

City of Donalsonville
Council Meeting-September 1, 2020

Official Minutes

Mayor Ron Johnson, Jr. called the Council Meeting to order at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. After which Councilmember Mitch Blanks gave the invocation, then all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America. Councilmembers present for the meeting included, Mayor Ron Johnson, Jr., Mayor Pro Tem Ed Bond, CP Mitch Blanks, CP Flossie Smith, CP Travis Brooks, CP Moses James, Jr., and CP Lindsay Register. Staff present were City Manager Steve Hicks, City Clerk Christina Corvers, Fire Chief Dean King, Police Chief Woodrow Blue, Communications Director Jeffrey Hatcher, Public Works Superintendent Bert Adams, and City Attorney Billy Grantham.

Approval of the Agenda: CP Brooks made a motion to approve the Agenda, with CP James seconding. Motion passed. Next, the approval of the minutes from the August 17, 2020 Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 17, 2020 Council Meeting with CP Blanks seconding. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES: Sarah Avery spoke on behalf of the Downtown Development Authority and gave an update on the grant that the DDA was recently awarded. The DDA has used the funds from the grant to purchase a vacant building downtown and they are currently in the process of remodeling the building for future commercial business use. Sarah Avery also stated that the DDA/Chamber of Commerce are in the process of applying for a grant that would replace trees that were damaged/destroyed during Hurricane Michael. The maximum grant amount is \$10,000.00 with a 25% match.

INTERNAL BUSINESS

INTERNAL BUSINESS: The Financial Statements for July 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 adopt Resolution 08-17-20-A providing for an agreement with Seminole County and Iron City for the disbursement of proposed SPLOST VI funding subject to a referendum on November 3, 2020. The current SPLOST V funding ends March 31, 2021. The estimated proceeds to the City, based on SPLOST V collections, would be about \$1.8 million. The division of proceeds was based on the 2010 Census and are as follows:

Donalsonville, 30.36%; Iron City, 3.55%; and Seminole County, 66.09%.

The following is a proposed list of City funding uses. This list is for the purposes of informing the public of funding needs and may be subject to revision based on actual funding availability and related changes in operational needs:

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Estimated Cost</u> |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Remove Blighted Property | \$ 50,000.00 |
| Purchase Farmers Market | 198,000.00 |
| City Admin/Police Facilities/Other | 352,000.00 |
| Communication Upgrades-City | 50,000.00 |
| 6-Vehicles-Police | 285,000.00 |
| Radios-Police | 60,000.00 |
| Tag Reader-Police | 35,000.00 |
| 2-Vehicles-Fire | 80,000.00 |
| Pumper-Fire | 350,000.00 |
| Generator-Fire Station | 70,000.00 |
| Crew Cab Truck-Gas | 40,000.00 |
| PU Truck-Street | 30,000.00 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Tractor/Loader/Mower-Sewer | 50,000.00 |
| Sewer Jet/Vac Truck | 140,000.00 |
| 2-Zero Turn Mowers-Street | 16,000.00 |
| Street Sweeper-Street | 120,000.00 |
| Mini Excavator/Trailer-Various | 50,000.00 |
| Garbage Truck | 160,000.00 |
| Economic Development | 25,000.00 |

\$ 2,161,000.00

CP Blanks made a motion to adopt Resolution 08-17-20-A providing for an agreement with Seminole County and Iron City for the disbursement of proposed SPLOST VI funding subject to a referendum on November 3, 2020. Mayor Pro Tem Bond seconded; motion passed.

At 6:18 PM, Mayor Pro Tem bond excused himself due to a conflict of interest regarding the next agenda item.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS: As per the request from the Downtown Development Authority, City Manager Hicks recommended to reappoint Marsha Bond to the Downtown Development Authority for the current term to expire 12/31/23. CP Register made a motion to reappoint Marsha Bond to the Downtown Development Authority for the current term to expire 12/31/23. CP Brooks seconded; motion carried. The following is the updated terms for the Downtown Development Authority:

Beverly Burke...Current Term: 1/1/18-12/31/21. *Term to expire 12/31/21*
 Kathleen Barineau...Current Term: 1/1/18-12/31/21. *Term to expire 12/31/21.*
 Billie McLendon...Current Term: 1/1/19-12/31/22. *Term to expire 12/31/22.*
 Tori Gravlee... Current Term: 1/1/19-12/31/22. *Term to expire 12/31/22.*
 Shandora Hopkins...Current Term: 1/1/20-12/31/23. *Term to expire 12/31/23.*
 Marsha Bond...Current Term: 1/1/20-12/31/23 *Term to expire 12/31/23.*
 Sarah Avery... Current Term: 1/1/18-12/31/21. *Term to expire 12/31/21.*

At 6:19 PM, Mayor Pro Tem Bond rejoined the meeting.

