don Powell is reporting on cleanup citations that he is working on City wide. Hurricane preparation meetings have started, and Powell is looking at tree hazards on residential and commercial properties to prevent major hazards. Mike Patel's application has been approved and is under review by the zoning committee.

Rodney Deloach gave the report for the Water/Sewer dept. Deloach has hired a new grasscutter. No discrepancies noted.

Moving on to the budget, Council has looked over and had editing rights to the budget. A hearing has been conducted to correspond with changes. Donald Prestage offers a motion to accept the 2024-2025 Budget.

Motion by: Donald Prestage

2nd by: Lindsay Bennett

Motion: Carries unanimously

The Mayor began informing the Council about the topic of rezoning for 121 Sapp Lane. Mayor Nail is asking if anyone from the zoning committee is available. The Mayor is informing the Council that public hearings will be scheduled to hear public objections or support for the potential gymnastics center.

City Clerk, Nivea Jackson, is requesting the current Council to define the City lines as best they can with modern times so that the City can have an officially defined map. During November's election, it was discovered that Oak Street is on the defining line. Residents who have traditionally voted in Ward 1, are now being defined as Ward 2. The City had not adopted a map for elections. Donald Prestage makes a motion to accept the Heart of Georgia Map as the official City map. Residents will be defined from the lines on this map per this vote. Duann Davis interjects that's the City is due a fair recount to confirm our population, and then the City can do an accurate redistricting. Davis says that would require charter change by legislation and is a lengthy process. Jackson informs the Council that a recount is done through the Census Bureau and is a legislative process. Jackson is asking to define the post not by former citizens homes (as defined in the charter) but by the street. Street names and resident homes change. Davis advises she would consult with the Heart of Georgia to confirm what map that they had.

Motion by: Donald Prestage

2nd by: Lindsay Bennett

Motion: Carries unanimously

Hofstadter the City Engineering firm has secured Sikes Brothers as the contractor for our LMIG projects by RFP. Council needs to vote to accept the recommendation of the Engineer. Donald Prestage makes a motion to approve Sikes Brothers as the awarded firm.

Motion by: Donald Prestage

2nd by: Lindsay Bennett

Motion: Carries unanimously

The Mayor calls for Edgar Johnson, a citizen, who wanted to make a presentation about Pine St. Former Mayor Sydney Clifton advises Mayor Nail that Mr. Johnson has been before

the Council several times concerning Pine St. and that future interest in that area would be blocked by closing Pine St. The Mayor assured Clifton that she understood but allowed Mr. Johnson, who was not in attendance, to be heard.

Mayor is announcing that Councilman Doug Williams' seat would be announced in the paper. Donald Prestage is asking if City Hall has received the formal resignation letter. The Mayor states that she will email Councilman Williams resignation letter to the Council. Verdie Williams makes a motion to accept Doug Williams' resignation and to advertise the seat as vacant.

Motion by: Verdie Williams

2nd by: Lindsay Bennett

Motion: Carries unanimously

Special Event applications were in the Council packets but were omitted on the agenda. There are two applications that came in. One is for a water day at Surrency Park and the other is for the Fall In the Ville Event for Cedrick Bacon. Lindsay Bennett makes a motion to approve both events.

Motion: Lindsay Bennett

2nd by: Verdie Williams

Motion: Approved unanimously

6:06pm Verdie Williams makes a motion to go into Executive Session.