

City of Donalsonville
Council Meeting-May 15, 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 Mayor Ponder 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 Flossie Smith, and CP Travis Brooks; CP Tony Buczek was absent. Staff present were City Manager Steve Hicks, City Clerk Christina Corvers, Public Works Superintendent Don Gambrell, Fire Chief Dean King, and City Attorney Paul Fryer. Guests present were David Maxwell, Shelia Williams, James Pelham, Kathleen Barineau, Billy Grantham, and Sabrina Hention.

Approval of the agenda: Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to approve the agenda with CP Blanks making a second; motion carried. Approval of the minutes from the Council Meeting held on April 4, 2017; Mayor Pro Tem Bond moved to approve with CP Brooks seconding, motion passed unanimously.

APPEARANCES: David Maxwell spoke on behalf on the Chamber of Commerce and thanked the City for their efforts in helping make this years Rodeo the best one that Donalsonville/Seminole County has experienced.

Next, Sabrina Hention requested permission to place a Double-Wide Mobile Home at 1507 Rucus Ridge Road. City Manager Hicks stated that the zoning ordinance does allow placement of a Mobile Home in this area with the Council's consent. After a brief discussion in regards to the skirting requirements, CP Blanks made a motion to approve the request to place the Double-Wide Mobile Home at the above stated address subject to the skirting being compliant with the City of Donalsonville's Ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a second; motion passed unanimously.

INTERNAL BUSINESS: The Financial Statements for March 2017 were presented and reviewed with comments made by City Manager Hicks on the current status, along with some discussion on the current status of the City of Donalsonville's Certificate of Deposits.

OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS: An update on the SoZo Wireless project was given by Mayor Ponder, where he indicated that the City is still awaiting the final bill of sale, along with the reconciliation of the proper equipment that belongs to the City. Some discussion was made in regards to meeting with Point Broad Band Company as an alternate option that may be considered in the future.

The next item on the Agenda was action on the permit request by Mobilitie for a Cell Tower. City Manager Hicks stated that he is still working with GMA and Mobilitie to work an agreement to provide mutual benefit to the City of Donalsonville and Mobilitie; therefore, he would like to table this item until the next meeting.

Next, City Manager Hicks recommended approving the abandonment of the alley located North a distance of approximately 213 feet from Chason Street parallel with North Tennille Avenue subject to a 12-foot utility easement to be retained by the City of Donalsonville. CP Blanks recused himself due to a conflict of interest. City Manager Hicks stated that the City had not acquired any advertising costs due to receiving signatures from all the adjacent property owners. Property Owners are as followed: Karina Rogers, Bobby Brooks, Jeanette Brooks, Mitch Blanks, and Jamaca Coachman. Also, City Manager Hicks recommended there be no charge to the property owners since the City would be maintaining the easement. Attorney Fryer stated that after reviewing the Notice of Abandonment, some clarification must be stated in regards to the original plat for legal purposes. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to approve the Notice of

Abandonment subject to the legal corrections that must be met concerning the original plat and the retaining of the utility easement. CP Smith seconded; motion carried.

At 6:21 PM, Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a motion to adjourn the meeting so that the Mayor and Council could attend the Police Memorial Service being held by the Police Department, with the intent to reconvene after the service. CP Register seconded; motion passed unanimously.

At 7:59 PM, Mayor Ponder reconvened the Council meeting where the next agenda item was presented. City Manager Hicks recommended approval of Resolution 05-15-17, providing for the purchase of a John Deere 5075M Utility Tractor from SunSouth. The transaction would include the trade-in of a 2017 New Holland Tractor recently purchased, and a 2013 5075E John Deere currently owned by the City. City Manager Hicks stated that the new tractor would be a significant upgrade in the equipment and would be more suitable for City operations. Further authorization is provided to replace this tractor on the financing program with Ameris Bank in lieu of the recently purchased New Holland Tractor. The resulting transaction would result in no other cash outlay by the City and is covered under the State Bid Laws. City Manager Hicks stated that if the Council wished to approve this Resolution, SunSouth would provide the City with a comparable Tractor to use while the new one is being ordered with no cost to the City. The Resolution states the following:

New John Deere Tractor 5075M	\$ 53,999.46 (State Bid Price)
Trade: 2017 New Holland 5075M	\$ (34,962.00)
Trade: 2013 John Deere 5075E	\$ (19,037.46)
Net cost to the City	\$ 0.00

After some discussion, CP Blanks made a motion to approve Resolution 05-15-17 providing for the purchase of the John Deere 5075M Utility Tractor, with CP Brooks seconding. AYES: CP Blanks, CP Brooks, CP Smith, and CP Register. NAYS: Mayor Pro Tem Bond. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

City Manager Hicks stated that GMA had submitted a Ballot for the District 10 Officers for the fiscal year 2017-2018 and is requesting a response from the City. The nominated officials are as follows:

President: Edward Reynolds, Mayor-Bainbridge
First Vice President: Lisa Clarke Hill, Councilmember-Moultrie
Second Vice President: Melvin Powell, Councilmember-Sylvester
Third Vice President: Dan E Ponder, Jr., Mayor-Donalsonville

CP Blanks made a motion to accept the nominations for the District 10 Officers for the upcoming fiscal year. Mayor Pro Tem Bond made a second; motion passed unanimously.

