

City of Donalsonville  
Council Meeting-February 7, 2017

**Official Minutes**

Mayor Dan E. Ponder, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. After which Councilperson Buczek gave the invocation, then all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Councilmembers present for the meeting included, Mayor Dan E. Ponder, Jr., Mayor Pro Tem Ed Bond, CP Lindsey Register, CP Mitch Blanks, CP Travis Brooks, CP Annie Ruth Callaway, and CP Tony Buczek. Staff present were City Manager Steve Hicks, Fire Chief Dean King, Public Works Superintendent Don Gambrell, and City Attorney Paul Fryer. Guests present were Karen Kimbrel, Max Mobley, Tim Chandler, Shelia Williams, Calvin Arnold, Billy Grantham, Kale King, Zech Morris, Gavin Cardin, Darius Moss, and Phillip Hornsby.

Approval of the agenda: Councilperson Bond made a motion to approve the agenda. CP Brooks make a second, motion carried. Approval of the minutes from the regular Council Meeting held on January 5, 2017 and the Called Council Meeting that was held on January 18, 2017 CP Buczek moved to approve with CP Register seconding, motion passed unanimously.

APPEARANCES: Karen Kimbrel presented a request for David Maxwell for street closure between the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the Downtown Mardis Gras Celebration to be held on 2/18/17. She also requested assistance from the Sanitation Department, Police Department and Fire Department. Mayor Pro Tem Bond moved to approve with CP Blanks seconding, motion passed unanimously.

Next, Mayor Ponder presented a request from the Downtown Development Authority to appoint Chris Thomas and Jill Miley to serve a two-year term until 2019. Calvin Arnold, Chairman, spoke on behalf of the DDA as to the recommendations. CP Buczek made a motion to accept the recommendation as submitted, CP Brooks seconded, motion carried.

INTERNAL BUSINESS: The Financial Statements for December 2016 were presented and reviewed with comments made by City Manager Hicks on the current status, which included a projection that general fund balance will end with little change from the previous year.

OLD BUSINESS: Mayor Ponder presented a brief update on Sozo activities to include

- Network performance has been excellence
- Over 15 locations have been installed
- Hardees and Church of God is great example
- Will proceed to install 5-10 sites a week
- Tons of calls coming in from outside of the city
- We have installed additional monitors
- We have installed new level of service support direct to Level 2 of C-Spire and Huawei
- We are also in talks with Point Broadband and SGRITA
- Mayor and City Manager met with Troy Cable to discuss process for setting up the system and possible technical assistance.

City Manager Hicks recommended the award of a bid to purchase a standby generator from Yancey Power Systems in the amount of \$29,310.00. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to award the bid to Yancey Power Systems with CP Register seconding; motion carried.

City Manager Hicks then made a recommendation to award the bid for the new fire station to Anderson Construction Company of Fort Gaines in the amount of \$1,214,739.00 less value-engineered changes in the amount of \$72,453 for a total net bid of \$1,141,926.00. CP Brooks made a motion to award the bid to Anderson Construction Company of Fort Gaines in the amount of \$1,141,926, Mayor Pro Tem Bond made the second; motion passed unanimously.

City Manager Hicks then submitted a recommendation to authorize the development of an agreement with the Town of Brinson to treat ion exchange wastewater generated by the Town of Brinson. Mr. Max Mobley, representing Polyengineering, Inc., provided the Council with a letter of recommendation to proceed with implementation of the request. He summarized his findings and answered questions from the Council. CP Blanks offered a motion to not approve the recommendation but withdrew the motion. Mayor Ponder called for a vote on the recommendation to approve the agreement. No motion was offered. Mayor Ponder declared that consideration of the request was dead.

### NEW BUSINESS

City Manager Hicks submitted quotes received from local banks for a proposed equipment financing program. Quotes were received as follows:

Name	Rate
Ameris Bank-Vehicles	2.48%
Ameris Bank-LOC	2.24% fixed
Peoplesouth	3.30%
Peoplesouth-LOC	3.0% - 3.45%
Seminole Community Credit	2.95%
Seminole Community Credit-LOC	Variable
Commercial State Bank	3%
Commercial State Bank-LOC	3%

Resolution 02-07-17 was also presented providing for declaration of the Council’s intent to reimburse vehicle and equipment purchases with financing proceeds.

City Attorney Paul Fryar addressed the Council and informed the Council that the proposed financing did not comply with Georgia law. After a discussion a motion was made by CP Buczek to approve Resolution 02-07-17 and amended by CP Blanks to also authorize the City Manager to research financing options meeting legal requirements working with Ameris Bank and Three Notch Electric and present to Council for consideration. Mayor Pro Tem Bond seconded and the motion carried.

Next, Fire Chief King updated the Council on the latest weather conditions and damaged property and thanked the Council for the new fire station. He then discussed issues with the nuisance properties and presented the Council with a propose letter to be sent to property owners notifying them of the Ordinance requirements and imposing a minimum \$150 charge for failure to comply. The letter and ordinances will be reviewed by the City Attorney before Council approval and implementation.

City Manager Hicks gave an update on the following items:

- (1) Telephone Audit: An audit of the telephone system generated approximately \$1,943.64 in annual savings and a one-time credit of \$270.08. The new phone system will be installed 02/09/17.
- (2) Drug Testing Program: Met with Chuck Orrick, Hospital Administrator, to discuss the handling of the City’s drug testing requirements. Offered to do new employment and random screens (when implemented) for \$5.00. Currently we are paying \$40.00. Chuck is checking into the procedures for DOT testing requirements for Gas employees. The attorney is in the process of finalizing the review of the policy for city-wide testing as well as the personnel handbook.
- (3) LMIG Sidewalk Project: Preconstruction conference held today. Notice to Proceed was issued today. The 90-day window for completion of the project will start March 1, 2017.
- (4) Budget- Budget packages have been forwarded to department heads and the following budget schedule is proposed:

February 27, 2017	Budget Requests Due
March 13-15, 2017	Departmental Budget Review/City Manager
March 20-24, 2017	Budget Review/City Council
March 23, 2017	Public Notice of Proposed Budget and Call for Public Hearing
March 28, 2017	Public Hearing on FY 17-18 Budget
April 4, 2017	Final Budget Approval

At 7:10 PM Mayor Pro Tem Bond then made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss issues related to employment of a public officer, along with current litigation matters, CP Blanks made a second; motion carried.

Then at 7:45 PM, Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to come out of Executive Session, where CP Brooks seconded, motion passed.

City Attorney Paul Fryar addressed the Council to inform them of a settlement offer made by Seminole County Partnership Development LP for \$15,000.00. Mayor Pro Tem Bond offered a motion to settle the case in the amount of \$15,000.00 providing that each party will pay their own attorney's fees and cost and that the City will be held harmless from any claim by any party. CP Buczek seconding. AYES-CP Bond, CP Brooks, CP Buczek. ABSTAIN: CP Blanks, CP Callaway, CP Register. Motion carried.

With there being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, at 8:05 PM. CP Blanks made a motion to adjourn with Mayor Pro Tem Bond making a second, and the motion carried.

ADJOURNED

City of Donalsonville

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Dan E. Ponder, Jr., Mayor

Attest and Certification:

I, Christina Corvers, do here Attest and Certify that  
The above written is a true and correct representation  
of the business and actions conducted during the February 7, 2017  
meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Donalsonville.

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Christina Corvers, City Clerk