

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, November 9, 2015**

Members Present:

Mayor John Weaver
Jim Looney
Anne Sneve
Tony Fountain
Allison Boyle
John Foust

Staff:

Lisa Hoyle
Sonny Underwood
Greg Lovell
Steve Roper
Lonnie Waters
David Hall
Tonya Dutton

Guests in Attendance:

Mari Livsey
John Sneve
Gerry Nechvatal
Wayne Tidwell
Jenna Schrieber
David Sauls

Members Absent:

None

Legal Counsel:

Bill Pickett

Press:

Angela Reinhardt

Mayor Weaver called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He requested Councilmember John Foust give the invocation. Councilmember Tony Fountain led in the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Weaver asked that the agenda be reviewed and approved by Council. Councilmember Anne Sneve made a motion to approve the agenda and Councilmember Allison Boyle seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk Lisa Hoyle read the minutes of the October 5, 2015 regular meeting. Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

There was no old business to discuss.

Item A under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized Police Chief Greg Lovell and Court Clerk Tonya Dutton. Chief Lovell stated that he recommended that the City increase Municipal Court fines to be in line with other cities in the State. Ms. Dutton went over the most common offenses and fines in the City and the proposed increases. Ms. Dutton stated that if approved the Court would be adopting City of Canton's fine schedule for all fines. Following Council discussion, it was decided that per Council approval, the increased fines would be effective January 1, 2016. Mayor Weaver entertained a motion to adopt the new fines schedule and make effective on January 1, 2016. Councilmember Anne Sneve made such motion, Councilmember Jim Looney seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Item B under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized Chief Lovell to present for Council approval the addition of Hood and Gennett Roads to be included in the City's speed detection device permit from DOT. Chief Lovell stated that the inclusion of these additional roads is necessary since speeding violations have increased. Discussion by Council followed. Mayor Weaver entertained a motion to approve the additional roads to be included in the state permit. Councilmember Anne Sneve made such motion. Councilmember Tony Fountain seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Item C under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized Finance Director Lisa Hoyle to present the 2016 Operating Budget for Council's review. Ms. Hoyle stated that the public hearing on the budget would be held on November 16th and hopefully adoption of the budget will occur on November 23rd. Discussion by Council followed. No action necessary.

Item D under New Business, Lisa Hoyle presented to Council applications for reduced water/sewer rates for approval. Following review by Council, councilmember John Foust made a motion to approve the applications and Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item E under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized Sonny Underwood to present to Council the 2016 alcohol license renewal applications. See list attached hereto. Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to approve the license renewal requests and Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item F under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized Water Plant Supervisor David Hall to present for Council's approval emergency repair costs for the 60 horsepower submersible well pump and motor outage on Cove Road. Byers Well Drilling will supply the pump and motor at a cost of \$6,679 and \$8,292, respectively. Additional costs are installation of equipment at approximately \$2,000 and temporary rental of pump at a cost of \$2,100. Following discussion by Council, Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to approve up to \$20,000 for the submersible well replacement costs. Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Item G under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized Lonnie Waters to discuss lights for the new trees planted downtown. Mr. Waters had obtained quotes from Home Depot and from Garner Ace Hardware with Garner Ace coming in at lowest of \$7,200 to light all trees. Mayor Weaver stated that the lights would remain up after Christmas as accent lighting. Mayor Weaver entertained a motion that Council approve the costs of the tree lights at \$7,200, Councilmember John Foust made such motion and Councilmember Tony Fountain seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Item H under New Business, Mayor Weaver asked Lonnie Waters to present to Council contracts for fireworks and DJ for the upcoming New Year's Eve celebration to be held downtown. Mr. Waters stated that the fireworks contract would be \$5,400 and the DJ would be \$2,516. Mayor Weaver asked Ms. Hoyle to explain how the event would be paid. Ms. Hoyle stated that it was budgeted to be paid for out of unrestricted Hotel/Motel tax money and that also the \$7,200 for the tree lights was budgeted to come from that same money. She stated that the City should have enough to cover the costs of both. Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to approve the fireworks and DJ contracts as well as other costs to cover the celebration, with no more than \$1,000 coming out of the General Fund if necessary. Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Item I under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized City Attorney Bill Pickett to present to Council a property donation to the City from Magna of Georgia, LLC. Mr. Pickett gave Council a map detailing the lots offered to the City in the Jasper Highlands development. He stated that there are a total of 13 lots (of which 8 are usable). He also stated that the City would gain control over the retention ponds that were located on some of the lots as well as take over the road. He stated that the City could in the future sell these lots or use them for City structures. Magna's incentive to donate the lots is that they will obtain a tax break, although the City will lose tax revenue. Mayor Weaver entertained a motion. Councilmember Tony Fountain made a motion to accept the property donation from Magna of Georgia, LLC. Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion. Council discussion followed, including discussion of City requirements to any CCR's of the property. Mr. Pickett stated that the City would be required to maintain the roads, upkeep signage, lighting, as well as abide by the building and landscaping codes. Following discussion, Council voted unanimously to accept the donation.

Economic Developer Gerry Nechvatal gave a report to Council.

Finance Director Lisa Hoyle gave the financial report for the month of October 2015.

Lonnie Waters gave the animal control report for the month of October 2015.

Chief Greg Lovell gave a report of police activities for the month of October 2015.

Chief Steve Roper gave a report of fire activities for the month of October 2015.

Councilmember John Foust gave an update on JYSA activities.

Mayor Weaver opened the meeting public comment. The owner of 61 Main, Jenna Schreiber, approached Council and expressed her frustration over the new tree installation. She stated that she was upset about the lack of communication to the business owners. Mayor Weaver stated that the trees had to be planted when the weather permitted and he did not mention to the business owners what was planned. He stated that he had apologized to Ms. Schreiber and another business owner who was upset by the tree installation. No action taken.

Being no other business to come before Council, Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council is scheduled to convene next at the public hearing on November 16, 2015.



John W. Weaver
Mayor



Lisa J. Hoyle
City Clerk/Finance Director