

City of Donalsonville
Council Meeting-March 3, 2020

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 Mayor Dan E. Ponder, Jr. 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 Mitzy Moye, and CP Lindsay Register. CP Flossie Smith was absent. Staff present were City Manager Steve Hicks, City Clerk Christina Corvers, Public Works Superintendent Bert Adams, Fire Chief Dean King, Police Chief Woodrow Blue, Communications Director Jeffrey Hatcher, and City Attorney Billy Grantham.

Approval of the Agenda: Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to approve the Agenda, with CP Moye seconding. Motion passed. Next, the approval of the minutes from the Council Meeting held on February 4, 2020. CP Blanks made a motion to approve the minutes from the February Council Meeting, with Mayor Pro Tem Bond seconding. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES: David Maxwell gave an update on the Downtown Development Authority/BetterWay Initiative's upcoming "Art on Fire" Gala fund raising event to be held on May 2, 2020. The event will be held to raise funds to transform the downtown Donalsonville Historic Fire Station into a cultural center, art gallery, museum and event venue.

Next, Sarah Avery gave an update on the Chamber of Commerce, stating that the Highschool Bass Tournament was a successful event, with around 182 entered boats. Sarah Avery gave an update on the upcoming Annual Chamber of Commerce Rodeo to be held on March 20-21, 2020 at the Chris Thomas Arena. Sarah Avery stated that tickets were now on sale and could be purchased at an advanced cost of \$10.00, or \$15.00 at the gate. Sarah Avery also encourage advertisement and sponsorships to help support this year's upcoming event. Lastly, Sarah Avery stated that Bobby Black of the Las Vegas Tenors has reached out to the City/County on hosting a concert the end of March to promote First Responders, Farmers, and Veterans. The event would be free to the public and would be held at the end of Second Street at the Seminole County Courthouse. Sarah Avery stated that the cost associated with hosting the event would cost a discounted rate of \$5,000.00. The Chamber of Commerce plans to raise enough funds to pay for the concert but in the event the total amount is not raised, the Chamber of Commerce request assistance from the City/County. The Chamber of Commerce will also need assistance from the Donalsonville Police Department with security and road closures. CP Moye made a motion to move forward with the Bobby Black event, with CP Register seconding. Motion passed.

Dainyell Long then requested permission to place a used Double-Wide Mobile Home at 1504 Rucus Ridge Road. City Manager Hicks stated that the request has been reviewed by Code Enforcement and is recommended for approval. CP Moye made a motion to approve the request to place the used Double-Wide Mobile Home at 1504 Rucus Ridge Road subject to accordance of City Code. CP Register seconded; motion passed.

INTERNAL BUSINESS: The Financial Statements for January 2020 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 recommended to approve Ordinance 02-04-20 providing for the rezone of property owned by Benjamin C. Spooner and Wade G. Spooner located at 600 South Friendship Avenue containing approximately 12 acres from RB (General Residential) to M (Industrial). CP Brooks made a motion to adopt Ordinance 02-04-20 providing for the rezone of property owned by Benjamin C. Spooner and Wade G. Spooner located at 600 South Friendship Avenue containing approximately 12 acres from RB (General Residential) to M (Industrial). Mayor Pro Tem Bond seconded; motion passed.

Next, City Manager Hicks recommended to authorize the process to secure quotes and potential grant options to replace the City's security camera system. The current system is outdated, and the City of

Donalsonville no longer has access to the past provider. This will also be incorporated into the eDonalsonville system. CP Register made a motion to authorize the process to secure quotes and potential grant options to replace the City's security camera system. CP Moye seconded; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS: City Manager Hicks recommended to enter into an agreement with Donald Martin to provide cardboard recycling pickup and disposal services at the rate of \$45.00 per load. The City of Donalsonville has determined that the costs for the City to handle the cardboard and dispose of it at the County landfill averages about \$60.00 per load for landfill fees and the operating cost of the truck is \$53.22 per hour (FEMA rate). Compliance with City Codes and regulations will be required. CP Register made a motion to enter into an agreement with Donald Martin to provide cardboard recycling pickup and disposal services at the rate of \$45.00 per load. CP Blanks seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Next, City Manager Hicks recommended to authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and City Attorney to enter into an agreement with Mark Hanna, et al, for a lease of tower space primarily related to the Georgia Pacific Project. There will be no fees for the first year. The contract will be negotiated the second year forward. Internet services will be made available to the owner for the use of the tower and the City will maintain the area and equipment at the tower. Utilization of this tower will be crucial as other opportunities develop to expand services to the community. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and City Attorney to enter into an agreement with Mark Hanna, et al, for a lease of tower space primarily related to the Georgia Pacific Project. CP Register seconded; motion carried.

