



City of Walnut Grove
WORK SESSION MINUTES
Thursday, August 26, 2021

10:00 A.M.

**1021 Park Street Loganville, GA
30052 & Via-Microsoft Teams**

Mayor Mark Moore
Jon Dial
Mary Hall
Linda Pilgrim
Stephanie Moncrief
Tony Powell
Keegan Rasmeay

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Mark Moore
- II. **INVOCATION** – Tony Powell
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – All participated
- IV. **AGEDNA AMENDMENT** – Council member Mary Hall requested Cambridge Chase tree issues be added. Council member Linda Pilgrim made motion. Council member Stephanie Moncrief seconded. Passed unanimous.
- V. **AGENDA APPROVAL** – Council member Stephanie Moncrief made motion. Council member Linda Pilgrim seconded. Passed unanimous.
- VI. **SEWER ORDINANCE** – Tony Powell discussed changes to the sewer ordinance that would make sure sewer would be available for future development. He also outlined changes that need to be made to address reservation of sewer taps and the effects they have on sewer capacity. He suggested future commitments be structured to have limits on the amount of taps in a six month time period. He also suggested fees to be charged after a preset time for taps that have been reserved but not in use after that timeframe. He explained the need for these changes to allow for better planning of the availability of future sewer capacity. Ned Butler approached the council and voiced his concerns about some of the proposed changes. He asked for clarification of the amount of taps per developmental agreement. He also asked for clarification on the definition of tap fee, sewer connection fee and sewer permit fee. Tony Powell responded that the language would be clarified and defined. Billy Coleman approached the council and voiced concerns about how changes to the ordinance would affect developers with standing agreements. Tony Powell answered the changes would not affect previous agreement and would be for future agreements as a planning tool to make sure capacity is available when developers need them in the future. Joel from Reliant Homes made a suggestion that in other counties monthly fees were charged after a year on taps that were not used. He also voiced concerns over reallocating taps that were prepaid to other developers to fulfill shortages.
- VII. **BUDGET OVERVIEW** – Mayor Moore discussed the current SPLOST balances and what the money is current allotted for. He asked Tony Powell if the allocation of those accounts are restricted to roads and repair which was the allocation when the accounts were created. Tony Powell

answered he doesn't see an issue with the use of the funds for sewer projects. Mayor Moore discussed once the sewer billing income reaches a certain point that the sewer plant will pay for its own operation instead of a being a potential expense for the city. Council member Stephanie Moncrief requested that the council be given a hard copy of the figures discussed and Mayor Moore agreed. Mayor Moore went on to discuss options to pay for the expansion of the sewer plant and the balances of the city's accounts. He explained that with grants and tap fees the amount the city would have to spend for the expansion would be considerably less than previously discussed. Options to accommodate commercial sewer along Hwy 138 was also discussed. Mayor Moore informed the council on the status of the budget and the surplus that was created during the previous year.

VIII. CAMBRIDGE CHASE TREE ISSUES – Council member Mary Hall informed the council of resident concerns about a fallen tree in the walkway. She asked Tony Powell about the city's responsibility regarding removing the tree. Tony Powell answered that the city's responsibility is to clear its right of way and in certain cases of safety issues more. Council member Hall also asked about street lights covered by growing trees and the cities responsibilities along with timeframes that issues need to be handled. Tony Powell responded that when reports from citizens come in they should be investigated. Mayor Moore commented that residents should contact city hall and create a work order to get issues investigated and corrected.

IX. ADJOURN – Council member Stephanie Moncrief made motion. Council member Linda Pilgrim seconded. Passed unanimous