



*Council meeting work session
Sept. 30, 2024*

Present: Mayor Chris Lelle; Councilmen, Doug Koestel, Tommy Buchanan, Eric Dailey, Sally Brown and Sharon Johnson; Clerk, Kathy Bridges; Attorney Karen Thomas

Visitors: Beth Buchanan, Jerry Johnson

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Mayor asked if the council had reviewed the minutes. Sally Brown made the motion to approve the Sept. 23 minutes, Sharon Johnson seconded, and the motion passed with Tommy Buchanan abstaining from voting since he was absent for the meeting. Sharon Johnson made the motion to approve the Sept. 3 minutes and with the second by Eric Dailey the vote was unanimous with Brown abstaining from voting since she was absent at the meeting.

Dailey made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss the interior lights at his Home Computer business-3 East Star Street. Sally Brown seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The council discussed the Christmas lights installation estimates. Doug Koestel had prepared a comparison of the work and the quotes.

The council discussed the mayor/council compensation. Koestel said he had compared 20 cities of similar sizes, and one Mayor was getting \$1000 a month. He suggested doubling the salaries. Sally Brown said a monthly fee could also be considered. The increase would not go into effect until after the next election which would be 2025.

The council discussed a policy concerning private citizens contacting the town's law firm. It was agreed the town should not be liable for such calls and the new law firm would be informed not to take such calls but refer them to the mayor or council.

The Mayor said the owners of Dynasty Auto Creations would be present at the October meeting to answer questions about the business. A home occupation license for a house cleaning business-Elite Cleaning Service-was also discussed.

The council considered the 2025 budget and were tasked with making any changes before the October meeting.

Sharon Johnson made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss the detention pond at the Corinth Church subdivision and with a second by Eric Dailey the vote was unanimous.

Next the council discussed the contract with CPL for planning services. The Mayor explained that the town would adopt a fee schedule, and the applicant would pay fees to the town which in turn would pay CPL. The intent was to be a net neutral cost and to give the town more control. Lelle said the fees were modeled after Gwinnett County's. The zoning and permitting fees resolution was also discussed.

The Mayor said the only applicant for the position of town attorney was the Samuels Firm-father Bubba and son, Jack. An agreement could be reached at the October meeting.

The Mayor gave the highlights of the Service Delivery meeting which were roads funding and water territory maps. He also said Winder would no longer have a forced annexation policy.

The Mayor said the road improvements bids were not complete but hoped to have them by Monday. They included widening Shepherd Street and making it one way from the pavilion to E. Star and a crosswalk from the pavilion. Also, a 4-way stop at David and Star. Culvert repairs were planned for Holly Lane; McElhanon Road by Clay McDaniel's property; Star Street; King Ave.; Joseph and restriping on David behind Harrison Poultry.

The clerk explained the Citgo had new owners and had completed all the necessary paperwork for a new business and alcohol license. She said she was waiting on notification from the state Dept. of Revenue.

Eric Dailey explained the interior fluorescent lights at his business were not working and the Mayor was to contact an electrician to check out the problem.

The Mayor explained there was no detention pond in the site plans of the Corinth Church Road subdivision and that each neighbor was responsible for stormwater runoff.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45.