

Walnut Grove City Council Meeting

Thursday, October 11, 2018

7:00 P.M.

Present:

Mayor Lamar Lee

Carol Witcher

Linda Pilgrim

Mark Moore

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Lamar Lee

II. INVOCATION

Invocation given by Carol Witcher

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All stood for Pledge of Allegiance

IV. AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion made by Mark Moore to approve agenda, seconded by Carol Witcher, motion passed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Stephanie Moncrief from 2150 Emerald Drive Loganville GA.- I don't really have comments. I was just thinking back this week over the past meetings and realizing there have been things that have been stated or said and never really had any follow-up, so I wanted to put those things out there and just say that I would appreciate a follow-up or a comment if I could. First of all, thank you for putting up the green tree sign, I saw it and the crosswalk has been lined and I saw that which is nice. But, I guess these are my questions of things that have been brought up or discussed and I never really heard any final statement about them. One was the speed humps situation in neighborhoods and speeding, and the other was the budget discrepancy of which I don't believe was a bad thing last weekend, but it was a discrepancy. It was brought to everybody's attention and I know we are going to be voting today and I think that is important that not only you guys know what was resolved but the people that was here know what was resolved. The Code Enforcement on the houses and property that was brought up last week and still nothing has been done about that. And also, I was just curious about when was the last time, I know that being on our home owner's association that we have work sessions and just wondering when your last work session was? Also, if there is going to be after last week's discussion about conferences if there is any change to policies or anything like that. And then finally what are the plans for the ballfield that is supposed to be coming for a while, plans for

downtown and plans for growth for the city and I know that is a lot but those are just questions that I have that we have touched on and nothing has ever become of them so I am just curious where we are and that is it. Carol Witcher- One thing I would like to say, we don't have a newspaper reporter that comes. We have invited them, we invited them, and we invited them and if we had a newspaper some of these things could be answered. Maybe we need to put somebody on council that is responsible for making that decision to take stuff to the newspaper, but I should think that they know that we are here. And they report all of the other communities I don't see us getting reports so. Stephanie Moncrief- I could not agree with you more but I can't do anything about that. Carol Witcher- And I am saying I am not sure we can either, but I am just saying that would be a tremendous help and be used as a vocal voice for people to hear and read what is happening. Stephanie Moncrief- I agree, does anybody know are those things we are going to touch on or just leave them out there again. Mayor Lee- Lets take them one at a time. Stephanie Moncrief- Would you like me to repeat them? I know I only have five minutes. Let's do the budget thing because I know that is an easy one. Kathy Glass- That is a report out of QuickBooks it's Actual Vs. Budget so it is just a report, there is no money missing. There is no \$30,000 missing. Stephanie Moncrief – and I didn't think there was any money missing I thought that maybe something was being misread. Kathy Glass- We are audited every year. Stephanie Moncrief- I thought you were audited twice a year, I remember you telling me that one time. Kathy Glass- no we have an annual audit that is required by law. Stephanie Moncrief- I just wanted to get it because it was an eye opener. Ok, so budget is done, Code Enforcement Officer, I see on the agenda that you are going to be expanding the Code Enforcement officers' hours. Mayor Lee- We are looking at that. It is going to be discussed. Stephanie Moncrief- I went through the ordinances and the covenants for the city and there is lots of things that can be done about these homes that are covered up like your neighbor or this house over here just like in my neighborhood. Mayor Lee- Listen ya'll keep talking about my neighbor let me tell you something about my neighbor, my neighbor has been in this court room enough and paid enough fines to hire a dad gum professional grass cutting thing for years and he still does it. Stephanie Moncrief - Well keep doing it, it is income. Mayor Lee-That is what we do. Stephanie Moncrief- I mean it is covered, you can't even see the house now. Mayor Lee- You are right, you should have to look at it like I do. Stephanie Moncrief- What about the Mausoleum up here? Is that what ya'll anticipated when she first said she wanted to open up? Carol Witcher- What is the Mausoleum? Stephanie Moncrief- The stress garden, the flower garden place. I mean they are crazy up there, I feel like I am going through a grave yard and I am going to wake them up. What my point is, if we want to attract a certain somebody to this town and I hope one day we do grow that is not going to do it for us. I am just curious if that was what was approved when she first signed on, that she could put over 100 statues and things out there. Mayor Lee- Well as you say as we grow there is fixing to be fifty houses built in here. Stephanie Moncrief- I understand that but that does not address this issue. Lamar Lee- Hey right we can take care of that issue I mean evidently somebody has got a beef with that lady up there. Stephanie Moncrief -No it is not the lady, I don't even know her, I don't even know her. Lamar Lee- Grant are you here, take care of that. Stephanie Moncrief-I don't even know her, she could be the nicest lady in the world, that is not the issue, I could be the nicest person in the world too, but if I has a trashy yard. Lamar Lee-I will get my man over there. Ok give me the next one. Stephanie Moncrief- Speed Issues in our neighborhood. Linda Pilgrim- Can we look and see what

was approved for that area, for April's Flower Garden, Kathy Glass-If it is zoned commercial does it say you can only have so many concrete monuments in the yard? Stephanie Moncrief- I know in our covenants, it has to be well kept, attractive there has to be something in there like that because we kind of fashioned ours after the city and I wrote it and I can imagine that it is in there. Grant Satterfield-That is it's a matter of black and white. Mark Moore- I agree I have read through there and I haven't seen any ordinance regardless of what we feel. Much discussion was made. Mark Moore- Invited everyone to the work session that we have on the first Thursday of every month at 5:30 and expressed that everyone was welcome and should try to come to the meeting. Stephanie Moncrief discussed the proposed Ball Field to be built up at Corn Dawgs and Mayor Lee let her know that was a Walton County project and that it was probably not going to be built.

