1480

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 11, 2014

6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and Council met for their regular meeting.

Those Present:

Wayne Adcock
Lee Malcom
Denise Dixon
Nathan Purvis
Larry Bradley
Rita Scott
Nathan Little
Jimmy Richardson
Matthew Chancey
Renee Prather
Russell Preston

Vice-Mayor
Council Member
City Administrator

City Clerk City Attorney City Attorney

Absent:

Greg Thompson

Paul Rosenthal

Mayor

Staff Present:

Jeremiah Still, Danny Smith, Keith Glass, Rodney Middlebrooks, Brian

Thompson, Patrick Kelley

Visitors:

Patrice Broughton, Arron Giles, Melvin Knox, Ben Reed, John Johnson, Mary Robinson, Norman Garrett, Celia Boyce, Rebecca Hardy, Alice Porter, Laqueta Williams, Lei Akridge, Cora Garrett, Linda Ross, Willie Norman Sr., Louise Giles, Betty Joe Akridge, Betty Jean Brown, Essie Capers, Edna Malcolm, Mary H. Rouse, Millie Shelnutt, Haley Johns, Rita Thurmond, Lelia Horton, Mary Kelly, Emma Goodwin, Marcia Durden, Eloise Mattox, Aretha Knox, Alfred Brown, Janice Floyd, Diane Evans, Martha B. Stewart, Dorothy Giles, Angela Hendricks, Sandra Durham, Tillie McKnight, Prince Arnold, Daphne Laguins, Debbie Isom, Cheryl Rix, George Artis, Paula Kojo, Pearl Guinn, Kathy Arnold, Jessica Baker, Prince Ella Arnold, Brenda Malcom, Andrea Ridgeway Taylor, Debra Durham, Beverly Blade, Marquitha Camp, Gwendolyn Camp, Raymond Akridge, Robert Parks, Kimberly Parks, Sandra Johnson, Marvanette Arnold, Jennifer L. Sims, Amanda Njie, Lidia Garrett, Manda Foster, Melanie Wright, Brenda Williams, Elizabeth Burias, Louise Gober, David Towler, Patsy Parks, Reia Sims, Deborah Rice, Robbie Foster, Helen Jones, Kim Ashley, Lessie Sorrells, Agnes Norman, Karl Weaver, Don Murray, Diane Williams, Emma Baldwin, Sherry Bradley, Jasper Greer, Sharon Greer, Bobby Whaley, Willie Vinson, Gwendolyn Spratlin, Connie Jean Battle, Seleatha Brown Rivers, Kevin Roberts, Nancy Camp, Mary Johnson, Minnie Scott, Annette Young, Wanda Bigby, Lawanda Lewis, Angi Spence, Donna Dasilva, James Hughes II, Ray Cooper, Benita Walker, Johnny Sheats, Johnny Atkinson, Crystal Giles, Sidney Bigby, LaShawn Myrick

I. CALL TO ORDER – WAYNE ADCOCK

1. Invocation

Vice-Mayor Adcock gave the invocation.

2. Roll Call

Vice-Mayor Adcock noted that Mayor Greg Thompson was absent. There was a quorum.

3. Approval of Agenda

To approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Dixon, seconded by Little. Passed Unanimously

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. February 4, 2014 Council Minutes
- **b.** February 11, 2014 Council Minutes
- c. February 25, 2014 Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 11, 2014 6:00 H

- d. Approval Out of State Travel for SGA Conference Allow Mr. Tommy Arnold to attend conference in Columbia, South Carolina March 17 – 19, 2014. (Recommended for Council approval by Utilities Committee March 4, 2014)
- e. 2014 MPD Manning Approval of the manning document. (Recommended for Council approval by Public Safety Committee March 4, 2014)

To approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion by Scott, seconded by Malcom. Passed Unanimously

II. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

1. Employee Recognition - Lieutenant Dykes

Chief Keith Glass presented Lieutenant Andrew Dykes with a plaque for successfully completing the Executive Fire Officer Program; recognizing his commitment and achievement in completing this goal.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

1. Public Comments

Mr. Arron Giles, of 171 Elizabeth Drive, presented a letter and petition requesting that Monroe Utilities to be audited.

