

# **City of Walnut Grove City Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

March 12, 2015

### **I. Call to order**

Mayor Lamar Lee called to order the regular meeting of the City Council at 7:00 p.m. on March 12, 2015 at Walnut Grove Community Building, 1021 park Street, Loganville, GA.

Council Present: Kathy Dimsdale, Wayne Dimsdale and Carol Witcher

### **II. Invocation**

Don Cannon gave the invocation

### **III. Pledge of Allegiance**

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

### **IV. Approval of Agenda**

Wayne Dimsdale made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. Carol Witcher seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and all members voted in favor that the minutes be approved. The agenda was approved as presented.

### **V. Public Comment**

Don Cannon spoke on behalf of the Library. A handout was provided to the Council. Don pointed out the numbers of programs available to citizens of Walnut Grove and how many citizens take advantage of the library. From July 2013 – June 2014, 62 programs were available for school age children to adults and 1,316 people attended these programs. 26,545 individual visits were made to the library. 39,371 Items were checked out and 4,740 items were sent and received to other library systems through the Pines network. 7,203 sessions were logged on library computers and 1,646 sessions were logged on the wireless network. Mr. Cannon pointed out that Uncle Remus has all the counties records digitized. An example given was The Walton Tribune. He pointed out our need to keep up grows every year. In all the money allocated by the City of Walnut Grove and Walton County the request is increased for The City of Walnut Grove and Walton County by \$3,000.00 each. Wayne Dimsdale asked what this money will be

used for. Mr. Cannon answered the money will be used for the purchase of books and other items that can be checked out to the public. Mr. Cannon said the library would be glad to give an itemized list of what was purchased with this additional money. Mr. Cannon said he and the Library would appreciate the Council considering being included again this year in the budget along with the \$3,000.00 increase. If the Council needs additional information it will be provided.

Carol Witcher suggested the Library seek endowments to support the Library. Mr. Cannon stated he didn't know about any specific endowments but the staff is currently seeking grant money. Carol Witcher also suggested the Library should procure money from service organizations. Mr. Cannon stated the City of Walnut Grove doesn't have as many clubs here as Monroe and Loganville but that they are working on it. Carol Witcher asked how the Library would want the money disbursed and Mr. Cannon responded the staff could invoice the City of Walnut Grove and with the invoice would be an itemized list of what was purchased with the money. Carol Witcher asked if this is going to be requested every year. And Mr. Cannon responded, yes, they want it to be a part of next year's budget as well. The Legislature used to fund libraries and now it has been moved under the Board of Regents.

**VI. Approval of Minutes from February 12, 2015 City Council Meeting**

Wayne Dimsdale made a motion the minutes be accepted as presented. Carol Witcher seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All members were in favor. The agenda was approved as presented.

**VII. Public Works Report**

Alan Barton reported things in the city were quiet. The treatment plant is coming along and the new wall at City Hall is being constructed.

**VIII. Financial Report**

The City Clerk provided the February financial report for all accounts. Wayne Dimsdale made a motion approval on the February financials be tabled until they could be studied. Carol Witcher seconded this motion. It was passed by the Council.

**IX City Clerk's Report**

The City Clerk reported a total of 21 citations were issued for the month of February. WCSO issued 9, GSP issued 10 and the Walton County Animal Control issued 2.

There were 5 Business Licenses renewed and 1 new business license issued.

There were 3 pavilion reservations and 60 ballpark reservations made.

X. **Code Enforcement Report**

Code Enforcement Officer Brett Davis was not present at the meeting. There was no report presented.

XI. **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Lee reported the Old 138, when the weather permits, will be paved taking the county line in past Cambridge. The County ball field design has been approved for the complex at 138. No opening date has been given.

XII. **New Business**

A) Arbor Day – Carol Witcher reported she would like to plant two trees by the old gray barn for Arbor Day.

B) Walnut Grove Public Library

- a. Wayne Dimsdale made a motion to table any decision on the Library until the April City Council Meeting since the council hasn't completed their budget. Carol Witcher seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried.

XIII. **Council Comments**

Kathy Dimsdale – thanked Carol Witcher for all her work on the BBQ and welcomed the new clerk, Kathy Glass.

Wayne Dimsdale – in regards to the budget Wayne mentioned a city tax. He said he had always said he would not vote for a city tax but it is coming. With all the cut backs from the state it will be hard to maintain a good budget without having a city tax. He stated there is lots of paving needed in the city.

Wayne addressed Don Cannon and told him the Masonic Lodge might be a contact for library funds.

Wayne also thanked Carol Witcher for her work on the BBQ.

Carol Witcher – she is proud to be a citizen of Walnut Grove. She has always said you must give back of your time. This is something as an educator she always tried to instill in her students. She will always speak in favor of libraries. After hearing Alan talk about public works, she stated, we have a 39 year old truck for crying out loud. I thank the ones that came forth tonight to speak on behalf of the library and the honesty that you brought and your forthright attitude. I know this council works hard trying to make sure everything gets done. We have to be held accountable. I want to be held accountable. If someone ever thinks I am not doing something right I want them to come to me. I may not always see something the same way someone else might. We must come together and say these are my needs, and these are my needs. It makes for a better relationship. That’s what I am all about. Thank you for coming out and thank you for your confidence in me.

Kevin Shultz – was not present at this meeting.

Mayor Lee – Good to see some new faces out there in the audience tonight. We hope you will continue to come out when we have Council Meetings. Don it is good to see you along with the others.

XIV. **Adjournment**

Mayor Lee made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Carol Witcher. All were in favor and the motion carried to dismiss.

Mayor Lamar Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Approved by the Mayor and Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Lamar Lee

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City Clerk, Katherine A. Glass