

City of Walnut Grove City Council Meeting

Thursday December 10, 2015

7:00 P.M.

Council Present:

Carol Witcher
Kathy Dimsdale
Wayne Dimsdale
Kevin Shultz
Mayor Lee

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Lamar Lee

II. INVOCATION

Invocation given by Joe Reitman

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

IV. AGENDA APPROVAL

Kevin Shultz made a motion and Wayne Dimsdale seconded the motion. At this point Joe Reitman stopped the motion to amend the agenda. Under "Old Business" the following was added: move funds to cover Public Works salary. Wayne Dimsdale made a motion to accept the agenda with the amendment and Kevin Shultz seconded the motion. All were in Favor. Motion carried.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VI. MINUTES APPROVAL

Wayne Dimsdale made a motion to approve the minutes as published. Kevin Shultz seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

VII. PRESENT PROCLAMATION TO WALNUT GROVE LADY WARRIORS SOFTBALL TEAM

Mayor Lee and the City Council presented the Walnut Grove Lady Warriors Softball Team with a Proclamation. The team was present along with Coach Brooks. The Mayor had the team come to the front of the room and stand with him while he

read the Proclamation aloud. The Softball Team was the AAAA State Runner Up. The Team was praised for their accomplishments and the positive attention they bring to Walnut Grove. Pictures were made with the team, their coach and the Mayor and Council.

VIII. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Public Works Director, Alan Barton reported Old Hwy 138 has been cleaned and limbs trimmed up where you can see. On Monday the Indian pony was set up in the roundabout. We will put up posts with chains around the roundabout like the one in the Parkway. A walk way to the horse with river rocks will make it look like the horse is standing in a creek bed. We will talk to the Horticulture Club about sod. Carol Witcher asked if there are any lights at the roundabout. Alan replied there are not any. But the school has discussed putting solar lights out.

The sewer system has finished the force main and got it all tied in. They ran a test, that's a plus. They still have lots of clean up to do. The spray field tested well. One of the pumps needs some work. Carol Witcher asked if there is a new fence behind Dr. Smith's house. Alan replied, I don't know. I have let Precision go over there. Mayor Lee and Jimmy Parker told me on Tuesday that they have to give him a completion date in writing by Monday December 14th. Once they run the test it will be ready to tap. Wayne Dimsdale asked if all the new pipes were in. Alan told him they were. Alan said all the spray fields were tested last Thursday and they were fine. Alan told him they had pumped 30 gallons of water that came from the lake. Wayne asked if it is their responsibility to put up a nice fence. Alan told him yes.

Finally I think I have the Christmas tree fixed. All the lights come on within a few minutes of each other. I had an electrician come in and look at the panel. We need LED lights. We need to put in the budget to replace the tree lights with LED. Wayne Dimsdale said for awhile we were putting in the budget \$5,000.00 per year in Christmas Lights.

IX. FINANCIAL REPORT

The clerk directed the council to turn to the back of their book for the financial report. Wayne Dimsdale said he didn't have the report in his book and after that the rest of the council said they didn't have it as well. The Clerk apologized for the report not being in their books. Sonya Cox made copies while the Clerk went on to cover the next report.

X. CLERK'S REPORT

Five citations were issued in November all five were issued by Walton County Sheriff's Dept. There were no Business Licenses issued or renewed. No other permits were issued and there were no ball park reservations or pavilion reservations.

XI. CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Code Enforcement Officer was not present.

XII. MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Lee reminded everyone of the Christmas Dinner on Friday December 11th.
- Reminded them of the Municipal Association Christmas Dinner on December 17th.
- Jimmy Parker met with Kevin Little. In the time period between January 1 to March 1st they will start construction on the Fire Department. Wayne Dimsdale asked about the ball parks. Mayor Lee advised they are included too. Mayor Lee explained Guthrie Cemetery Rd will be realigned and there will be turn lanes, excel and decal lanes at all four corners of Guthrie Cemetery.
- City Hall will be closed for Christmas on December 23rd and will reopen on Monday December 28th.
- Our January City Council Meeting will be a long meeting. We will have a demonstration from the company that designs and installs Dancing Waters.
- We have signed a new contract with Southern Sanitation. They will provide the 95 gallon trash containers. They will be delivered on December 21st and 22nd.
- We have some very delinquent sanitation accounts. We are getting some paid because we have suspended garbage pick up on some of these accounts.
- Kevin Shultz reported 607, 605 and 609 Magnolia have another sanitation company picking up their trash. The Clerk asked Kevin to please get the name of the other company. Southern Sanitation will call them and advise them they have an exclusive contract with the City of Walnut Grove. Kathy Dimsdale asked if they would get recycle bins. She was told they will.
- Lighting of the Christmas tree was huge success. Carol Witcher said so many families that have come into town said they loved it. Wayne Dimsdale said

he heard only one negative comment. He was asked how we got away with commenting on Jesus Christ.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

Wayne Dimsdale made a motion to move funds to cover payroll in the Public Works Department. Carol Witcher seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Wayne Andrews from 590 Greenhill Way stood up and addressed the Council. He asked the Council to consider changing the speed on Park St. from 25 mph to 35 mph. He said he must ride his brakes to stay under the speed limit. He said it should be 35 all the way down to the school zone. Kevin Shultz told him the state mandates an engineering study be done. It was done and that is when it was reduced from 35 mph to 25 mph. What we can do is move the sign so it is more visible. Mr. Andrews received a ticket for 41 mph in a 25 mph zone and had to pay a fine of \$198.00. Alan Barton told him we can set the sign up to be more visible but if it were changed to 35 mph they would run 75 mph.

XV. DISCUSSION ITEM

Kevin Shultz suggested all the Council members turn in their IPADS and surplus them. He said he never uses his and all the council except Carol Witcher agreed they don't use theirs either. Kevin said they would probably be able to get \$25.00 to \$50.00 for them. Joe Reitman said the City could give them to a Public Entity. It was agreed Carol Witcher would keep hers and the others will be donated to Live Oak School in Newton County. The Clerk asked if she needed to collect the tablets and record their serial numbers before they were donated. Joe Reitman replied she did not.

XVI. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Kathy Dimsdale – Congratulations to the Lady Warriors.

Carol Witcher – I know the heartbreak when the call is not correct. My neighbor practices ball every day and says when she grows up she will play for Walnut Grove High School.

Wayne Dimsdale – Merry Christmas

Kevin Shultz – I am proud of the girls. I got to see them all the way through the season.

Joe Reitman – This has been a good year. It went fast.

XVII. ADJOURN

Wayne Dimsdale made a motion to adjourn, Kevin Shultz seconded the motion, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Approved by the Mayor and Council this _____ day of January, 2016.

Mayor Lamar Lee

Katherine A. Glass, Clerk