Next, City Manager Hicks recommended to approve the request to install a streetlight at the intersection of East Chason Street and Cloud Street. City Manager Hicks stated that there is currently no streetlight at this intersection, but that there is an existing pole that would put the City's cost at approximately \$11.00 per month. CP Blanks made a motion to approve the streetlight request, with CP Brooks seconding. Motion passed.

City Manager Hicks then requested action to authorize solicitation of bids and/or the purchase of a Boom Mower Tractor that was recently approved in the FY 17-18 Budget. City Manager Hicks stated that the City has two options to consider in purchasing the Boom Mower Tractor. The two options to consider are as follows:

Option #1: The City can opt to purchase the Boom Mower Tractor from a local dealer (SunSouth) at the State bid price. If this option is chosen, Resolution 05-17-17A has been submitted authorizing the purchase and inclusion in the financing program by Ameris Bank.

Quote submitted by SunSouth-	
New John Deere Tractor 6145M	\$159,023.93 State Bid price
Trade: John Deere 6420 Tractor	(\$20,000.00)
Net cost to the City	\$139,023.93

Option #2: The City can authorize the acceptance of sealed bids. Once the sealed bids are received, the Council would be required to award the bid to the lowest and best/responsible bidder. Up to a 5% local preference could be given if the Council chooses by resolution for that option.

After some discussion, CP Blanks made a motion to approve Resolution 05-17-17A authorizing the purchase of the John Deere Tractor 6420 from SunSouth with CP Register seconding. AYES: CP Brooks, CP Blanks, CP Register, CP Smith. NAYS: Mayor Pro Tem Bond. Motion carried.

Next, City Manager Hicks recommended to enter into an agreement with Worksource Southwest Georgia for an Work Experience/Internship Program. City Manager Hicks stated that the first six months of the internship would be completely funded by Worksource Southwest Georgia at \$9.00 per hour, up to thirty-two hours weekly. If the employee is successful, the City can move to the next step of the program where the City pays 25% of the cost for one year. After which, the City would agree to hire the employee on a permanent basis. City Manager Hicks reminded the Council that costs associated with a student worker was included in the recently adopted budget and that the City's costs associated with this internship would be covered throughout the six-month period. If the Council wished to make this internship a permanent position, cost associated with the employee would be address in next years budget. CP Smith made a motion to enter into agreement with Worksource Southwest Georgia, with CP Register seconding. Motion passed unanimously.

Next, Chief King informed the Council of two separate grants that were applied for. If awarded, the City of Donalsonville's Fire Department would be able to purchase Extractors to clean harmful/cancerous bacteria from the turnout gear. Chief King also gave an update on the New Fire Station Complex, noting the construction company's progress. A brief discussion was also made concerning a sprinkler system for the landscaping at the New Fire Station Complex.

City Manager Hicks gave an update on the following items:

- (1) Analysis of Gas System- Liberty Utilities will be conducting an operations assessment of the Gas System. This will allow Liberty Utilities to determine the value of the City's Gas System and then submit an offer to purchase the system. Requested documentation is ready for this analysis. Once the analysis is complete, the City is under no obligation to sell the Gas System.
- (2) Local Preference to Vendors-Attached a draft Resolution for the Council to review and consider. The Resolution provides for a 5% preference to vendors who have a permanent place of business inside the city limits, and a 3% preference inside the county limits. CP Blanks suggested changing the inside the county preference to 5% when the Resolution is ready for adoption.
- (3) State Farmers Market Property-A email was received from Clark Wong at the State Properties Commission regarding the Farmers Market Property. The General Assembly authorized the surplus and conveyance of the Farmers Market to the City of Donalsonville for \$10.00 with a deed restriction for perpetuity public use. The final State Properties Commission Board approval will take place at the SPC June 14th meeting to approve the actions of the General Assembly.
- (4) Railroad Crossing- Notification was made by the local CSX Roadmaster that many of the people involved in the original request were no longer working at CSX; therefore, the request could not be processed for approval. CSX Roadmaster directed for the resubmission of the request on-line, which has since been completed.
- (5) City Attorney-Notification of the following submitted resumes and letters of interest in reference to the City Attorney position:
 - Wes Baldwin
 - Billy Grantham
 - Benjamin David Harrell-Harrell & Lewis, LLC (Camilla, GA)
 - Douglas R. McMillan-Shingler & McMillan, LLC
 - Billy Shingler-Shingler &McMillan, LLC

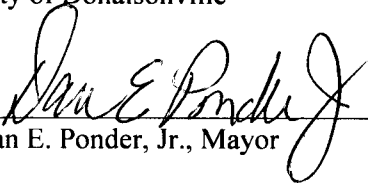
- Amos Sheffield (responded but declined)

Next, City Attorney Fryer gave a brief update on the status of the proposal for the lease purchase agreement of the new Police Vehicles from Ameris Bank, where he stated that some minor corrections need to be made but should be ready for the closing by Friday. City Attorney Fryer then gave an update on the Drug Task Force employee, where he stated that the County would hold responsibility for the Workers Compensation Insurance, with the City paying half of the deductible fees associated with any filed claims.

With there being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, at 9:31 PM CP Blanks made a motion to adjourn with Mayor Pro Tem Bond 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 May 15, 2017
meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Donalsonville.



Christina Corvers, City Clerk