

CITY OF MCINTYRE

Minutes

June 5, 2023

5:30 p.m.

City of McIntyre Meeting Room

The City of McIntyre council meeting was held on June 5, 2023 with Mayor Vicki Horne presiding. Council Members present were Rico Myrick, Debra Kennedy, John Carswell, and Eugene Moore. Mayor Vicki Horne and Council Member Katherine Scott were absent.

Others in attendance: City Clerk Davonia Riddle, Chief Wayne Amerson, and Mr. Park

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Vicki Horne. Prayer was led by Council Member Eugene Moore.

Approval of Minutes:

Mayor Pro-Tem Rico Myrick made a motion to approve the minutes for May 1, 2023 Regular Meeting, Seconded by Council Member John Carswell. Motion carried. Mayor Horne wanted to put on record that Council Member Katherine Scott is absent.

New Business:

Mayor Horne stated that the council accepted the resignation of Roger Davis the street worker. She goes on to say that the council needs to advertise for a new street worker. The city has also already been accepting applications and asked the council if they had any feedback. Council Member Debra Kennedy asked why Roger quit and Mayor Horne stated he got hired at the county. Mayor Pro-Tem Rico Myrick asked if the ad ran in the paper, City Clerk Davonia stated that ad ran last week and this week. Mayor Pro-Tem asked if the council was waiting for next month or having a called meeting. Mayor Vicki Horne stated that the council will have a called meeting because the city needs help.

Council member John Carswell asked what the council was going to do with the park. He stated a citizen called him about the park regarding stuff that needs to be done. He stated that the council has money in the budget for a contract labor and asked if the council was going to put someone in the park before the event in July. Mayor Horne stated that the contract labor can't do the repairs. Council Member John Carswell said he brought an invoice in for the repairs. Mayor Horne asked about the days the contract worker will be at the park. Council Member John Carswell said maybe three days a week. He goes on to say a lot of things needed to be done. He said he was under the impression that the city wasn't going to do anything at the park because of the pipes and other issues. Mayor Vicki Horne said she asked about having the family reunion at the park last year and before the pipes got put up there. Council Member John Carswell said another thing, the council never came up with a cost for the park. He goes on to say

he presented it one time, but it got pushed off. He said he doesn't know what to tell the citizens regarding the cost and asked the council if the city is going to push off the fees and not charge. Council Member John Carswell said he has them at a standstill and Mayor Horne said it's the council's decision. Council Member Debra Kennedy asked what we normally charge. Mayor Vicki Horne stated the church hasn't been charged with anything, but this is a family reunion. Council Member John Carswell said one of the agreements was the city didn't charge non-profit but since this is a family reunion, he needed to know what to tell her. Mayor Vicki Horne stated that the council never finalized the fees and Council Member John Carswell stated that the information was on paper. Council Member John Carswell said he can get the information together and have the information ready for the call meeting. Mayor Vicki Horne told Council Member John Carswell to get the information together and present it to the council before the meeting.

Mayor Horne stated that the council needs to decide about an interview. Mayor Horne asked what the last day is for the application to be accepted and City Clerk Davonia stated that she did not include a date. Mayor Horne stated that next week should be good and City Clerk Davonia said yes because the ad will have to run for two weeks. Mayor Horne stated that so far, the city only has one application and if the council knows of anyone who is qualified and is willing to work for the city, send them to City Hall.

Motion made by Debra Kennedy to have a called meeting on June 13, 2023 at 6:00 pm, Seconded by Council Member John Carswell. Motion carried.

Mayor Horne asked if the council wanted to discuss a contract laborer worker for the park if it's in the budget. She goes on to say the council needs to make sure to look at the budget closely, because the council needs to put in the budget a line item for a sewer worker. Mayor Horne goes on to say the council needs to try and come up with a dollar amount. City Clerk Davonia asked Council Member Eugene Moore what the amount was budgeted for the sewer worker. Council Member Eugene Moore said they budgeted \$55,000 but it was for two workers. He goes on to say, he wanted to consult with other cities and get a job description for the sewer worker. He said he knows that you must be certified and licensed. Mayor Vicki Horne said Greg was supposed to be getting us a list. Council Member John Carswell stated that Twiggs County has a system that is like ours and Butts County, just on a larger scale. He goes on to say that Butts County has a more automated system, and our system is more manual. He said Baldwin County is also similar too, but you have to a Class 3 and with our system, only Class 1.