Next, City Manager Hicks recommended to adopt Resolution 09-01-20 to partner with the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (SWGRC) for the Environmental Protection Agency Brownfield Coalition Assessment to secure a grant to inventory, identify sites, assess, and plan (include cleanup plan) and other Brownfield activities. A city match is not required. A brownfield is any previously developed land that is not in use whether contaminated or not. It also describes any industrial or commercial land with known or suspected pollution including soil contamination due to hazardous waste. A community meeting will be held on September 11, 2020 from 3:00-4:00 PM at Donalsonville City Hall to discuss Brownfield issues and funding opportunities. CP Brooks made a motion to adopt Resolution 09-01-20 to partner with the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (SWGRC) for the Environmental Protection Agency Brownfield Coalition Assessment to secure a grant to inventory, identify sites, assess, and plan (include cleanup plan) and other Brownfield activities. CP James seconded; motion passed.

Mayor Johnson then opened a discussion on the COVID-19 pandemic regarding practicing social distancing and wearing masks. City Attorney Grantham stated that per Governor Kemp's executive orders the City cannot mandate citizens to wear mask; however, the City can encourage citizens to wear a mask while on City property. After some discussion, CP Register made a motion to have City Manager Hicks and City Attorney Grantham look into other cities in comparable size to Donalsonville, that have passed ordinances regarding mask wearing and practicing social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. CP Blanks seconded; motion carried.

Next, Mayor Johnson stated that he had been approached regarding video broadcasting the City's Council Meetings. After some discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to not video broadcast the City Council Meetings as all City Council Meetings are open to the public and the

minutes are available via the Donalsonville newspaper and the City of Donalsonville's website. CP Blanks seconded; motion passed.

Communications Director Hatcher then gave an update on the eDonalsonville activities, along with the systems continued growth. Communications Director Hatcher stated that the auction for new spectrum was recently completed and the City of Donalsonville was the highest bidder for 2 licenses in the band. This will allow priority access to those two bands as well as shared access to an additional 8 bands. Once paperwork with the FCC is finalized, planning for expansion and upgrade for City customers will begin. Director Hatcher stated that the security camera system for Donalsonville had been installed and plans to conduct online training with the Police Department is being scheduled. Lastly, Communications Director Hatcher stated that there was a lightning strike at the 7th Street Well which required radio replacement and repair to several parts of the system. Repairs have been complete and the system is functioning normally.

At 6:58 PM, CP Smith left the meeting.

Next, Fire Chief King gave an update on the Fire Department, with review of the run summary from the month of July. Chief King stated that he was recently notified that the Fire Departments automatic Defibrillators will expire at the end of this year and they will no longer be able to replace/purchase parts. Chief King stated that the department was currently working on applying for a grant that would cover the costs associated with the purchase of four new Automatic Defibrillators. Lastly, Chief King gave an update this year's National Fire Prevention week stating that the department is in the process of promoting fire prevention through the department's website and Facebook, along with support from the local businesses and the School. After some discussion, CP Blanks requested City Manager Hicks to look into the purchase of automatic Defibrillators and have them placed in all City Buildings.

Police Chief Blue then gave an update on the Police Department and stated that the department was back running at full capacity. Chief Blue stated that the department was currently working on applying for another Public Safety Grant through GIRMA. Lastly, Chief Blue stated that the Donalsonville Police Department was currently in the process of renewing their radar license.

Next, Public Works Superintendent Adams stated that he had nothing new to report at this time.

City Manager Hicks then gave an update on the following:

- (1) Municipal Gas Authority Project Financing: The Municipal Gas Authority approved \$250,000 in lease financing for the APG/Scott Farms Project. The terms are 60 months at 3.50 % with a payment of \$4,547.94 per month. The projected net margin is approximately \$6,000.00 per month. The APG/Scott Farms Project will be completed next week with services being operational within the next two weeks. We will then start Phase 2 of the Scott Farms project on Hwy 84.
- (2) Update on GDOT Requests: Was informed by Justin Willingham at GDOT that now school has started back, the State will conduct traffic counts to further evaluate the City's requests for turn signals at the intersection of Hwy 84 and Hwy 91 and a traffic light at the intersection of Hwy 84 and N. Dowling.
- (3) On-Site Flu Clinic- The City received a request from a representative of CVS to conduct an on-site flu vaccine clinic. We checked with Donalsonville pharmacies and confirmed Walgreens, AllCare and Seminole Hartzog Pharmacy will conduct on-site clinics as well. As this will be a very timely service to offer to the employees, request is made to authorize us to move forward with setting up a clinic in October. The Council were all in agreeance in requesting proposals from local pharmacies.

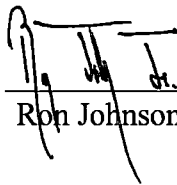
Lastly, City Manager Hicks reminded the Council of the following upcoming event:

- Labor Day Holiday-September 7, 2020 (City Offices Closed)
- Brownfield Community Meeting-September 11, 2020 3:00 PM-4:00 PM (City Hall)
- City Council Meeting-October 6, 2020 6:00 PM

With there being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, at 7:18 PM, Mayor Pro Tem Bond a motion to adjourn, with CP Brooks making a second; and the motion carried.

ADJOURNED

City of Donalsonville



Ron Johnson, 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 September 1, 2020
meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Donalsonville.



Christina Corvers, City Clerk