

City of Donalsonville
Council Meeting-January 7, 2019

Official Minutes

Mayor Dan E. Ponder, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. After which Councilmember Lindsay 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 Travis Brooks, CP Lindsay Register and CP Flossie Smith. CP Mitzy Moye arrived at 5:03 PM. Staff present were City Manager Steve Hicks, City Clerk Christina Corvers, Public Works Superintendent Don Gambrell, Fire Chief Dean King, Police Chief Woodrow Blue, Communications Director Jeffrey Hatcher, and City Attorney Billy Grantham. Guests present were Winston Ferris, Lena White, Brinson Register, and Shelia Williams.

Approval of the Agenda: CP Brooks made a motion to approve the agenda, with CP Smith seconding; motion passed. Next, the approval of the minutes from the Council Meeting held on December 4, 2018. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to approve the minutes from the December Council Meeting, with CP Smith seconding. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES: Winston Ferris then requested permission to install a septic tank located on Earl Street across from his house. He stated that it is the end lot, where he eventually plans on placing a Mobile Home. City Manager Hicks stated that per City Ordinance, citizens of the City of Donalsonville are required to have City Sewer if they have access to the sewer lines. Also, the Health Department would have to approve the install of a septic tank and without the City's approval, the Health Department would not approve. After some discussion, CP Blanks made a motion to table the request until Public Works Superintendent Gambrell had the opportunity to inspect the property and see whether sewer access would be available. CP Smith seconded; motion carried.

Next, Lena White requested permission to place a New Mobile Home at 505 Baldwin Street to replace her house that was damaged by Hurricane Michael. CP Brooks made a motion to approve issuing a permit to Lena White to place a New Mobile Home at 505 Baldwin Street, with CP Blanks seconding. Motion passed.

Superintendent Brinson Register then proposed the utilization of two additional Security Officers in the School System. He requested that the City and County each provide one additional Officer for which the School System will fund. The City will get the benefit of an additional officer when school is not in session. The School Systems pays the City \$25,000.00 for the current Resource Officer and is willing to pay an additional \$25,000.00 for an additional Resource Officer, along with any necessary training/equipment that will be needed. After some discussion, the Council all agreed to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to move forward with providing an additional Officer for the Elementary School.

INTERNAL BUSINESS: Next, the Financial Statements for November 2018 were presented and reviewed with comments made by City Manager Hicks on the current status, along with discussion on the three-month analysis.

OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS: City Manager Hicks gave an update on Hurricane Michael Activities which included the following:

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be wrapping up their second pass in the next week or so. As we talked about in the meeting in Camilla last month, the Corps second pass is the final pass. Of note, Construction and Demolition (C&D) debris and leaners and hangers will be handled outside of the second pass. If that mission extends past January 11th, the Corps Contractors will continue to pick up that debris.
- It is possible a limited quantity of eligible debris may remain after the completion of the second pass. Any eligible debris removal occurring after the Corps contract completion

can be reimbursed through the traditional FEMA Public Assistance program. That work can be accomplished through city or county force account equipment and labor or the city or county may enter into a contract to accomplish this remaining work. A Project Worksheet (PW) can be written for that effort. As previously communicated, Georgia is committed to covering the entire non-federal cost share of eligible debris removal efforts.

- If contracting is considered, please be careful to abide by all the contracting requirements of the State and Federal Government to ensure those costs can be covered. If you need assistance in understanding the contracting requirements, FEMA can provide technical assistance. If you are unsure, be sure to ask before signing any contracts.
- Hurricane Michael generated huge quantities of debris in Southwest Georgia. Local governments, the State and our Federal partners have worked incredibly hard to quickly and effectively address the threat posed by this debris to the health and safety of our citizens and the traveling public. Utilizing federal assistance to remove almost 4 million cubic yards of debris in a matter of months has set Southwest Georgia on a positive path to recovery from this terrible storm.
- NRCS funding is now in suspense pending further authorization during the shutdown.

City Manager Hicks then recommended to adopt Resolution 01-07-19, providing for pay adjustments for City Officers and Department Heads. The proposed pay adjustments include a merit pay increase based upon evaluations conducted by the City Manager, as well as a one-time pay adjustment for hours worked during the Hurricane Michael events. CP Blanks made a motion to adopt Resolution 01-07-19, providing for pay adjustments for City Officers and Department Heads. CP Brooks seconded; motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS: City Manager Hicks recommended to reappoint Mitchell Blanks and Tracie Beard to serve on the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission Council. This appointment is annual and both appointees have agreed to serve the upcoming term. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to re-appoint Mitchell Blanks and Tracie Beard to the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission Council, with CP Smith seconding. Motion carried.

