

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2003 AT 5:30 P.M. AT CITY HALL. MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Alton McCollum. COUNCILPERSONS: Buddy Sandifer, Frances Johnson, David Walker, Betty Wells, Betty Mack, and Nancy Foster. VISITORS: Virgie Bamberg, Franklin Bamberg, Jeannette Driggers, Wyndell Peay, Jimmy Still, June Still, Cassandra Garcia, Tony Duncan, Phyllis Overstreet, Cindy Nichols, and Chief George Morris.

Mayor McCollum called the meeting to order and Mrs. Foster gave the invocation.

Clerk Watson took the roll with everyone being present.

Mrs. Johnson made the motion to approve the agenda to include the amendment to allow Tony Duncan to discuss the Spring Break Festival. Mrs. Foster made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mayor McCollum began the Public Hearing to receive comments from the public on proposed Ordinance 03-02.

Mrs. Cassandra Garcia asked Council to explain the uses allowed in the OI Districts.

Clerk Watson read to Council and Mrs. Garcia the uses allowed in the OI Districts which included drinking establishments, multi family living, doctors' offices, and commercial businesses. He explained that once the area was rezoned that the property could be used for any uses allowed in the zoning district. He explained that no restrictions could be placed on the property by Council.

Mrs. Garcia informed Council that she had no problem with the property being used to build doctors' offices or duplexes but that she did not want a drinking establishment behind her home. She said she did not want her kids exposed to any establishment that sold alcoholic beverages.

Mr. Jimmy Still assured Mrs. Garcia and Council that Dr. Rahman was interested in building a heart center on the property once it is rezoned. He explained that if Dr. Rahman changed his mind that he would then use the property for town houses or for duplexes. Mr. Still said no one would ever put a drinking establishment in such an area.

With no other discussion, Mayor McCollum brought the public hearing to a close.

Mr. Al Palmer informed Council that the Methodist Men's Club wished to use the railroad birm in front of the Methodist Church once again for their annual yard sale which would be held on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mrs. Foster made the motion to allow the Methodist Men's Club to use the birm again this year for their annual yard sale. Mrs. Johnson made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mr. Palmer informed Council that the Methodist Men's Club also wished to use the railroad birm to display the Moving Vietnam Memorial Wall on October 17<sup>th</sup> thru the 24<sup>th</sup>. He explained that the Memorial Wall would be 252 feet in length and contain the names of 58,228 service men and women killed or missing during the Vietnam War. Mr. Palmer said the Memorial Wall has been known to bring thousands of people to the town where it is being displayed. Mr. Palmer told Council they hoped to have ten agencies or businesses help contribute to the \$5,000.00 cost of the project and he asked Council to please consider contributing \$500.00.

Mr. Sandifer informed Council that Mr. Palmer had single handedly done the work to secure the Moving Memorial Wall for Bamberg. He asked Council to give him an applause.

Everyone in the room applauded Mr. Palmer for his efforts.

Mrs. Mack asked if there would be any type of fees charged to view the wall.

Mr. Palmer told Council they were prohibited from charging anything.

Mrs. Foster made the motion to allow the Methodist Men's Club to use the birm to show the Moving Vietnam Memorial Wall and to also donate \$500.00 towards the project. Mrs. Johnson made the second. All agreed. The motion carried.

Mr. Tony Duncan informed Council that the 2003 Spring Break Festival would be held at the Richard Carroll Primary School on April 12<sup>th</sup> this year. He explained that Inez Tinambaum would be present and he asked Council to please provide police protection as well as a \$35.00 donation to the event.

Mrs. Johnson made the motion to donate \$35.00 to the Spring Break Festival. Mrs. Mack made the necessary second. All approved. The motion carried.

Clerk Watson explained to Council that Jim Tharp of McCroy Construction was asking Council to allow him to locate a sign on the railroad birm directly in front of the New Heritage Center. Clerk Watson presented Council with a detail drawing of the sign and its location. He also explained that the sign met all zoning requirements.

Mrs. Foster asked if by allowing the sign would Council be opening themselves up to allow more signs on the railroad birm.

