

Minutes, February 20, 2024

The City Council met in the board room at city hall on February 20, 2024 at 7 p.m.; attending were City Clerk Raven Oglesby, guest Don Wallace, guest Alfred Edwards, guest Addison Criswell, guest Frank Criswell and Correspondent Felicity Homan for Pickens County Herald.

Call to Order – Mayor Davis called meeting to order.

Invocation – Councilmember Hagan lead us in prayer.

Roll Call – City Clerk Oglesby called roll: Mayor Davis, present; District 1 Councilmember Taggart, present; District 2 Councilmember Hagan, present; District 3 Councilmember Richardson, present; District 4 Councilmember Wheat, present; District 5 Councilmember Giles, present.

Minutes of December 19, 2023 were approved with a motion by Councilmember Giles; a second by Councilmember Richardson and motion passed with all ayes.

Payables –City Clerk Oglesby presented payables in the amount of \$787,370.77 for December 20, 2023 thru February 20, 2024. Councilmember Hagan made motion to approve the payables; a second from Councilmember Wheat and motion passed with all ayes.

Old Business:

NONE

New Business:

Contract of Professional Services Authorization – Mayor Davis discussed signing an agreement contract for professional services by West Alabama Regional Commission for Project SRF #CS010849-02. Mayor Davis also discussed signing a service agreement associated with SRF with Insite Engineering.

\$4100.00 Monthly Fee for Ambulance Service – Mayor Davis discussed all the county Mayors had to meet with Ron Bolton and Gerald Allen regarding monthly charges for the county ambulance service and that Reform 's monthly fee would be \$4100.00 based on the County Commission paying out \$33,000.00 monthly. Councilmember Wheat recommended putting in for an increase in Sale's Tax or Car Tag's.

2022/2023 Audit – Don Wallace – Auditor Don Wallace presented the 2022/2023 audit and recommended that moving forward that the Council or the Mayor start signing off on monthly bank statements and making sure to retrieve the library monthly bank statements and keep in a file.

Approving Changes to Library Monthly Fees – Mayor Davis discussed possibly upping the monthly fee to the library during the winter to \$1400.00 and \$850.00 during the Summer. Councilmember Wheat recommended the city pay the utility bills and the monthly fee remain the same at \$674.66. Councilmember Richardson made motion to approve paying the library utility bills and the monthly fee remain the same at \$674.66; a second from Councilmember Wheat and motion passed with all ayes.

Possible Paving/Patching for 3rd Ave SE/Gladny – Mayor Davis discussed she applied for the paving grant and was denied for the second time after being told if you are denied the first time you would be approved the second time. Mayor Davis stated she would be attending a conference in Montgomery at the end of March regarding a paving grant in hopes of possibly getting accepted. Mayor Davis discussed that 3rd Ave SE was very bad and needed to be repaved. Councilmember Giles asked how much was in the street account and Mayor Davis replied around \$88,000.00. Councilmember Giles recommended getting the worst spots repaired first until we were able to get further assistance to help with repaving.

Selling the Old Garbage Truck – Mayor Davis asked Councilmember Hagan to help her sell the old garbage truck. Mayor Davis announced that we received the new garbage truck today.

Public Comments – Guest Addison asked that 2.5 acres abutting the North Pickens Airport be rezoned from R-1 Residential to Commercial Zoning for 6 hangers. Mayor Davis and Council advised that he would need to present this to the zoning board and then it would have to come back and be presented to the Council. Mayor Davis stated she would take his information and give it to the Zoning Board. Guest Alfred asked about follow up answers for questions presented at the prior Council Meeting regarding Police Department Policies. Mayor Davis advised him to contact the City Attorney. Mayor Davis introduced our new Police Officer, Officer DeMarios Wilson. Mayor Davis announced the purchase of our new fire truck from Northport.

Reports and Request – Councilmember Giles advised ditches on Gladny needed cleaned out. Councilmember Wheat advised there were some limbs and a mattress across from her house that needed to be picked up.

Adjournment – Mayor Davis advised the meeting was adjourned until March 19, 2024.

Respectively Submitted, Raven Oglesby, City Clerk