

**City of Temple
Monthly Council Meeting
January 9, 2017, 6:30PM
Temple City Hall**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Mayor Lester Harmon.

Council Members present constituting a quorum:

Lester Harmon, Mayor

Richard Bracknell

Penny Ransom

Todd Rothwell

William Simmons

Howard Walden

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Lester Harmon gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approve the published agenda of this date's City Council Meeting, as presented-

Motion to approve by Councilmember Bracknell, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0.

Visitors:

Carolyn Gray- Ms. Gray is a resident of Carrollton, was born in Temple and owns property on Asbury Road. She was at the meeting as a representative of the Temple Black Heritage Museum Group. She explained the history of their organization and their purpose of saving the old Masonic Hall on Rome street and preserving the history of black schools in Carroll County. The Group is planning a fundraiser for February 18, 2017 and she requested that the City waive the rental fee of the Senior Center for that night. After some discussion, there was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to amend the agenda and make this item number one, second by Councilmember Simmons. Vote 5-0. There was a motion by Councilmember Simmons to waive the rental fee of the Senior Center for the Temple Black Heritage Museum Group on 02.18/17, second by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

Jeff and Tiana Moore- Mr. Moore resides at 22 Lee Street and discussed the ongoing problem that he has had since April 5, 2015 when a tree from the city fell on his property. He stated that this is the fifth council meeting that he has attended regarding this situation. After the most recent work was done on his property, he was notified by the Post Office that his mail can no longer be delivered because of the work the City did on the drainage issue. After some discussion it was noted that the Lee Street property was agenda item number one under old business, and would be discussed further at that time. It was noted that the agenda item was not worded as Councilmember Ransom requested, however the attorney stated that regardless of how it was listed, the council could discuss it and request any action to be taken if they chose to do so.

Public Comments:

Richard McIntosh- resides in Ivey Lake subdivision. He stated that there is nothing on the agenda regarding the Attorney General, and this has been going on since March 2016. He wanted to know the status of this. City Attorney McRae stated that they received the edits and will be sending a memo to the Mayor and Council for approval; they hope to do this before the Special Called meeting later this month, if not then the February meeting. Mr. McIntosh asked to be notified when the meeting would be called; City Administrator Osborne stated he would be notified if the Mayor chose to call a Special Meeting.

Joseph Hardmond- He stated that there have been numerous water studies and he wanted to know why the City spends money on these studies but then does not implement the recommendations. The Mayor gave a thorough explanation of the history of the water situation and bond. **

Gerald Powell- Resides on Enterprise Drive in Temple. He wanted an explanation of the agenda item regarding a clerk; wanted to know if this was a new position/hire. City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that it was related to an increase in pay within the Police Department.

Debbie McIntosh- Stated for the past three years they have heard about numerous studies but the City has not followed through on any of the recommendations that were given. She wanted to know that with all of the excuses that have been given, where does the buck stop when getting the water bills done correctly. Mayor Harmon stated that was part of day to day operation; therefore it would be the City Administrator, Bill Osborne.

Approval of Minutes:

December 5, 2016 Regular Council Meeting.....Mayor Lester Harmon
There was a motion to approve by Councilmember Simmons with an amendment to add the closing comments; second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0.

December 14, 2016 Special Called Meeting.....Mayor Lester Harmon
There was a motion to approve by Councilmember Bracknell, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 4-1, Ransom abstained.

Old Business:

1. Updated report concerning street, parking, and drainage issues on Lee Street.

After a lengthy discussion of the issues on Lee Street, it was determined that we need to see if this is in the City right of way. The City Attorney, Mike McRae said that his advice was to let the folks at the Post Office come out and look at the property, and figure out what needs to be done to fix the problem so that mail can be delivered. He stated that they could either make a motion to 1. fix the problem or 2. If you want to know the exact cost determine that, talk to the Post office and bring this back to the next meeting. After further discussion, it was determined that a motion was not needed, but to make sure the minutes reflect that it was agreed upon that the problem needs to be fixed. First we need to determine the exact cost of the project and what needs to be done and make sure that the Post Office is

involved and are ok with the plan. The findings need to be brought back to Mr. Osborne, have him look at it, and then vote at the next meeting.