City Manager Hicks then recommended to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney, and City Manager to develop and enter into an agreement with π2pifi to provide Wireless Broadband Services to the Georgia Pacific location. Basic terms provide for a three-year contract at a rate of \$1,500.00 per month. eDonalsonville will purchase, maintain, and manage the equipment and system. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney, and City Manager to develop and enter into an agreement with π2pifi to provide Wireless Broadband Services to the Georgia Pacific location. CP Register seconded; motion carried.

Next, City Manager Hicks stated that a requested had been made to authorize the City Manager to submit a resolution, signed by the Mayor, to request turn lanes at the intersection of Hwy 84 and Hwy 91 (Tennille Ave) and a traffic control signal at the intersection of Hwy 84 and N. Dowling Avenue. After some discussion, CP Register made a motion made to authorize the City Manager to submit a resolution, signed by the Mayor, to request turn lanes at the intersection of Hwy 84 and Hwy 91 (Tennille Ave) and a traffic control signal at the intersection of Hwy 84 and N. Dowling Avenue. CP Blanks seconded; motion passed.

Communications Director Hatcher then gave an update on edonalsonville activities, along with the systems continued growth. Communications Director Hatcher stated that edonalsonville was proceeding with the three-year contract with Georgia Pacific for providing service. The design model has been approved, and once all necessary documentation has been finalized, equipment will be ordered, and the installation process will begin. Communications Director Hatcher also stated that the US Senate just recently approved a reimbursement program to eliminate all Huawei equipment within the country. This will mean that the City of Donalsonville might be eligible for grants to fund the complete replacement of the current system. A meeting is scheduled with the RDC to discuss grant writing opportunities that will hopefully help assist edonalsonville in applying for a Federal grant. Lastly, Communication Director Hatcher and City Manager Hicks stated that the FCC approved the auction procedure for the 3.5 GHz band at the FCC Open Meeting on Friday February 28, 2020. As a result, the timeline to file the FCC Form 175 to participate in the auctions is March 26 – April 9, 2020. It is apparent the license for the 2.5 band is no longer attainable. City Manager Hicks stated that he requests authorization from the Council to proceed with the application process and to work with Attorney O'Connor to participate in the auction and/or secure any unlicensed spectrum that may be available after the auction. A conference call will be held Wednesday at 10:00 am to discuss. CP Register made a motion to authorize City Manager Hicks to proceed with the application process and to work with Attorney O'Connor to participate in the auction and/or secure any unlicensed spectrum that may be available after the auction. CP Blanks seconded; motion carried.

At 6:42 PM, CP Registered briefly excused himself from the meeting.

Next, Fire Chief King gave an update on the Fire Department and stated that the Department of Transportation (DOT) began the driveway re-widening project on Monday. Fire Chief King stated that the Old School Board Building was successfully demolished on February 15, 2020. Fire Chief King also stated that the Fire Department had started the beginning stages of the demolishing process on two more blighted properties, one located on Spring Street and the other on Plain Street. Lastly, Fire Chief King stated that the Fire Department recently applied for the Golden Triangle Grant and should know who the recipient of the grant will be by April 15, 2020.

At 6:49 PM, CP Registered rejoined the meeting.

Police Chief Blue then gave a brief update on the Police Department and stated that they were in the process of planning this years Police Memorial Fun Day to be held on May 16, 2020 at the City Park. Lastly, Police Chief Blue stated that the department was in the process of preparing the necessary documents in order to reapply for the GIRMA Grant.

Public Works Superintendent Adams stated there was nothing new to report at this time.

