

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS  
WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

Members Present: Jonathan Elmore, Mayor  
Brian Fisher, Mayor Pro Tem  
Lisa Shortell, Commissioner  
Lionel Laratte, Commissioner  
Dee Merriam, Commissioner

Staff Present: Patrick Bryant, City Manager  
Paul Hanebuth, Asst. City Manager  
Shannon Powell, Asst. City Manager  
Gina Hill, City Clerk  
Stephen Quinn, City Attorney

Item #1 Meeting Called to Order

Item #2 Adoption of Agenda  
Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moved to adopt. Commissioner Shortell seconded. All eyes.

Item #3 **Police Update**

City Manager Bryant said the Georgia Association of Police Chiefs have invited nine applicants to come in for an assessment on March 2nd. Of them, two out of state candidates removed themselves from the list of candidates. Scoring the assessments should take place by March 10<sup>th</sup> after which they will meet with Mr. Bryant.

Item #4 **Gas Leaf Blower Discussion**

Mayor Elmore told the group that a bill has been introduced in the state legislature that would prevent municipalities from banning gas leaf blowers. He felt further discussions should be suspended until the fate of this bill is known. He asked people to contact their representatives if they have an opinion on the matter. There was discussion about the bill being an affront to cities rights. The consensus was to table the discussion on this matter.

Item #5 **Proposed Capital Projects Manager Position**

City Manager Bryant recalled that during budget discussions, four new job positions were brought up, one being that of a capital projects manager. He

pointed to the job description provided to the BOMC that would be used during recruitment. An amendment to the Classification and Compensation Plan would be required to move forward. He listed the capital projects currently underway or on the horizon. Mr. Bryant also listed some of the job duties for this position. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher voiced his support. This will be voted on at the next regular meeting.

Item #6 **Town Green Market Pavilion Update**

City Manager Bryant explained that a change order to the contract with Reeves Young is needed and he gave a cost estimate that was lower than the high end of the estimate. He explained some delays in the town green construction but said it should be done in April with the pavilion completed in June. Mr. Bryant concluded that he could execute the change order the following day.

Item #7 **Purchase of Police Radios**

Five of the handheld radios used by the Police Department are obsolete and need to be replaced. The other eleven radios were replaced using funding from the Capital Project Fund during 2021.

City Manager Bryant said 11 of the 16 police radios have already been replaced and there is allowances for that in the budget. However, five more need to be replaced and the cost exceeds the city manager's spending authority. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher had a question about the radios. Mr. Bryant responded that the manufacturers stop supporting them and they become obsolete, similar to cell phones. There was discussion about the typical lifespan of the radios. Commissioner Laratte also had questions.

Item #8 **Recommendation to Purchase New Computer Server, Related Software and Installation Services**

The city's current server is out of warranty, almost full, and has an obsolete operating system. This server will become the off-site backup if a new one is purchased.

City Manager Bryant explained that staff's IT consultant felt this move needed to be taken sooner rather than later. Assistant City Manager Hanebuth gave a general itemized list of the components and associated costs. Mr. Hanebuth added that the consultant advised the price was competitive. Commissioner Laratte asked about the function of the server and there was discussion about using a cloud set-up as opposed to a server.

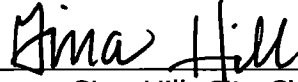
Item #9 **Public Comment**

Mel Hatfield asked a question about the change order for the town green pavilion. City Manager Bryant clarified the language he used in introducing it. Martha McDermott spoke out against gas powered leaf blowers. Klaus van Den Berg recommended waiting to move forward with the town green pavilion. He felt it was a mistake to tear down the credit union building. Mayor Elmore listed the reasons they're moving forward with the pavilion. Commissioner Shortell suggested those interested look at the drawings of the pavilion on the city website.

Item #10 Adjournment

Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moved to adjourn. Commissioner Merriam seconded. All ayes.

APPROVED MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gina Hill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Gina Hill, City Clerk