Scott Radcliffe - From the Masonic Lodge spoke on behalf of the Lodge and what their plans are coming up. They will be having a Car Show on December 8th to benefit Toys for Tots. He was asking for permission to put directional signs on Park Street for the show. Also, on October 27th at Youth Elementary or Walnut Grove Elementary I am not sure we are working on getting packages for our Guard a Child Program to give out at their fall festival, trying to get that going but having issues with the program. They want to get more involved with the community. Todd Wilson is the Master of the lodge right now.

VI. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM September 13, 2018 AND October 4, 2018.

Mark Moore made a Motion to Approve the minutes from both meetings, Linda Pilgrim seconded the motion, motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Alan Barton Public works director said there is not a whole lot to report. The crosswalk is finished, I hope everybody approves of it and likes it. That is the way that it was drawn out and presented. We are trying to get everything trimmed up for winter and maybe the grass will quit growing and we can get something done besides weed eating and cutting grass. We had the gas people come back in and cut some of the sidewalks a pretty good bit but we got some more free sidewalks put in. Talked to E.R. Snell and they said it would be about two more weeks before they could get started. Got the Christmas tree trimmed up and the top of it is dead and hopefully it don't continue to die, if it does I don't know what we are going to do. I guess we will have to make one. Carol Witcher- How are we doing on the sewer? Anything exciting going on? Alan Barton - We finally got a little sewer over to the plant, I noticed the first of the week. I have been checking on Silt Saver and looks like they have got all of the materials in and will probably be having their ribbon cutting soon.

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT

Kathy Glass, we did not approve the financials for last month because there was a question about it. I have looked at it tonight with Mr. Moore and that one does go right along with the budget that we approved in June. So, if we can vote on that one, but the one for tonight the report that quick books generated we were looking at and it doesn't look like the budget that it is reflecting is correct, so I would like to push it to next month to approve it. It looks like it is pulling numbers from another budget. I don't want to approve the one for September, but I do want to vote on the one for August. Mark Moore- Going back to August I am concerned about

the expenditures on these classes that we are taking. So I want to make a motion that we limit city funding of all educational classes and expenses that go along with it to state mandated courses and to the once a year state convention and B to qualify for all attendees to the state convention must be taking a minimum of three courses to qualify to the convention. Kathy Glass- That was the budget that we passed and voted on. Can we amend this at this point in the middle of the budget year? Maxine McClanahan- asked the question to the Mayor are we discussing the report or are we discussing the budget? Attorney Mike Malcom - Ok Mark hold on before you start talking, she made a motion to approve the August financials can we go ahead and get that out of the way. On new business we can bring out what you are talking about. Mayor Lee- Motion needed to approve August. Carol Witcher made the motion to approve and Linda Pilgrim seconded the motion. Kathy Glass- ask Mr. Moore if he voted for the August and he said no, she then asked if he was sustaining. Mark Moore voted not to pass the August Financials. Motion passed.

IX. CLERK'S REPORT

Given by: Katherine Clerk

Activity report given on all business licenses, citations, and other permits and park reservations.

X. CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Given by Grant Satterfield, Code Enforcement Officer

He gave a report on what he is working on and explained why he needed more hours.

XI. MAYOR'S REPORT

Well pretty much what I was going to talk about has all been talked about tonight. The crosswalk is finished, E.R. Snell will hopefully start next week. We have the signs out to say, "your tax dollars at work". The Christmas Tree Lighting will be Nov. 17th. October 18, The Walton Municipal Association meeting will be held at the Blue Willow in Social Circle.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Report from Walnut Grove High School from Dr Shawn Callahan gave update on the school. He had a very good report on how the school is doing compared to last year.
- b. First reading on the Amendment of the Business License Ordinance Chapter 32, Sec 32-105
- c. First reading on the 3rd chapter of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Walnut Grove regarding the City's Administration and for other Purposes.
- d. Modify Code Enforcement Officers hours per week. There was lots of discussion on this topic. Mark Moore made a motion to change the number of hours the Code Enforcement officer could

work from 5 hours per week to as much as 20 hours per week as needed. Carol Witcher-
Seconded the motion, motion passed.

XIV. DISCUSSION ITEM

Mark Moore- I don't have anything other than asking to make sure that we can talk about the
financials at our work session.

Carol Witcher- What are we looking in the financials that we have to look at so often?

Mark Moore- Just looking for a clear picture and an understanding of the financials.

Clerk Kathy Glass- I have furnished all the council members a copy of the check book register
and a copy of all of the credit card statements with itemized entries and no one has ever called
me with any questions about any entry on any of these documents. I just want to clarify that I
have furnished stuff and no one has asked me anything.

XV. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mark Moore: None
Linda Pilgrim: None
Carol Witcher: None

ADJOURN:

Motion made by Carol Witcher to adjourn, seconded by Linda Pilgrim
Motion passed.

Time: 8:35 P.M.

Approved by the Mayor and Council this _____ day of November, 2018.

Mayor Lee

Kathrine A. Glass, Clerk

