

On Monday, August 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., the Council meeting for the Town of Gay was called to order by Mayor Walker. At roll call council members Keith and Watts were present and it was determined a quorum did exist.

After the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the first item was approval of the Agenda. Council member Watts requested a change to the agenda format as follows. Item #5 will be "Consent Agenda" and will list all minutes awaiting approval, but will not require a separate vote on each. Rather, unless there are any changes or questions, one motion and vote will approve all on the list. Item #6 will be Agenda, and will list each item to be discussed at the meeting and be addressed item by item. Everyone agreed this is much more efficient and will be immediately implemented. Council member Watts motioned to approve the agenda with these changes, seconded by council member Keith and the vote in favor was unanimous. Council member Watts motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by council member Keith and the vote in favor was unanimous.

On the agenda, the first item for discussion was the Property Tax Mil Rate. Council member Watts asked how the rate is determined and if we can raise the rate if we need or want to. Clerk basically explained the process which requires several Public Hearings at different times. We do need to have a public hearing prior to setting the rate at the next regular council meeting on September 9, 2024 so it was determined to have that public hearing immediately prior to the next work session, which will be August 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

The next item for discussion was use of the ARPA (Cares) fund. We must have all the funds obligated prior to the end of December. The first priority is electrical work on the garage/storage area at city hall. The next is paying utility bills for a low income household who meets a certain poverty level, which can be determined, and we do have a family to be considered for this fund. The third priority is new meter boxes for water meters. We have no extra boxes and our water operator has expressed those as a current priority for the water system. Council member Keith motioned to use these three items as our base and get contracts, bids or other requirements done. The motion was seconded by council member Watts and the vote in favor was unanimous.

The last item on the agenda was Building Inspections and Fees. This is for information only. Mayor Walker had conversations with Casandra Sharpe, director of Meriwether County Planning and Zoning. He provided each member with samples of possible Intergovernmental Agreements and fee schedule used by the County.

A law recently signed, changes how values for construction must be determined. Council will need to determine if an Intergovernmental Agreement with Meriwether County would be beneficial to Gay.

Financial statements were presented and there were no changes. Council member Watts motioned to accept the documents, seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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 Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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Christopher J. Walker – Mayor

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Sharon Richmond - Clerk