

**City of Walnut Grove City Council Meeting**  
**Thursday, March 13, 2014**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**Walnut Grove Community Building**  
**1021 Park Street**  
**Loganville, GA**

Council Present: Kathy Dimsdale  
Wayne Dimsdale  
Kevin Shultz  
Carol Witcher

**I. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Lamar Lee at 7:01 P.M. He welcomed the crowd and encouraged everyone to attend future meetings.

**II. Invocation**

Invocation given by Jim Burgess

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

**IV. Agenda Approval**

Motion to approve the Agenda as presented was made by Wayne Dimsdale, seconded by Kevin Shultz.

**V. Public Comment**

Noted that John Pringle is always at City Council meetings, has attended meetings for the last 14 years always a pleasure to see him sitting on the front row.

**VI. Approval of Minutes from January 9, 2014 City Council Meeting**

(February meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather)

Motion made by Kevin Shultz and seconded by Wayne Dimsdale to approve the minutes as published.

No further discussion. All In Favor. Motion Carried.

**VII. Public Works Report**

Scott Mosely delivered the report stating that one of the rear tires on the Ram truck has a bad spot on the inside causing it to lose air. It will be approximately \$50.00 for a tube patch. Cost of a new tire will be between \$500-\$650. Scott has gotten two estimates from Walton Tire, one for an economical tire and one for a more expensive tire. Also the bucket truck needs repair, issue with the boom. Will have to take it apart to find out what is wrong and the steps necessary to repair it.

**VIII. Financial Report**

The City Clerk provided the January/February financial report for all accounts.

Wayne Dimsdale made the motion to approve and seconded by Carol Witcher to approve the Financial Report as given and published.

No further discussion. All In Favor. Motion Carried.

**IX. Clerk's Report**

The City issued 20 Business License Renewals  
Walton County Sheriff's Office issued 14 citations and Georgia State Patrol issued 2 citations  
1 Sign Permit Issued  
4 Ball field Rentals  
No Pavilion Rentals

**X. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Lee advised the Council that the registration for the GMA (Georgia Municipal Association) Convention in June at Savannah, GA was set up and reservations had also been made to secure hotel rooms together.  
The tred strips had come in and been installed on the ramp at City Hall. They had really helped during the recent bad weather.

Friends of the Library Book Sale is March 27<sup>th</sup>-March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Smith Family Life Center.

Also wanted the Council to think about possibly using the Community Building on Park Street as a “warming station” in the future for elderly or any citizens that don’t have power during the extreme cold.

Met with a new Auditor, will be coming back later to interview.

The roundabout on the Parkway is being vandalized by vehicle traffic. Vehicles are driving through the middle of the roundabout causing damage to the grassy area. Leaving tire marks on the sidewalks and starting to break the apron and asphalt curbing. Will need to think about some kind of barrier that will be aesthetically pleasing, but also effective in stopping the damage at a reasonable cost.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

A) Library Funding-Amy Hicks, Librarian for the Walnut Grove Library requested the City to reinstate the \$60 thousand dollars, \$15 thousand is just not enough to cover expenses. She also requested the City to approve \$45 thousand to be allocated back into this years’ budget. The Library is limited to the City and County funds and that the County equally funds all 4 libraries in Walton County. If the funds aren’t given, employees will lose their jobs, the library will have to limit hours, she will lose benefits and the City will suffer.

Tim Baker, Board of Trustees for the library, stated that the patronage of the Walnut Grove Library exceeds all expectations and surpasses that of other libraries in the County. The funds that Walton County allocates, for the libraries isn’t enough to cover expenses, they depend on City funds. If the library Board had been aware that the funding was going to stop, they wouldn’t have gone forward with the Library. The Board of Trustees is of the opinion that the Library is an attraction for economic development and should be seen as an asset and not a financial hindrance.

**No motion made for action.**

B) LMIG-Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant-Crystal Court- Todd Parker with Precision Planning presented the project quotes for Crystal Court noting that out of the two received, Sims Paving, Inc. was the lowest bidder with a quote of \$21,400.00. The City will have to match 30% of what the State puts up. The City currently has \$12,723.90 of LMIG monies to pledge towards this project. The proposal is to finish the paving from the roundabout to Emerald Drive. The quote also includes curbing. Carol Witcher asked if there was a time limit to complete the project. Mr. Parker stated that it has to be done by May due to having to apply for new LMIG funds in June. Wayne Dimsdale asked if the sub-base will hold the new asphalt. Mr. Parker related that previously a soil cement was used, not rock base. It just wasn't enough to put asphalt on top of to secure it without creating potholes. The new paving will be rock base.