2. Another update concerning the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant in the City Park
City Administrator Bill Osborne stated they are at the point where the City will have to sign an affidavit that said the land will be kept as recreation and the DNR person will have a couple of final questions for Hughes Ray. **Councilmember Ransom stated that we need to get with the Finance Director, Sarah Hefty, when it comes back and to double check and make sure something wasn't paid out of the general fund and make sure the money goes back where it should.** No action taken.

3. Report provided to the Georgia Department of Transportation on the City of Temple's 2017 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant program.

Public Works Director Dwayne Eberhart reported that the streets chosen for the 2017 LMIG project are Sage Street to Montgomery Street for paving and striping at a cost of approximately \$32,766 and Rocking D to Villa Rosa at a cost of approximately \$4370 for paving and striping.

4. Staff reports on the Request for Proposals being prepared for a rate study and for a fiscal and operations audit of the City of Temple's water and sewer system.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that he is encouraged by the conversations he has had with the **Georgia Rural Community Assistance Project and the North Carolina Environmental Finance Center.** He hopes to have more information to report in the next few days.

5. Staff report on the list of approved vendors/contractors for the City of Temple's, and current activities to update this list.

City Clerk, Kristin Etheredge, reported that three of the five vendors on the list have been in contact with her to update their information so that they can remain on the vendor list. This month we plan to give a list of all vendors that we have on file to the Department Directors so that they can let us know which vendors that they are using and an updated list of vendors can be created. We will make sure that all vendors will provide us with the necessary documents on an annual basis so that they remain in compliance and stay on the vendor list.

*At this point in the meeting, Councilmember Ransom motions to move item #12 in New Business to item #6 in Old Business. The motion dies for lack of a second.

New Business:

1. Select the Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Temple for 2017.

Councilmember Ransom nominated William Simmons for Mayor Pro Tem; she stated she was looking for someone who wasn't up for reelection and that knows the history of the City. Councilmember Simmons declined the nomination and stated he would like to nominate Richard Bracknell. Mayor Harmon asked if there were any other nominations, there were not. Councilmember Simmons made a motion for Councilmember Bracknell to be Mayor Pro Tem, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 4-1, Ransom opposed.

2. Adopt a resolution to set and publish the qualifying fees for the office of Mayor and City Council Member for the City of Temple general election to be held on November 7, 2017.

City Attorney Mike McRae stated that everyone has a copy of the resolution and in the interest of time, it was not necessary to read it. No action taken.

3. Select a company to be responsible for Field Maintenance Services in the City Park in calendar 2017.

City Administrator Bill Osborne said there were two bids submitted for this project. They have not had a chance to check the references yet for Peach State; he and Joe Wilson will get back to the elected officials on this item. No action taken.

4. Staff report concerning a possible community event in April in the City Park.

City Administrator Bill Osborne reported that Scott McGuire is interested in having an event this spring. He stated that the Recreation Department Director, Joe Wilson, had concerns that not knowing what vendors are being charged, this might affect Founder's Day in the Fall. Mr. Osborne stated that the events are five months a part and he doesn't believe it will make a difference. No action taken.

5. Report on the City of Temple's current Employee Handbook, as well as information from the City of Rockmart concerning its Personnel Policies and Procedures Ordinance.

The elected officials were given a copy of the City of Rockmart's handbook. After a brief discussion, the City Attorney suggested you repeal the current handbook and do a new handbook. He recommended to have a work session on this because it will be substantial. Mr. Osborne asked that they review the Rockmart handbook and there will be more discussion on this in the future.

6. Adopt a resolution providing for a change in the salary classification ranges for each rank for the City of Temple Police Department's certified police officer classification by increasing the hourly rate of pay by \$2.00 and providing for a \$2.00 per hour increase for each current certified police officer, to be effective with the start of the next pay period on Monday, January 23.

Councilmember Ransom expressed concerns about this not following the City Charter. She wanted to know how many employees are outside of their pay plan and questioned if that had been checked before getting the Mayor to approve this. She stated the \$2 increase was approved in the budget, however, a pay plan has to be done by ordinance and the City administrator is authorized to do that in the Charter. It is something that should be checked on a yearly basis, or as needed. She requested to see where are positions are and where they fit in the pay scale, to make sure no one has gone over. City Attorney Mike McRae stated that normally changes in job classifications and pay have to be done by ordinance and you have to see where all employees are. Mayor Harmon stated that more work needs to be done on this before proceeding. No action taken.

