

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
MUNICIPAL BUILDING – 1021 PARK ST.
THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2020
COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 P.M.**

**Present at Meeting:
Mayor Steven Mark Moore
Stephanie Moncrief
Linda Pilgrim
Jesse Couch, City Attorney**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Mark Moore at 7:03pm.

II. AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief approved. Councilmember Linda Pilgrim seconded. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

III. INSTALLATION OF ELECTED OFFICIAL

Due to the election results not being in at this time, the swearing in will have to be postponed.

IV. Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Linda Pilgrim requested moving Preston & Malcom invoice to the June 25th called meeting. Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief seconded. Vote unanimous.

Councilmember Linda Pilgrim approved consent agenda with the adjustments.
Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief seconded. Vote unanimous.

1. Minute's Approval
 - a. April 23, 2020 – Work Session
 - b. May 14, 2020 – Regular Meeting
 - c. May 28, 2020 – Work Session (Budget)
2. 2020 Business / Alcohol License Approval
3. Financial Summary – May 2020
4. Invoices
 - a. Precision Planning
 - b. Preston & Malcom Attorneys at Law
 - c. Lakeview Environmental, LLC (Sewer)
 - d. Peach State Construction Co., Inc. (SPLOST)
 - e. Rushton & Co. (CPA)

V. PUBLIC FORUM

- i. Public Comments – None

VI. PUBLIC HEARING - None

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Dial/Sewer Property Easement Revision

Attorney Mike Malcom explained they had received the survey back and it was their understanding and it has been executed. Mayor Mark Moore explained to the citizens, the survey had to be revised to show the revisions of the road leading up to the sewer plant.

2. Island Properties within the City of Walnut Grove

Mayor Mark Moore explained the properties in question were Walnut Court off Park Street, a property on Hwy. 138 and one on Hwy. 81.

Attorney Jesse Couch gave an update and explained to incorporate unincorporated islands you have to go off of 1991 or before zoning records. He noted he would have a detail memo he would be sending to the Mayor and Council on what we are authorized to do by law and hope to have this item on the July agenda.

Mayor Mark Moore updated the citizens and explained the roads on Walnut Court are not in good condition and the City is unable to maintain the roads if they are not inside the City limits.

3. Planning & Zoning Committee

Attorney Jesse Couch to reinstate the Planning & Zoning Committee, the zoning ordinance would need to be amended and would include a 5-member committee. If the Mayor and Council would like to move forward, we could do this at the July meeting.

Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief moved to move forward with the creation of the Planning & Zoning Committee. Councilmember Linda Pilgrim seconded. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. IGA for 2020 TSPLOST

Walton County has come to all the Cities within the County and ask for their consideration in approving the IGA for 2020 TSPLOST to be placed on the ballot in November.

Mayor Mark Moore asked if there were comments from the citizens. There was none. Mayor Mark Moore asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief if we agreed to this IGA then it would go on the ballot in November and would be up to the citizens to vote in favor or not. There has been a lot of discussion on bringing another tax increase considering we are going through a pandemic. I agree with this and that's why I feel it's important to allow the citizens to vote on this in November.

Councilmember Linda Pilgrim agrees with Councilmember Moncrief. I feel like it would be a good idea to move forward with the IGA to allow this item on the ballot in November to allow the citizens to vote.

Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief moved to approve the IGA for 2020 TSPLOST. Councilmember Linda Pilgrim seconded the vote. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.

2. Round-About in Emerald Cove

Mayor Mark Moore explained he had received several quotes to remove the round-about on Emerald Drive. He noted at the end of Emerald Drive the developer put in a round-about with an island that is so small that a small truck can't get around it, much less a school bus or garbage truck. The improvements were approved last summer. They are going to level the road, fill with 6in. concrete and in the future when its paved this will cover up the concrete. I received 3 quotes 1) East Coast Grading - \$15,746.43. Maxine McClanahan asked the City Attorney for clarification, was the Mayor speaking of bids or quotes. The Mayor answered, quotes. 2) A& S Paving - \$13,500.00 and 3) Peach State Construction - \$8,815.00.

Mayor Mark Moore asked if there were any questions from the Council.

Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief asked if any of the quotes were contingent upon going with any of these companies or were, they individual quotes. Mayor Moore answered, correct.

Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief approved Peach State Constructions, Co. quote and move forward with the project. Councilmember Linda Pilgrim seconded. Vote unanimous.

3. Resurfacing Walnut Grove City Park Basketball & Tennis Court

Mayor Mark Moore explained this is an estimate and has not been put out for quotes. The City does not have to send out for bids unless its over \$100,000. I have a quote from Jimmy Parker from Precision Planning for \$15,000. I would like to move forward in getting quotes to resurface and restripe the basketball and tennis court.

Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief approved to move forward in getting quotes for this project. Councilmember Linda Pilgrim seconded. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

4. Park Street Streambank Stabilization Restoration Project

Mayor Mark Moore noted the estimated cost to complete this project is going to be around \$35,000. The creek borders Walton County and City of Walnut Grove. My recommendation would be to wait until the Islands are annexed into the City. I did reach out to Walton County to help share the cost in this project, I received no call back.

Mayor Moore asked if there was any discussion. Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief suggested getting bids but tabling the project until the property is inside the City of Walnut Grove. If we are unable to bring into the City, then Walton County should help with half of the funds. Councilmember Linda Pilgrim seconded. The vote unanimous. Jon Dial asked if this project could be done by the County by themselves or bid out for an independent contractor? Mayor Moore stated he would be reaching out to the County again.

5. 2019-2020 Year End Budget Adjustment

Mayor Mark Moore explained this a clean-up only for line items that are over budget. This is a requirement from our auditor that we are not over 3% on our budget.

Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief moved to approve the budget adjustments as presented. Councilmember Linda Pilgrim seconded. Vote unanimous.

IX. CLERK'S REPORT

We are moving forward with renting the pavilion and the ball field.

X. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Code Enforcement has written 19 warnings for various items. To give everyone an

XI. DISCUSSION ITEM

Speed Tables for Park Street and Church Way

Mayor Mark Moore explained citizens have come to us to help slow people down on this road. We have asked Walton County Police Department to patrol this area, but unfortunately, they cannot be out there at all times. I did receive a quote and move forward if the council so chooses. The speed tables look like those in Jersey, and they roughly cost about \$3,000 to \$3,500 apiece. To put 10 speed tables on Park Street and Church Way would cost an estimate of \$35,000. Mayor Moore feels like he could probably get a lower quote. Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief asked where the funds would come from. Mayor Moore noted from the \$101,000 that's on our current budget, we are rolling over into our upcoming budget.

Patch and Paving of Magnolia Springs

Mayor Mark Moore noted this area needs to be paved and would like to put on the July agenda to move forward on receiving bids for this project. The cost would be around \$184,000. Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief asked how the roads get put on the list to be paved? Are these roads that were recommended by our City Engineer to be completed in this order? Mayor Moore answered yes.

Patching of Emerald Cove

Mayor Mark Moore noted Emerald Cove has some issues before we can move forward with paving. There is a cross drain below the park that flows under the street and the pipe has deteriorated. We could slide a pipe into this pipe and reinforce it, but if the pipe is completely deteriorated, we will have to replace all together. And down by the public works building we have a spring that is running water into the street. We need to get the City engineer out there to look at this.

Maxine McClanahan – Cambridge Chase has cracking and would recommend looking into this and having the contractor go out and fix the issues.

Lisa Whitehead – concerned with the business operating at the car wash. Mayor Moore noted this business is not in compliance and have been operating and have been given a letter to move. They are buying property on Industrial Way and will be in compliance for what they are doing. It has been asked if they could go back to having a car wash business at this location. I explained this decision would not be left up to me due to the zoning ordinance changing. They will talk to the council and ask for permission to open the car

wash back up. Mayor Moore noted he will send the Code Enforcement out there to write tickets if they are still operating business. We have implemented work orders for code violations and for maintenance and repairs within the City.

XII. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Mark Moore

Excited for what Walnut Grove is doing. We are going to get things done, things that have been put off. We are going to get our roads fixed, our park fixed and get the speeding under control. We have worked with our local precinct and Captain Vance to get our City in compliance with the laws. Our Code Enforcement officer is doing a good job getting our City in compliance as well. The sanitation bills going away is going to help those that can't afford to pay for garbage pick-up, they will now receive it. I feel like its going to help clean our city up. I have had nothing but positive comments from our citizens. If this gets approved on June 25th, then starting July 1st, the citizens will not receive a garbage bill.

Linda Pilgrim: Happy to be back in the public and happy to be in a live meeting. Offer my condolences to Ann Jones who lost her husband over the weekend.

Stephanie Moncrief: Glad to be back. Congratulated Mary Hall, she will be the new council member. We still have one council seat available. I hope everyone is doing well with the pandemic going on. Thanks for coming tonight.

Mayor Mark Moore sent his condolence to Councilmember Linda Pilgrim on losing her brother and her mother.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION - none

XIV. ADJOURN

Councilmember Stephanie Moncrief made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Linda Pilgrim seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Approved by Mayor and Council this ____ day of July 2020.

Mayor Steven Mark Moore

Tangee B. Puckett, City Clerk