

Sandersville City Council
Working Session Minutes
September 8, 2020 – 4:00 P.M.

Council Members and City Employees present:

Mayor Pro Tem Jeffery Smith	Wayne Poole, Electric Department Director
Council Member Danny Brown	Dave Larson, Community Development
Council Member Henry Watts	Victor Cuyler, Police Chief
Council Member Jason Davis	Robert Eubanks, Public Works Director
Kennan Howard, City Attorney	Russell Riner, Fire Chief
Judy McCorkle, City Administrator	Andrew Simpson, Economic Development
Brianna Wiley, Finance Director	Kandice Hartley, City Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem Smith called the working session to order at 4:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Smith asked everyone to keep Mayor Andrews in your thoughts and prayers as he is recovering from a surgery, and also Lieutenant Wanda Peacock as she was in a major car accident.

Department Reports

Police Chief Cuyler updated the council on the accident that involved Lieutenant Wanda Peacock. Chief Cuyler read the August reports for the Police Department and Animal Control. Police Chief Cuyler also stated there has been some changes to the Police Department SOP and reviewed the proposed changes with the council.

Fire Chief Riner stated that the volunteer fire meetings would be starting back in October. Fire Chief Riner also stated that the COVID-19 numbers are declining in the county. Fire Chief Riner also announced that he would be retiring at the end of October. Mayor Pro Tem Smith thanked Chief Riner for his service stating he was an excellent servant to the city.

Recognitions

Brian Wright with Wright & Wright PC presented the FY 2019 Audit to the Council. Mr. Wright passed out a copy of the audit and reviewed each fund. Mr. Wright stated this was a positive year financially in most of the funds.

Resident Bernice Cooper, residing at 527 MLK Avenue, approached the Council stating that she had several concerns as it pertains to her neighborhood. Mrs. Cooper discussed her concerns and then council had discussion.

Department Reports

Electric Director Poole stated that he had a bid on the regular agenda from Mel Daniel for underground utility conduit for project Sonic.

Public Works Director Eubanks reviewed the street list for the 2021 LMIG with the council. Public Works Director Eubanks stated that there would be a short fall of \$34,928.76. Administrator McCorkle stated that the difference in the funds could come from TSPLOST.

Community Development Director Larson stated there is a public hearing on the regular agenda for a variance request at 326 Warthen St., stating that the P&Z has approved it, and his recommendation is to approve the request.

Finance Director Wiley reviewed the resolution on the agenda pertaining to the Coronavirus relief Fund. Director Wiley reviewed different items that were eligible for reimbursement.

Economic Development Director Simpson announced that he would be launching a scarecrow contest in October, and that a drive-in movie would be planned for October 16th.

Administrator McCorkle stated that there was confusion about the Sunday sales ordinance that the Washington County Board of Commissioners recently passed. Administrator McCorkle stated that this was passed for the unincorporated areas of the County. The City of Sandersville would have to hold their own referendum to allow Sunday sales in the City. Administrator McCorkle stated that she would be working on this along with the new house bill HB879 that will begin in January.

Council Member Watts stated that speeding was still an issue on Martin Luther King Ave and Floyd Street. Administrator McCorkle stated that she and Public Works Director Eubanks are working on a speed bump ordinance. Council Member Dennis asked the Chief to continue to check on Franklin Haynes Dr. for racing.

Attorney Howard discussed new COVID-19 regulations as it pertains to Court and where payments are taken for court. Mayor Pro Tem Smith stated that we have seen a decline in our area and unless the numbers began to rise we would continue the regulations already in place due to COVID-19.