City Manager Hicks then gave an update on the following:

- (1) Cloverleaf Development Project: Initiated discussion with Scott Mitchell for a potential project with significant investment and some new job creation. Will be working with Scott, our Engineer, CSX and economic development contacts. The project will require addressing traffic issues (road closure) in the Morris and Broome Avenue area.
- (2) Environmental Assessment-Farmers Market: The Phase 1 Environmental Assessment at the Farmers Market will begin this week by Poly-Engineering, Inc.
- (3) Railroad Crossing Maintenance: CSX Railroad has scheduled the attached list of crossings to be closed for repair. This will necessitate rerouting traffic. Signage will be in place marking detour routes. Please note the expected close dates. Each crossing will be closed for 2 to 5 days.
 - Spooner Road (Between US-84/Dunham St and Ash Crossing Rd)
Closing on/around 3/12/20
 - N. Friendship Ave (Between E. 3rd St and Charles St)
Closing on/around 3/16/20
 - S. Stern Ave (Between E. 3rd St and Railroad St)
Closing on/around 3/16/20
 - N. Dowling Ave (Between E. 2nd St and Railroad St)
Closing on/around 3/16/20
 - N. Henderson Ave (Between E. 2nd St and Railroad St)
Closing on/around 3/16/20
 - S. Tennille Ave (Between E. 1st St and MLK Jr. Dr)
Closing on/around 3/16/20
 - S. Wiley Ave (Between W. 1st St and W. Crawford St)
Closing on/around 3/17/20
 - N. Morris Ave (Between W. 1st St and W. Crawford St)
Closing on/around 3/17/20
 - Broome Ave (Between US-84/Dunham St and W. Crawford St)
Closing on/around 3/17/20
 - Old Jakin Road (Near Williams Lane)
Closing on/around 3/17/20
 - Fertilizer Road (Between US-84 and Old Jakin Rd)
Closing on/around 3/17/20
 - Booge Roberts Road (Off of US-84)
Closing on/around 3/18/20
 - Pool Road (Between US-84 and Old Jakin Rd)
Closing on/around 3/18/20
 - Fox Lane (Between US-84 and Old Jakin Rd)
Closing on/around 3/19/20

- (4) Engineering Services-Water, Sewer, & Wastewater Operations: Met with representative from Poly-Engineering, Inc. to discuss an agreement for consultation services related to or Water, Sewer, and Wastewater Treatment Operations. Fees would only apply if utilized and approved by a task order system subject to Council approval. This arrangement will be necessary to have required professional assistance to review and maintain compliance with EPD and other Federal and State agencies.
- (5) Cooling Program: The Southwest Georgia Community Action Program will start up its cooling program assistance the first week of April. They will be utilizing the office at City Hall for Donalsonville and Seminole County citizens.
- (6) FY 2020 LMIG Application: The FY 2020 LMIG application has been approved. \$48,889.89 is allocated to resurface and restripe portions of two roadways within the City; Bourbon Street and East 4th Street.

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

- eDonalsonville Licensing Conference Call-Mary O'Connor March 4, 2020 10:00 AM
- SWGRC Meeting-Economic Development/Broadband Funding March 5, 2020 Camilla, GA
- Rural Zone Application Workshop-March 18, 2020 Macon, GA
- City Council Meeting-April 7, 2020 6:00 PM
- GMA Annual Convention-June 26-30 Savannah, GA

At 7:09 PM, Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to go into executive session to discuss property acquisition, as well as legal counseling regarding threatened litigation. CP Brooks seconded; motion carried.

At 7:35 PM, Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to come out of executive session, with CP Moye seconding. Motion carried.

City Manager Hicks then recommended to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney, and City Manager to negotiate and acquire the necessary easements and agreements to construct a gas pipeline to APGG. The easements will be procured from (1) Ina Fowler, Joan F. Smith and Jan F. Simmons remainder-owner (2) the Broome Family Trust, and (3) Terril Scott Properties. City Manager Hicks further recommended to authorize an agreement with the American Peanut Growers Group (APGG) and Terril Scott Properties to supply a minimum of 100 mcf/per day. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney, and City Manager to negotiate and acquire the necessary easements and agreements to construct a gas pipeline to APGG, as well as to authorize an agreement with the American Peanut Growers Group (APGG) and Terril Scott Properties to supply a minimum of 100 mcf/per day . CP Moye seconded; motion passed unanimously.

With there being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, at 7:44 PM, Mayor Pro Tem Bond a motion to adjourn, with CP Brooks making a second; and the motion carried.

ADJOURNED

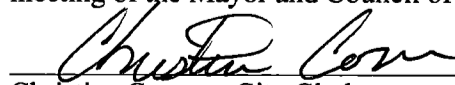
City of Donalsonville



Edward Bond, 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 March 3, 2020
meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Donalsonville.


Christina Corvers, City Clerk