Mayor Horne stated that the guy in Twiggs County was contracted, and she thinks he also worked with Jones County. She goes on to say that it was a long time ago, but she is sure we can get a description from Twiggs County. Mayor Horne said we got to put money in place and advertise for a sewer worker. Mayor Pro Tem stated if we send them to school, how long are we going to request that they stay in the City of McIntyre. Mayor Vicki Horne stated that it should be at least two years and if not, they need to pay the money back. Mayor Horne asked City Attorney Nichols and he said he believed you could, but he will check and research. Council Member John Carswell stated the test amount is \$600. Mayor Vicki Horne also stated in Forsyth, there is a place that you can take classes and GMC in Milledgeville because of their water/sewer issues.

Mayor Horne said the council needs to add a line item for the sewer workers so they will know the city is trying to move forward with getting the position filled. City Clerk Davonia stated that those funds will have to be paid out of the Wastewater account and there are not many funds in that account. She goes on to say, since the city had to get power at one of the pumps stations the bill amounts are coming out of that account. Mayor Vicki Horne said right now we're going to designate an amount and put it in our budget and then the city will work out all the other items. Council Member Eugene Moore stated that

they are few and far between already certified. Council Member John Carswell stated that we probably won't get anyone certified so we need to look into someone that's not certified. Mayor Horne said we need to get someone home grown or someone in the area that's interested. Mayor Horne stated she wanted to put \$50,000 in the budget and adjust the amount later if needed. She goes on to say we must show USDA that we're actually doing our part.

Council Member Debra Kennedy made a motion that council put \$50,000 in the budget for sewer worker, Seconded by Council Member John Carswell. Motion carried. Mayor Horne said we will work on it by getting in touch with Greg and Twiggs/Jones County. Mayor Horne said she hopes Mark and Willie will be open to picking up some of the skills.

Sunday Sales

Mayor Horne said she was going to open the floor to Mr. Park regarding Sunday sales. Mr. Park stated that he and City Attorney Jack drafted up four resolutions to consider. The resolution has all the issues that the city may want to add to the ordinance for Sunday Sales. The forms are included (see attachment). Mr. Park said from the information he received from City Attorney Jack the council wanted to do Sunday sales pouring for distilled spirit/liquor. He said you want to be able to do that until the city gets an authorization to sell distilled spirit in the city on Sunday. He goes on to say each resolution is by the book and it's just a little variation, but that is just to account for the state law. He said, the catering license council doesn't need a referendum, but the other three councils do, and that's per state law and how everyone must do it. Mayor Horne asked if you needed to have a certain number of citizens to put it on the referendum? Mr. Park said no. He goes on to say the council passed the resolution 30 to 60 days before it's sent to the election superintendent. The election superintendent then put it on the ballot and the voters consider it. He said it has to be over 50% of the citizens either up or down. If it gets rejected, there is a time period where it can't be put to a vote again. He said he thinks it is about two years. He asked if there were any questions. Mayor Horne asked if the council has a place where they sell distilled spirit, the hard liquor. Mr. Park so no ma'am. Mayor Horne said so what you're saying is, the council can vote, and it will allow the citizens to have it in the city. Mr. Park said the council will vote on the resolution if that passes, then it goes to everybody in the city. Mayor Horne asked how long that has been in place? Mr. Park said to be honest, he doesn't know how long they allowed Sunday sales, but he was looking at the state law and it changes about once a year or every two years. He said it's just minor changes, not a lot. Mayor Horne said she was just asking about the city voting on the resolution without the citizens partaking. Mr. Park said ever since one council decides. He said let's say council doesn't want alcohol sales, the citizens can partition to and that's a separate deal. He said from his understanding the council is putting it on the table. The citizens decide at the election. Mr. Park said for the first go around, the Sunday sales he believes for both, the hours are from 11:00 am to 12:00 midnight. He said you can change and make a longer period if it's passed at the election, that's just the starting time.

Mayor Horne said the floor is open for discussion. Council member John Carswell asked Mr. Park to explain the catering license again. He said there's no referendum election required. He said council vote and approved then the code of ordinance get revised, and it then goes into place. He said then the council will be able to issue alcohol license for catering. He said the business will have an alcohol license and catering license. He said for caters inside and outside the city limits, they would have to come to city hall and purchase the license. Mr. Park said he saw where it's about \$50 to have a catering license event. Mayor Horne asked if that's all you can charge or can you increase that amount? He said, that's just an example he believes you could do more if you wanted to. The catering license itself also has a fee. Council Member Debra Kennedy asked the council if we want to sell alcohol in the City of McIntyre?