Next, City Manager Hicks made a recommendation to reappoint Councilmembers Lindsey Register and Travis Brooks to the Golden Triangle RC&D Council. CP Smith made a motion to approve the reappointment of Councilmembers Lindsey Register and Travis Brooks to the Golden Triangle RC&D Council, with CP Blanks seconding. Motion passed unanimously.

City Manager Hicks then recommended to adopt Resolution 01-07-19-A providing for the recognition of April 21-27, 2019 as Georgia Cities Week. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to approve Resolution 01-07-19-A providing for the recognition of April 21-27, 2019 as Georgia Cities Week, with CP Moye seconding. Motion carried.

Communications Director Hatcher then gave an update on eDonalsonville activities, along with the systems continued growth. Communications Director Hatcher stated that he is currently working on marketing ideas to make sure the public is aware the service is available to them at a reasonable cost. Communications Director Hatcher also stated that due to productivity, he has been waiting on another order of the indoor units to arrive. Lastly, Communications Director Hatcher informed the Council that eDonalsonville had been experiencing some technical errors which could possibly be due to an outside force. Communications Director Hatcher and City Manager Hick are currently in the process of renting/purchasing equipment to track the interference.

Next, Fire Chief King gave a brief update on last year's reports, stating that the Donalsonville Fire Department responded to 655 Calls, 312 being Emergency calls during 2018. Fire Chief King stated that this number is down from the previous year, noting that their Fire Prevention Program is paying off. Fire Chief King also stated that he would have a full break down of last year's development at next month's Council Meeting. Lastly, Fire Chief King stated that the Fire Department had already been contacted about burning structures damaged by Hurricane Michael that are not repairable. He stated that they are working with the property owners and will get them on the schedule to burn.

Police Chief Blue then gave a brief update on the first training class held, which examined twelve Critical Tasks. Police Chief Blue stated that he hopes to hold a training class every quarter. Lastly, Police Chief Blue stated that this year's Police Memorial Week will be May 13-18, 2019.

Next, Public Works Superintendent Gambrell gave an update on the Waterline Project, stating that he had met with the Contractor and they are scheduled to get back on track working on the completion of the Waterline Replacement Project. Public Works Superintendent Gambrell also informed the Council that the Garbage Truck they had previously approved for purchase in last month's meeting sold, but another garbage Truck is in the process of being built and should be ready sometime in April if not sooner.

Next, City Manager Hicks gave an update on the following:

- (1) Town of Eclectic- It has been suggested that a delegation attend a Council meeting in the Town of Eclectic to express our appreciation for their contribution to the citizens of Donalsonville. The Council meets on the third Monday of each month. This month it will be January 22, 2019 due to the holiday. The mailing address is 145 Main Street Eclectic, AL 36024 for any correspondence. After some discussion, City Manager Hicks stated that the meeting for February would probably be the best time to attend a Council Meeting for the Town of Eclectic; therefore, he would confirm the date and time for February's Meeting and would get back with the Mayor and Council.
- (2) Request from Seminole County- Have been approached from Seminole County Officials to possibly enter into discussions regarding joint Garbage Collection Services and Building and Code Enforcement Inspections. We have previously discussed consolidating Dispatch/Communication Services and working on a joint project to fund a drainage system study for the City and County. As the storm issues have delayed our meeting opportunities, they have further shown a need to address and improve these services. After some discussion, the Council all agreed for City Manager Hicks to explore details regarding these services.

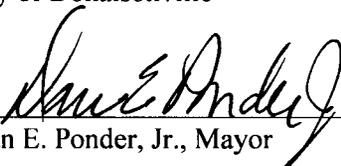
Finally, City Manager Hicks reminded the Council of the following upcoming events:

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday-January 21, 2019
Mayor's Day-January 25-28, 2019 Atlanta, GA
City Manager Jury Duty-February 4, 2019 (got excused earlier after the storm)
Presidents Day Holiday-February 18, 2019
Personal Days-City Manager February 15-18, 2019

With there being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, at 6:41 PM, CP Blanks made a motion to adjourn with CP Smith making a second; and the motion carried.

ADJOURNED

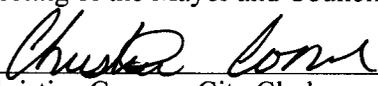
City of Donalsonville



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 January 7, 2019
meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Donalsonville.



Christina Corvers, City Clerk