

On Monday, October 9, 2023 the council meeting for the Town of Gay was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Nash. All members were present at roll call and it was determined a quorum did exist.

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

Next was the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a brief reminder of the rules of decorum.

Next was approval of minutes from prior meetings. Council member Blakely motioned to approve the minutes for the Council meeting of September 11, 2023. The motion was seconded by council member Askvig and the vote in favor was unanimous.

Council member Blakeley motioned to approve the minutes of the Work Session meeting of September 19, 2023. The motion was seconded by council member Keith and the vote in favor was unanimous.

The first item on the agenda was discussion of the need for a grant for water infrastructure improvements. Mayor Nash said we need to contact an engineer to start the process so we will know approximately what we will need. There was discussion to see if anyone knew engineers we could contact. We had previous dealings with EMI and Mayor Nash said she would contact them if we wanted to continue the process. Council member Keith motioned to begin the search for an engineering firm and start the grant process. The motion was seconded by council member Blakeley and the vote in favor was unanimous.

Assistant clerk mentioned we are currently required to do a Lead Service Line Survey and even though the water system was put in after use of lead was made illegal, we are required to do the survey. She discussed some aspects of the survey.

Next on the agenda was a Hotel/Motel Excise Tax Ordinance. Information was given to each member outlining how the tax works and how collections can be used. We do not currently have any hotels or motels but there is a possibility of future such places and we need to be ready. At the next meeting, after everyone has time to read the information, if council wants to pursue this ordinance we will then schedule a public hearing and proceed.

Next on the agenda was discussion of Municipal Court, which had been tabled from the August 22, 2023 Work Session. After discussion, it was decided that when we schedule the next Work Session for discussion the proposed Land Use/Zoning ordinance, we will ask our attorney to attend. That way we can have him go over other items also and not have to pay for his time for more than one meeting.

The last item on the agenda was renewal of the Alcohol License for Miracle Mart. The request is for beer only, as he said he does not want to continue wine sales.

Council member Watts motioned to approve the renewal, seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was three in favor and council member Blakeley abstained to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest.

Under public comments, it was noted that there is a water leak at 8733 Greenville St. and has been for some time. We are aware of the situation and have had it fixed at least 3 or 4 times. According to our repair technician, the pipe, which is copper, has now collapsed and it is now necessary to replace a section of pipe.

Council member Keith said some fair goers are continuing to park on Highway 85 during the fairs and traffic attempting to transition from Flat Shoals Road on to Highway 85 are hampered by inability to see oncoming traffic. Also, the fairs on Highway 85 are set up too close to the highway and there is not room between booths for people to pass. This all makes for an extremely dangerous situation.

After more discussion, it was decided to get the Fire Marshall involved for safety concerns. Also, we will instruct the fair operators to provide a list of all vendors and a map or plan of where each is located.

Under committee/staff reports, council member Askvig said she had two people come look at city hall and the community building and give us prices for cleaning. Assistant Clerk said she didn't know and had already told Susan Singleton she could do the cleaning. Her price is \$125.00 for both buildings and it is a lower price than either of the other two people had presented.

The next item was financial documents. There was no discussion or questions and council member Watts motioned to accept the reports, seconded by council member Blakeley. The vote in favor was unanimous.

As there was no more business to discuss, council member Blakeley motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m., seconded by council member Askvig. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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Ruth Nash – Mayor

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Sharon Richmond - Clerk