Mayor Horne stated that alcohol is already being sold. Council Member Eugene Moore said we're talking about a food truck will he be allowed to sell food and alcohol if he paid the fee? Council Member John Carwell said yes if he has all the licenses that are required. Mr. Park said the food truck is an interesting topic because it has its own rules in Georgia. He goes on to say it may be treated differently because it's on wheels. He said he is not sure if a food truck will be considered for a catering license, but he will check into it. He said the council could do that if they like to. Council Member Eugene Moore asked if JET food store in Irwinton wants to cater an event in McIntyre. He said yes if they have a catering license over there and the city agrees they will be able to sell alcohol. Council Member Eugene stated but you must have the catering license and Mr. Park said yes. Mayor Horne asked Mr. Park who developed the catering license. Mr. Park said he's not sure when it came into state law. Council Member John Carswell asked what would you have to do to obtain the license? Mr. Park said you just provide for it in the ordinance and he's sure there are other cities we can use as a guide or example. He goes on to say it shouldn't be different than how it's done now. Council Member John Carswell said he can see where Council Member Eugene Moore is going with his question. Most of the city events happen on the city property so alcohol can't be sold. He said basically it is when it happens at events outside of the city property. Mayor Pro-Tem Myrick said at one of Macon events, alcohol was sold on the city property. He asked what the difference will be with the City of McIntyre? Mayor Horne stated it depends on where you are located and asked the council if there is any other discussion. Council Member Eugene Moore asked if alcohol on the city property will get an override with the catering license? Mr. Park said he's not sure right off top of his head, but he will check. Council Member John said he had a question to ask Chief Amerson Wayne how he would feel about it if the catering license were passed? Chief Amerson said as long as it is in the ordinance and the proper license is obtained, he's okay with it. He said we need to be careful when it comes to having children at events. He said other things with adults should be fine and as long as it is benefiting the city, he sees no problem with it. Council Member John Carswell said he doesn't know if that is the route the city wants to take but there's a couple of other options. He goes on to say the council needs to decide on what route to take. Mayor Pro-Tem said we need to bring everything up to par because the sewer system may bring on a lot of things and people here. He goes on to say if a business wants to come on 441, we will already have it in place. Mr. Park said if he can inject, he thinks it will benefit the city well because you may have certain venues like weddings or receptions. If you don't have a catering license, you wouldn't be able to sell alcohol.

Council Member John Carswell stated, you must get out of a small box, because we have to think about when we get these big sewage payments coming in, all of the things that's going to bring revenue to the city. We need to open up and see what's going to benefit the city overall. It may be something we want to look into and bring back to the table.

Mayor Pro Tem asked if having a Longhorn will fall under the catering license. Mr. Park stated no, Longhorns would just be a general license to sell alcohol. So right now, Longhorns could sell beer and wine to you at the Longhorns and that's it.

Council Member John Carswell stated so basically, we have a roadblock that's a self-created roadblock regarding alcohol that we still need to get passed. Mr. Park stated you cannot sell any distilled spirits in McIntyre right now.

Mayor Horne stated she doesn't drink alcohol and doesn't like the facts about it, but there's still items here. It can bring other revenue and I don't want to just say it's not significant or important. She said if she could she probably would still say no but there are other people who want it.

Council Member John Carswell stated it's three different ordinances that you read out to us, right? But one of them would have to go through the vote by the people to be determined.

Mr. Park stated there's four resolutions about alcohol. One of them is for catering, and that one doesn't require an election. The other three do. Council Member John Carswell stated with the other three, all we are doing is saying that this is something that we would like to see happen, but it will be left into the hands of the voters. Mr. Park said yes. The Council discussed more, (see attachment).

Mayor Horne asked Mr. Park if they would get all the information together. Mr. Park stated they can regulate it however she liked. He stated he can make everybody wear wristbands if they're over or underage. The Council can provide how they want it done. Mr. Park stated the council could also put in the code of ordinances that if a catered event gets sanctioned by you all and approved, then it gets sent directly to the Police Department, so they have knowledge of it.

