

On Monday, November 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. the council meeting for the Town of Gay was called to order by Mayor Walker. At roll call all council members were present. It was determined a quorum did exist.

After the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the first item was to approve the Consent Agenda. Council member Watts motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The next item was approval of the Agenda. Council member Askvig motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The first item on the agenda was the second reading of the Zoning and Land Use Ordinance. There was discussion of both banners/signs and regulated cutting of trees.

It was suggested the Town hire an Arborist or contact the Georgia Forestry Commission about an Arborist, to survey trees in town for health, disease and age issues so as to be in a better position to regulate the cutting of old growth trees.

After discussion, council member Pritchett motioned to approve the Ordinance, seconded by council member Watts. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mayor Walker read a letter addressed to the Planning Commission members thanking them for their work on the Zoning and Land Use Ordinance. The letter is a part of the official minutes.

The next item was the second reading of the Development Regulations Ordinance. There was no discussion and council member Watts motioned to approve the Ordinance, seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The next item on the agenda was the proposed City Hall Sign. There were bids for various sizes, composition and whether one sided or two and the fees varied from approximately \$1,200 to over \$5,000. After discussion, it was decided to go with the original (one sided) version in the large size using the less expensive material, as there is always the option to change it at some later time. Mayor Walker will contact the bidders, tell them what we want and give them each an opportunity to submit a bid for that sign. This will be taken up again at the council meeting December 9, 2024.

The next item on the agenda was Title 6 Building Ordinance. Council member Watts discussed the changes made so that ordinance aligns with the new Title 14 Zoning and Land Use Ordinance while expanding and clarifying some parts and eliminating sections covered elsewhere.

Council member Keith motioned to repeal Title 6 Planning and Development Ordinance and replace it with the new Title 6 Building Ordinance. Council member Watts seconded the motion and the vote in favor was unanimous.

The next item was a discussion of how to handle water leaks. Council member Pritchett said we need to be mindful of some residents who cannot repair leaks, due to financial, physical or some other legitimate reason. After discussion, council members Watts and Askvig both said they feel comfortable in allowing the Mayor to determine how leaks should be handled in a fair way, but still protecting the Town from user fraud, accidental or otherwise.

The next item was the Woodbury Christmas Parade. After discussion, it was determined the Town will not participate but any companies or individuals can certainly do so.

The last item was Financial Documents. Clerk stated the General Report is in a slightly different format but the information is the same. This is due to an item on our audit report response from the Ga. Dept. of Audits and Accounts.

After discussion, council member Askvig motioned to accept the documents, seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Council member Watts requested we have a work session at 6:00 p.m. on December 9, 2024, just before the regular council meeting to discuss permitting for signs. All members agreed to date and time.

As there was no more business to discuss council member Watts motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m., seconded by council member Askvig. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Christopher J. Walker – Mayor

Sharon Richmond - Clerk