Mr. Melvin Knox, of 501 Chestnut Lane, stated that he doesn't understand the high utility rates and wants something to be done. He believes rates should have increased gradually, not all at one time.

Mr. Ben Reed, of 1024 Tall Oaks Lane, expressed his concern for his utilities remaining high even after conserving.

Mr. John Johnson, of 617A Maple Street, questioned utilities being due in the same month that the bill comes out, and where the 5% late fee comes from. He wants the due dates pushed forward so they are due in the next month not the month they are received.

Ms. Mary Robinson, of 1308 Armistead Circle, stated that she along with other elderly people can't afford their light bills on a fixed income.

Mr. Norman Garrett, of 1244 South Madison Avenue, expressed that he has been complaining for two years about the utility bills. The partial payment / bill extension has not helped the situation for most people. He believes that Council voted to raise cable TV rates in a closed session. He also stated his upset concerning salaries.

Mrs. Celia Boyce, of 320B Tanglewood Drive, explained that she would like to see utility bills lowered.

Ms. Rebecca Hardy, of 439 Springdale Road, stated that she believes the bills are too high, salaries are too high, and there are too many employees driving cars around.

Ms. Alice Porter, of 211 Sorrells Street Apartment A, stated that she can't afford the high utility bills, the cable TV is too high, and if they don't approve the rates then they should be left where they are.

Ms. Laqueta Williams, 419 Maple Lane, questioned where all of the money is going.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution - 2013 Budget Amendment

To amend the budget as presented.

Motion by Little, seconded by Dixon. Passed Unanimously.

2. Resolution – Georgia Cities Week, April 13 – 19, 2014

To adopt the resolution proclaiming the week of April 13th Georgia Cities Week.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 11, 2014

6:00 P.M.

3. 2nd Reading – Domestic Animals Ordinance Amendment

City Attorney Paul Rosenthal gave the second reading of the ordinance to amend Article II, Section 10-43 through Section 10-45.

Motion by Malcom, seconded by Bradley. Passed Unanimously

4. 2nd Reading - Garbage Collection Ordinance Amendment

City Attorney Paul Rosenthal gave the second reading of the ordinance to amend Article I, Section 82-7.

Motion by Dixon, seconded by Malcom. Passed Unanimously

5. Approval – 2014 Concert Series Contracts for DDA

City Administrator Matthew Chancey discussed the contracts for the Summer Concert Series, which have been reviewed by the City Attorney. There will be a total of four concerts, three concerts plus one rain out concert from 2013.

To approve the execution of the 2014 Concert Series Contracts.

Motion by Bradley, seconded by Richardson. Passed Unanimously.

6. Discussion - Draft Code Ordinance

City Attorney Paul Rosenthal stated that they have been working on getting a draft new Code of Ordinances for the Zoning Code. The draft code has been posted online for the public's review. There will be Town Hall meetings held for discussion and public input on Thursday, April 3rd, Tuesday, April 15th, and Thursday, April 24th at 6:00 pm at City Hall. They propose to have the first reading of the ordinance amendment on May 13th and the second reading on June 10th.

No Action.

7. Discussion / Approval – 2014 RFP Recycling Services

City Administrator Matthew Chancey requested approval for putting out an RFP, to try saving money on the recycling services offered by the City. Currently the services are done in-house. Mr. Chancey discussed some of the highlights of the request for proposal.

Council Member Larry Bradley questioned new houses and new buildings being covered by the RFP, and the requirement for having containers curbside by 6:30 a.m.

Mr. Chancey explained that the request for proposal gives an estimate of what the quantity would be in order to get a price for the service.

Mr. Danny Smith stated that the time schedule agrees with the current schedule of the City.

Council Member Bradley requested that it be a requirement on the RFP for the recycling to be on the same schedule as the garbage service.

To approve the RFP for recycling services with the additions.

Motion by Scott, seconded by Purvis. Passed Unanimously.

V. ADJOURN

Motion by Malcom, seconded by Richardson. Passed Unanimously.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR