

City of Donalsonville
Council Meeting-April 3, 2018

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 CP Register 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 Mitch Blanks, CP Flossie Smith, CP Lindsey Register, CP Travis Brooks, and CP Mitzy Moye. Staff present were City Manager Steve Hicks, Bert Adams, Police Chief Woodrow Blue, Fire Chief Dean King and City Attorney Billy Grantham. Guests present were Beverly Burke, Virginia Harrison, Millie Rambeau, Gwendolyn Williams, Karen Kimbrel, Barbara Barber, and David Maxwell

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: CP Brooks made a motion to approve the Agenda with CP Smith seconding. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 6, 2018 Council Meeting with CP Blanks seconding. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES: Virginia Harrison, representing the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) presented a request to the Council for a part-time maintenance worker to keep flowers strawed and weeded, paint lampposts and trash cans, pressure wash sidewalks, trim trees in parking lot on Cherry Street and City Park, spray sidewalks with weed killer, pick up trash after Christmas parade and Big Fish Festival, keep flowers trimmed at Welcome signs, clean and trim grass around dedication plaques, and keep drains clear of debris. The person will be supervised by Virginia Harrison. The estimated cost for the person at 16 hours a week is \$7,000. After a discussion, City Manager Hicks recommended that the position be considered in the FY 18-19 budget process to which all agreed.

Karen Kimbrel, representing the Chamber of Commerce informed the Council that \$2000 more in tickets were sold at the gate for the Rodeo held on March 16-17, 2018 and had more sponsors. She also informed them that a Georgia State Resource team will be in Donalsonville April 24-26, 2018 to analyze the City and County resources in the areas of economic development and tourism. She also informed the Council that a Rural Development workshop will be held in Tifton, GA on April 10, 2018 that will provide the city with potential opportunities for downtown development.

The request for approval to hold an Epilepsy Awareness 5K and Fun Run by Nichole Whittaker. Mrs. Whittaker was not present to make the request. The item will be removed from the agenda.

Gwendolyn Williams, whose business is located at 608 1/2 Railroad Avenue, addressed the Council regarding yard sales. She asked where does the money from yard sales go. Mayor Ponder informed her the money goes into the City's General Fund. She also corrected the Mayor when he referred to her business as a yard sale and told him it was a flea market. She also complained about the fact that she was charged \$50.00 for a license with \$35.00 for the business and \$15.00 for one employee. She stated that she was the only one in the business. She then complained that the Post Office did not deliver her mail on a timely basis and that she was not going to pay the late fees that were charged because she did not renew her business license on time. She also made a statement that she did not collect sales taxes on the items that she sold at her flea market. The Mayor informed her that we would give her answers at next month's meeting.

INTERNAL BUSINESS: The Financial Statements for February 2018 were presented and reviewed with comments made by City Manager Hicks on the status, along with discussion on the three-month analysis and expenditures for the EDonalsonville Project.

OLD BUSINESS

CM Hicks informed the Council that a recommendation will be made, under new business, to approve the position of Communications Director who will work to implement the E-Donalsonville Project. All systems are scheduled to be operable on April 4, and will be turned over to the City around the middle of April. No additional staff will be needed at this point but we will continue to work with contractors. After a final test and calibration of the equipment and the circuit is turned over to us, everything will be in place to start marketing the system. Working to develop a fee schedule and marketing plan by getting information on a mailing campaign which seems to be the most feasible way to get the word out now. In that respect, we are also working to get customer agreements developed. Have also contacted out-of-town providers to determine if there is any interest in partnering with us to expand their rural outreach.

City Manager Hicks informed the Council that no one has contacted this office regarding appointments to Historic Preservation Commission.

CM Hicks informed the Council that Mayor Ingram from Iron City confirmed Iron City does not want to purchase the equipment approved by the Council in last meeting. Recommendation is made to declare the equipment as surplus property no longer needed for municipal purposes and we will place it on GovDeals for sale. CP Brooks made a motion to declare the 2001 International /2000 Peterson Loader as surplus equipment no longer needed for municipal services and to place it on GovDeals for sale. CP Register made the second with all voting -Aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

CM Hicks presented Resolution 04-03-18 for consideration which provides for the authorization to approve a line of credit with Ameris Bank in the amount of \$350,000.00. It is the City’s intent to finance certain vehicle and equipment purchases to include a backhoe approved in a previous meeting in the amount of \$64,288.29 and additional equipment needs:

20 yd rear packer garbage truck	\$155,000
Police Equipment	50,000
Used 10 yd dump truck	40,000
55 HP Tractor with Front end	
Loader & finish mower	<u>38,100</u>
 Total	 \$283,100

The resolution further authorizes the Mayor Pro Tem to execute the documents. CP Blanks made a motion to amend the adopt Resolution 03-06-16 with CP Moye seconding with all voting-Aye. Motion carried

Next, CM Hicks presented a request from the Fire Department to purchase a 2018 John Deere Zero Turn mower in the amount of \$3,300 from Sun South to maintain the grounds at the new fire station. The City received quotes from other local dealers for \$3,900 and \$4,200. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to approve the request with CP Moye seconding with all voting-Aye. Motion carried