Mr. Park stated before you vote on the ones you have, you must have an election, there are special time frames that it must be passed and that's just based on state law. And I was asking Superintendent about the election Superintendent today and you all do that through the county. So, a lot of the time frames are in the state law, as soon as you all pass it, it goes to the election Superintendent. Then he only has so much time before he could call for the election. So, before you put it to a vote, you need to decide when you want to have the election. Council Member Eugene Moore stated the secretary of state doesn't decide. Is that right? Mr. Park stated there's only so many dates, that's correct. He stated that the next one is November 7th, and the following election is going to be in the third week of March. The reason I say that is you might. I'm glad that you brought it up today, but I don't think you would want to table it today because if you vote on that the in next meeting, it's going to happen too fast and too far in advance of Election Day and you can't do that.

Mayor Horne asked Council Eugene Moore about his feelings. Council Eugene Moore stated that we can go ahead and pass the catering license and, on the others, let the people vote. He goes on to say he thinks probably the election Superintendent should be able to give us a date.

The Council discussed changing the July meeting. Motion made by Council John Carswell to reschedule the July 3rd meeting to July 17th, **Seconded** by Mayor Pro Tem Rico Myrick. Motion carried.

Grants

City Clerk Davonia stated she talked with Greg from MGRC and he wasn't able to attend because he had a meeting tonight. She stated Greg told her that the loan application must be done first but one other thing they want to know is if we are going to use the same engineer.

Mayor Horne stated City Clerk Davonia is talking about the fire hydrants on Macon and Old McIntyre Road. She goes on to say that the city doesn't have all the money so Greg will fill out a grant application from GEFA. In the process, the city needs to figure out how much it costs to get someone to see how much it's going to be for the whole project. The Council discussed the grant, (See attachment).

LMIG

City Clerk Davonia stated the city has three years' worth of LMIG that it needs to be used before the end of the year. She said she talked with the city representative, and he told her the funds must be used before the city can apply for 2024 LMIG.

Council members Eugene Moore stated one section that needs some repair that's not going to be touched is Vincent Road where the bridge is located. The area from where we stopped at before to, the city limits. It's not going to be affected by the sewer system.

Mayor Horne asked how much money do we have? City Clerk Davonia said around \$49,000 and we must match 30%. City Clerk Davonia gave them a list of other things that LMIG could be used for, (See attachment), the Council discussed.

Wilkinson County Rec. Department

Council Member John Carswell presented the banner sales before the council, (See attachment).

Charts of Accounts

City Clerk Davonia asked to move it to the next meeting because she needs to speak with Brian Wright.

Employee Appreciation Date

Mayor Horne asked City Clerk Davonia to get the information together and bring it back to the council.

Council Comments

Debra Kennedy- no comments

Eugene Moore- He stated he has two prices on ATV. Kubota prices is \$20,450 and John Deere \$20,500. Mayor Horne asked how much is left with the ARPA funds, City Clerk Davonia said around \$11,000.

Motion made by Council Member John Carswell to purchase the Kubota from Southside Equipment for \$20,450, Seconded by Council Member Eugene Moore. Motion carried.

John Carswell- He asked the council if they wanted to contribute to the back-to-school event this year. Mayor Horne stated the previous city attorney stated that the city could not give supplies. She asked Mr. Park and he stated he is not sure, but he will check into it.

He asked if the city wanted to do something for July 4th on that Saturday. Council discussed. Mayor Horne asked to get it down on paper and bring it back to council.

He discussed getting a contract worker for the recreation department. Motion made by Council Member Eugene Moore to hire a recreation department contract worker for 10 weeks at \$12.00 per hour, Seconded by Council Member John Carswell. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Rico Myrick-no comments

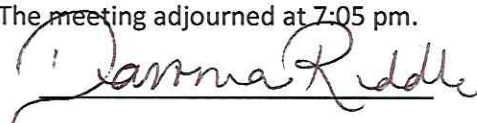
Mr. Park- no comments

City Clerk Davonia-Told council that she spoke with a representative from Southern Linc. regarding walkie-talkies for the water/street departments. The Council discussed purchasing the walkie-talkies and decided not to move forward at this meeting.

With there being no further business, **Motion made by Council Member John Carswell, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Rico Myrick, to adjourned. Motion Carried.** The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Vicki Horne", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Vicki Horne

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Davonia Riddle", written over a horizontal line.

City Clerk, Davonia Riddle