Motion made by Wayne Dimsdale to accept the bid from Sims Paving. Carol Witcher seconded the motion.

No further discussion. All In Favor. Motion Carried.

C) Appointment of Judge, David Dickinson

Motion made by Carol Witcher and seconded by Kevin Shultz to approve the appointment.

No further discussion. All In Favor. Motion Carried.

D) Appointment of Solicitor, David Boyle

Motion made by Carol Witcher and seconded by Kevin Shultz to approve the appointment.

No further discussion. All In Favor. Motion Carried.

E) Resolution for Georgia Cities Week

Mayor Lee read the resolution setting April 13-19, 2014 as Georgia Cities Week.

Wayne Dimsdale made motion to resolve the Georgia Cities Week dates. Seconded by Kevin Shultz.

No further discussion. All In Favor. Motion Carried.

F) Computer Purchase for Clerk - \$738.38

It was explained that the current computer utilized by the Clerk is not processing efficiently anymore and will not be able to “read” newer files.

Kevin Shultz made motion to approve the purchase of the computer, seconded by Wayne Dimsdale.

No further discussion. All In Favor. Motion Carried.

G) Ad for Walton Tribune Visions Magazine - \$100

Council reviewed the ad from last year, it was explained that the ad for the upcoming magazine will be identical and at last year’s price of \$100.

Carol Witcher made motion to purchase the Ad, seconded by Kevin Shultz.

No further discussion. All In Favor. Motion Carried.

H) Invoice Payment – Precision Planning \$275

Motion made by Wayne Dimsdale and seconded by Carol Witcher to pay invoice for Engineering services.

No further discussion. All In Favor. Motion Carried.

I) Recognition of STAR Student and Teacher

Mayor Lee shared that the STAR Student, Sommer Anjum and the STAR Teacher, Lawrence Finocchi were unable to attend the Council meeting due to previous engagements, but the City will be presenting these two outstanding individuals with certificates at a later date.

**XII. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A) Select Sanitation Contract coming up for renewal-they have requested a one year contract for now with no changes.
- B) Clean up of 460 Greenhill Way-Mayor Lee pointed out that the homeowner has been reluctant to clean up the debris from the fire several months ago and is now not only an eyesore, but a hazard to the neighborhood. The City will have to clean this up and bill the homeowner. If he does not pay, he will have to appear in court.
- C) Restrooms at Pavilion-the restrooms are not only in disrepair, but also do not conform to ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) specifications. We need to paint, replace the commodes and locks. Wayne Dimsdale said to contact him prior to purchasing the commodes, as he has an account with a local business that will be much more economical than most and that will save the City money.

Mayor Lee stated that these were just things to think about, as they will need attention soon.

**XIII. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Carol Witcher-Thanked all those in attendance for coming out to support the Library and that the council will give due diligence to working out some kind of mutually agreeable solution. She understands that we are all very busy with our personal lives, but appreciates the efforts made to come out, hope that they come back every month for meetings. Parental involvement is imperative if we are to become the “crown jewel of Walton County” and inspire the next generation.

Kevin Shultz-Also thanked everyone that came out to the meeting. Acknowledged the letter received from Ms. Hicks regarding her concerns with the Library funding. Don't want to lose the vision of the Library and will look into what we can do to resolve the issue.

Wayne Dimsdale-Glad to have the crowd. Would like to see everyone come back, John Pringle gets lonely on the front row. Budget will be coming up soon and we will look at possible resolution.

Kathy Dimsdale-no comment

Mayor Lee-Also thanked everyone for coming out, wish there was always this much interest. Understands where they are coming from on the money issue with the Library. We would love to have the luxuries that some of the other cities have, such as the industry, to be able to do more for things like the Library. We just don't have it. It is not our intent and never has been to close the Library. We do not have that authority. Door to his office is always open, please come by if you have any concerns or just want to talk.

**IX. ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn made by Wayne Dimsdale and seconded Kathy Dimsdale

All In Favor. Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 7:51 PM

Approved by the Mayor and Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2014.

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**Mayor, Lamar Lee**

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**City Clerk, Ariann S. Stone**