Next, CM Hicks presented quotes from the Georgia Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (GIRMA), J Smith Lanier, and Whittaker Insurance Agency. J Smith Lanier submitted a quote from the Argonaut Insurance Company that was \$3,378.00 less than the GIRMA quote. Recommendation is made to continue coverage with GIRMA based upon our time in the program, equity position, and overall policy coverages. The city was an original member of the GMA program (GIRMA) and the City has established equity in GIRMA in the amount of \$1,905, 279 which gives the City some protection in future assessments and premium adjustments. Last year’s premium was \$88,580. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to renew the City’s coverage with GIRMA with CP Smith seconding with all voting-Aye. Motion carried

	GIRMA	JSL	Whittaker
General Liability	\$11,019	16,107	10,048.00

Law Enforcement Liability – Before Credit	\$11,758		-
Law Enforcement Initiative Credit Amount	\$0		-
Law Enforcement Liability – After Credit	\$11,758		14,995.00
Public Officials Liability	\$15,296		10,680.00
Automobile Liability	\$17,014	24,711	26,503.00
Automobile Physical Damage	\$5,864		9,314.00
Property – Buildings & Contents	\$24,453	23,952	15,396.00
Mobile Equipment	\$1,837		2,986.00
Police Animal Mortality	\$0		-
Crime / Fidelity	\$1,024	1,978	2,004.00
Boiler & Machinery	\$2,782	1,171	-
Sub Total	\$91,047	67,919	91,926
Less Renewal Credit	<u>19,750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	\$71,297	\$ 67,919	\$ 91,926

Next, CM Hicks presented a request to authorize the creation of the position of Communications Director to provide for the implementation of the EDonalsonville Project and to oversee the various communication and technology operations of the City. This position will report to the City Manager. The salary will be determined by qualifications and experience. (\$40,000-\$52,000). CP Blanks made a motion to approve the request with CP Moye seconding with all voting-Aye. Motion carried

Next, City Attorney Billy Grantham informed the Council that the City received a proposed agreement from the law firms of Friedman Dazzio and Stone Law Group for services related to pursuit of damages incurred by the City as the result of the opioid crisis. He made a recommendation to refrain from taking any action at this time since he is negotiating with the County for a division of net recovery. He will be meeting with County officials and other legal entities. After a discussion, the Mayor asked the Council if there was any objection to the Attorney continue with work on the issue.

Next, Fire Chief King informed the Council that the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Board of Directors has awarded the Donalsonville Fire Rescue the requested Turnout Gear Extractor valued at up to \$3,715.00.

Next, Police Chief Blue reminded the Council that Fund Day activities will be the week of May 14-19, 2018 with the main event to be held on May 19th at the old fairground location at the corner of Crawford & Wiley because the Lions Hall has a wedding booked that weekend.

Next, CM Hicks reported on the following items:

The budget approval schedule is revised as follows

March 26, 2018	Budget Requests Due
April 2-6, 2018	Departmental Budget Review/City Manager
April 16, 2018	Budget Review/City Council 4:00 p.m. at City Hall
April 19, 2018	Public Notice of Proposed Budget and Call for Public Hearing
April 23, 2018	Public Hearing on FY 18-19 Budget 4:00 p.m. at City Hall
May 1, 2018	Final Budget Approval

Informed the Council that a representative from CSX has responded and informed him they are working on our request for the work on the railroad crossings.

Discussed the City's no smoking policy does not specifically address electronic cigarettes. Informed the Council that the response has been that the intent of the policy applies to all smoking. We will continue to work on that basis.

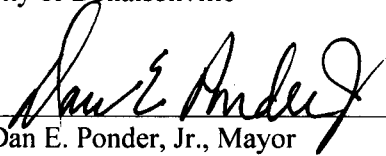
Informed the council that an inquiry has been made from Larry Bush to determine if the Council is interesting in selling the Property we recently purchased from the Drakes at the corner of Crawford & Wiley. He is interested in building a bowling alley. After a discussion, it was determined that the City Manager will contact Mr. Bush and let him know there is interest in his request and ask to come to the meeting in May to discuss specific plans for the property. During the discussion, David Maxwell reminded the Council that he had received 42 responses regarding the City's use of the property for public park facilities. This will be considered in the discussions.

Finally, he reminded the Council of the following events:

Council Meeting-April 3, 2018 6:00 p.m.
GMA District 10 Meeting-April 5, 2018 Bainbridge City Hall 6:00 p.m.
Rural Development Zone Training-April 10, 2018 Tifton, GA
Budget Meeting-Council-April 16, 2018 4:00 p.m. City Hall
Zoning Committee Meeting-April 17, 2018 4:00 p.m. City Hall
Public Hearing-FY 18-19 Budget April 23, 2018 4:30 p.m. City Hall
Georgia Resource Team/Tourism-April 24-26 TBA
City Manager-May 7-11, 2018 (Personal/vacation)
GMA Annual Convention-June 22-26, 2018 Savannah, GA

With there being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, at 7:20 PM, CP Blanks made a motion to adjourn with Mayor Pro-Tem Bond making the second, and the motion carried.

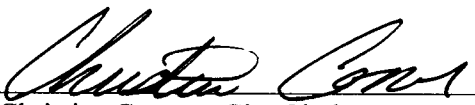
City of Donalsonville



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 April 3, 2018
meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Donalsonville.



Christina Corvers, City Clerk