

On Monday, August 14, 2023, the council meeting for the Town of Gay was called to order by Mayor Nash at 7:00 p.m. All members were present at roll call and it was determined a quorum did exist.

Prior to calling for a motion to approve the agenda, Mayor Nash said there were two items to be added. First was to add Shellie Lester so she could present a building permit for consideration. The second addition was discussion of selecting Judge Rasnick as the judge for the Town. With addition of these two items, council member Blakeley motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by council member Watts. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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

Next was approval of minutes for previous meetings. Council member Watts motioned to approve the minutes for the council meeting of July 10, 2023, seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous. Next, council member Keith motioned to approve the minutes of the emergency meeting of July 24, 2023, seconded by council member Askvig. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The first item on the agenda was a discussion presented by council member Watts to institute a "Youth Citizenship" Program. She presented a basic outline which would include not just the Town but would include the 30218 mailing address, since there are not many students in the city limits. There was discussion and questions. Council member Askvig motioned to move forward with this program, with the assurance this was not to become a baby-sitting service, for parents to just drop their students and leave. The motion was seconded by council member Keith and the vote in favor was unanimous.

The next item for discussion was the building permit presented by Shellie Lester for a barn/storage facility. She presented paperwork showing approximately what the building will look like. The size is very similar to the one that was there previously. Council member Watts motioned to approve the building permit, seconded by council member Blakeley. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The next item on the agenda was presentation of the amended General Budget showing increase in fees for events and adjustment of Fair security expense. Council member Blakeley motioned to accept the amended budget, seconded by council member Watts. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The next agenda item was presentation and discussion of the proposed mil rate. Clerk discussed where figures come from for the rate. There were no questions or other discussion. The vote on the mil rate will be at the next scheduled council meeting on September 11, 2023.

The next item for discussion was replacement of one of the air conditioning units for the community building. We had maintenance type work done on the units in City Hall and asked that company to also give us an estimate on repairing the unit in question. The technician determined the unit was not able to be repaired and gave us an estimate on replacing and installing a new unit. A maintenance contract will be discussed at a later date.

There was discussion about whether we need to request bids but it was determined that, due to the unseasonable heat, the already scheduled use of the building, along with the cost of well under \$10,000, to accept this estimate and schedule the work. ARPA funds will be used for this project.

The next item on the agenda was a new fee schedule. Assistant clerk gave an overview of the new charges which relate to building permits and inspections. An agreement has been made with Safebuilt Georgia, LLC to do inspections for the town on an as-needed basis. An instruction sheet for permits and inspections will be completed and distributed shortly.

The next item for discussion was allowing hunting on city property where our wells are located. The Wellhead Protection Plan states the Control Zone should be protected from uses other than those directly dealing with care and maintenance of the wells. There was discussion about liability, damage to our water source and a possible income source by leasing out the property to hunters. Council member Watts motioned to table the discussion and place it on the agenda for September. The motion was seconded by council member Askvig and the vote in favor was unanimous.

The next item on the agenda was a presentation of the Land Use committee program by council member Blakeley. He also asked for a workshop meeting to go over the draft ordinance they have prepared. Council member Watts motioned to schedule the workshop for Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by council member Blakeley and the vote in favor was unanimous.

The last item on the agenda was to hire Judge Rasnick as judge for the town to handle all cases involving a violations, including traffic. Assistant clerk gave an overview but there were many questions about more specific costs. Council member Keith motioned to table the discussion pending a cost

analysis and add that also at the workshop on August 22. Council member Watts seconded the motion and the vote in favor was unanimous.

Financial documents were presented but there were no questions nor discussion. Council member Watts motioned to accept the documents, 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 8:20 p.m., seconded by council member Keith. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ruth Nash – Mayor

Sharon Richmond - Clerk