Mayor McCollum explained that each individual request would have to be reviewed and discussed.

Mrs. Johnson made the motion to allow the sign to be placed on the railroad birm. Mr. Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mrs. Wells made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2003 meeting as received. Mr. Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mrs. Foster made the motion to approve the Budget and Finance Reports as presented. Mrs. Mack made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

#### Under Commission Reports:

Mr. Sandifer informed Council that sign up for the Summer Baseball Program would begin in two weeks. He told Council that the Soccer program was in full swing.

Mrs. Wells informed Council that the Sanitation Department had been cutting grass and picking up liter but said everything was running smoothly.

Mrs. Foster reported that all business licenses had been collected.

#### Under Old Business:

Mr. Walker made the motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 03-01. Mrs. Wells made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mrs. Johnson informed Council that the Original Tams had been secured for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration. Mayor McCollum told Council the Tams would cost \$4,000.00 and that the staging and sound system would cost \$2,000.00. He asked Council to approve \$7,000.00 for the event.

Mrs. Johnson made the motion to approve \$7,000.00 for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration. Mr. Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

#### Under New Business:

Council received the recommendation from the Planning Commission that Ordinance 03-02 be adopted to rezone the property of June and Jimmy Still to OI.

Mr. Sandifer made the motion to accept the recommendation from the Planning Commission. Mr. Johnson made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mrs. Foster made the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 03-02 to rezone the property of June and Jimmy Still to OI. Mrs. Johnson made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mr. Sandifer informed Council that they had no concrete information on the Highway 301 Widening Project. He said a report would be given during the April meeting.

After Council discussed the need to support a local Alzheimer Chapter in the area, they asked everyone to attend the first meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Office on Aging Building. They urged everyone to attend.

Mrs. Foster informed Council that she felt they needed to contact Gene Cooner to request a four way stop at the intersection of Elm and Presbyterian Streets.

Chief Morris said he felt personally that it was not a good idea.

Mrs. Foster informed Council that the lattice at the City Parking Lot needed to have flowers and vines planted beneath them.

Mrs. Wells would look into having them planted.

During the questions from the audience and press, Mrs. Bamberg asked Chief Morris about the progress with Mr. Hughes' junkyard.

Chief Morris said progress was being made with Mr. Hughes but that he would have to begin moving some of the remaining vehicles since Mr. Hughes could not get titles for the remaining vehicles. Chief Morris said Mr. Hughes and others were trying to comply with the City.

Mrs. Bamberg asked Mr. Walker if someone was contacted about the condition of the Jordan Property on Calhoun Street.

Mr. Walker said he referred the property to Chief Morris.

Chief Morris informed Council that Jimmy Sweatman's department had done some work on the property to bring it into compliance.

Mr. Bamberg asked why the SCDOT dug the ditches two feet below the outlets in his area. He said the water was not moving in the ditches at this time.

Mr. Walker voiced that he had been fighting with the SCDOT for years over the problem with the ditches in that area.

Mayor McCollum asked Mr. Walker and his committee to meet with Mr. Cooner again to discuss the problems within the area.

Mrs. Mack mentioned that Mr. Cooner had been asked to find out who owned the properties along the ditches so they could be contacted to gain permission to enter their properties to address the problems.

Mrs. Driggers told Council that she had informed Mr. Cooner who owned the various tracts of property.

Mrs. Nelie Roberson informed Council that she had filed 45 tort claims against them and various other parties concerning Creekside Drive. She said she would be talking to Mr. Virgil Hicks tomorrow about the deed to Creekside Drive and asked if she would be allowed to address Council at the next meeting to have them vote on the deed or would they block her from speaking.

Mayor McCollum informed Mrs. Roberson that Council was taking the same stand they had taken before.

Mayor McCollum reminded the audience that Council would not address anything that was not on the agenda during future council meetings. He emphasized that this would not be allowed.

With no further business, Mrs. Johnson made the motion to adjourn. Mrs. Mack made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Attest:

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Clerk

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Mayor of Bamberg