

Sandersville City Council

Working Session Minutes

May 21, 2018 – 4:15 P.M.

Council Members and City Employees present:

Mayor Jimmy Andrews	Victor Cuyler, Chief SPD
Mayor Pro Tem Smith	Russell Riner, Chief SFD
Council Member Mayme Dennis	Wayne Poole, Electric Department Director
Council Member Henry Watts	Robert Eubanks, Public Works Director
Council Member Danny Brown	Brianna Wiley, Finance Director
Council Member Jason Davis	Karrie Brown, City Clerk
City Administrator Judy McCorkle	
Robert Wynne, City Attorney	

Mayor Andrews called the working session to order at 4:00 p.m. Mayor Andrews noted that Council Member Dennis should be in attendance before the business meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Recognitions:

Linda Grijalva with the CSRA Regional Commission gave an update on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), in which the current funds are being used to make improvements to the Boys and Girls Club. The GA Department of Community Affairs is waiting on the asbestos and lead paint reports. Once these reports are received, the grant can move forward with construction, which will hopefully start around August 1st.

Ms. Grijalva then gave an update on the Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) grant in the amount of \$300,000. Ms. Grijalva stated that anyone interested in receiving grant funding first needs to get their name added to the waiting list, which is currently a list of about 50 people. Once all of the special conditions are met by the City and the Regional Commission, then she will start sending out applications to the first 4 or 5 people on the waiting list. After eligibility is determined, then they will decide if the house can be rehabilitated or if it will need to be rebuilt. She will continue down the list until the money is exhausted. Ms. Grijalva added that the City can apply for CHIP funds every year. She stated there have been changes to the CHIP grant which now will allow the City to build and resale homes. The City can keep the proceeds as a revolving loan fund. The City Administrator and Council Members then discussed this option and will further explore this for future grant funding.

Ms. Grijalva gave an update on the Brownfield Grant, stating that once the EPA approves the plan, then the cleanup can be bid out. She hopes the Café is down by October and then she will look for a grant to cover the cost to construct the parking area.

The Council Members and City Administrator then discussed other grant opportunities with Ms. Grijalva, including the Sandersville Walks walking trail project and the development of the Linton Park area. City Administrator McCorkle will meet with Ms. Grijalva in the near future to look at possible grant funding options.

Ed Jordan with the Sandersville Building Authority (SBA) gave an overview of the Authority and how they obtained the Sandersville School property. Mr. Jordan stated their future plans include creating a civic center, a kaolin museum, a community store to sell local items, and rental space for classrooms or offices. Mr. Jordan stated SBA has applied for a FEMA grant to repair the roof from the hurricane damage as well as a One Georgia Grant to make improvements. The FEMA grant requires a 15% match which could be paid out of the One Georgia Grant. However, the One Georgia

Grant requires a \$50,000 match. The Sandersville Building Authority is asking the City for approximately \$16,600 which is a third of the grant match. The SBA has also asked the County for same amount and are waiting to hear back. The Mayor and Council Members further discussed the request. Mayor Andrews thanked Mr. Jordan for attending the meeting and stated he hoped to give them an answer within the next month.

Department Reports:

Police Chief Cuyler introduced new Police Officer, Keyerika Yorker, who graduated from the Police Academy this past Friday. Mayor Andrews then swore in Officer Yorker.

Fire Chief Riner stated he has 5 volunteer fire fighters enrolled in the Fire Fighter Suppression class. Also, they will host a Haz-Mat class at the Firehouse on June 9th.

Wayne Poole stated he will be attending a service territory meeting in Forsyth this Thursday.

Public Works Director Eubanks stated he attended the Georgia Rural Water conference last week and thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to attend this training.

Mayor Andrews asked Public Works Director Eubanks to get a cost on completing the sidewalk on Hospital Road from Hines Street to the corner of East McCarty Street.

Council Member Brown stated there is a beaver damn in the creek behind his house and asked Public Works Director Eubanks to take a look at this.

Council Member Dennis joined the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Finance Officer Wiley stated the Procurement Card Policy and Procedures is on the regular agenda for approval. She gave a brief summary of the policy noting that Department Heads and other authorized personnel would be issued cards with spending limits and would be required to turn in receipts for any purchases. Procurement cards would also be used for travel expenses such as hotel bills and meals. Employees who aren't issued a permanent card, but are required to travel will receive a temporary card. The Bank of America will issue the cards.

City Clerk Brown reminded everyone that the annual family day picnic will be this Friday. City Clerk Brown then passed out a draft copy of the Thiele Park Reservation Application and asked the Mayor and Council Members to review the application. This will be on the next agenda for approval.

City Administrator Report:

City Administrator McCorkle briefly went over the regular agenda items.

Mayor and Council Reports

Mayor Pro Tem Smith stated he has previously reviewed the park application and he is good with it. He feels that the park reservation should bear some financial barrier and that they can revisit the fees in the future and can adjust if needed.

Council Member Dennis suggested putting lights on the trees in the park. Council Member Dennis stated she took a class in Dublin that was great. In the class they learned how Dublin's Downtown Development Authority operates in partnership with the City and County. They also were able to take a tour of the downtown area.

Mayor Andrews adjourned the Working Session at 5:10 p.m.