7. Adopt a resolution providing for a change in the salary classification for the position of Administrative Assistant/ Records Clerk with the annual salary of the current employee to be enacted with the start of the next pay period on Monday, January 23.

Mayor Harmon stated that more work needs to be done on this before proceeding. No action taken.

8. Consider authorizing the City of Temple Police Department to use an 80' x 80' area in the lower parking lot at City Hall as an impound lot, with Confiscated Assets Funds (Drug Funds) paying for the site preparation costs and with some materials being moved from the existing impound lot on Johnson Street.

There was a brief discussion of the condition of the current impound lot and how the new impound lot on City Hall property would be used and maintained. Councilmember Simmons vote to approve Chief Lee to use an 80' X 80' are in the lower parking lot of City Hall as an impound lot, with the condition of

only Police Department items being stored there, second by Councilmember Ransom. Vote 4-1, Walden opposed.

9. Staff report concerning the selection of a chaplain for the City of Temple Police Department.

Chief Lee reported that **Della Leas** has been a Chaplain for Douglas County for many years. She is a certified first responder, a minister, hospice nurse, and she has been doing forensics for Temple since 2011. There will be no cost to the City to have her as Chaplain, the only cost will be t-shirts and a badge. There was a motion by Councilmember Walden to have Della be the Chaplain at no cost to the City, second by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

10. Consider payment to a police officer for the hours he was attending a training course and to reimburse him for mileage to attend this course.

There was a motion by Councilmember Rothwell to pay the officer for the hours he was attending a training course and to reimburse him for mileage; second by Councilmember Bracknell. After a lengthy discussion, City Attorney Mike McRae stated the situation is more complicated than he realized and he is hearing two different versions of the situation. His concern is whether the Mayor and Council can make this decision and he asked that this be deferred to the next meeting. He stated that he will get information not just from the City Administrator, but from everyone. Councilmember Rothwell withdrew his motion so that it can be brought back up at any time and the Attorney will get back with the elected officials with his opinion so that a decision can be made.

11. Adopt a resolution directing the City Administrator later in the new fiscal year to prepare and present to the City Council a plan for an employee Pay and Classification Study to be undertaken for the City of Temple, including the possibility of participating in such a study with the City of Villa Rica.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that they should not take action on this tonight and wait until we deal with the police pay.

12. Discussion of salary/retroactive pay for employees.

After a brief discussion, there was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to table this item until the February meeting and he asked that they have more information and no how much money they are talking about. Second by Councilmember Ransom. Vote 5-0.

13. Adopt a resolution establishing a Roadway and Infrastructure Permit Fee respectively for the Perennial Park, Arbor Landing, and Tiffany Mills residential subdivisions currently under development, in accordance with the ordinance adopted by the City of Temple.

City Administrator Osborne stated they are not ready to move forward with his and will be back to the council at the February meeting.

14. Consider an amendment to the agreement approved by the City Council on October 27, 2016, with contractor David Harrison for construction of improvements in the Public Works Department building, due to changes in the scope of said work.

City Administrator Osborne stated the Council approved for them to proceed with this project. Public Works Director Dwayne Eberhart felt like he had flexibility and spent more than what was budgeted for the project. The contractor was paid an additional \$2,000 on December 22nd, which was above the original \$7,950 contract. The builder is still owed \$1,000. After much discussion, the City Attorney stated that the work has already been done, and the builder has already been paid. He stated we need to ratify the contract to the \$11,000 total. There was a motion by Councilmember Simmons to amend the contract to the \$11,000 total, second by Councilmember Rothwell. Vote 3-2. Bracknell and Ransom opposed.

15. Consider approval of additional improvements to the Public Works Department building at a cost of \$2,400.00.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated they would not take any action on this item at this time. He suggested that the elected officials go by the Public Works building so they can see what is being talked about.

16. Consider approval for two security cameras to be installed on the grounds of the Public Service Department building and storage area.

Public Works Director Dwayne Eberhart discussed the need for security cameras as a theft deterrent. There was a motion by Councilmember Simmons to consider the purchase of two security cameras and to have them bid out under the procurement policy, second by Councilmember Ransom. Vote 5-0.

17. Staff report concerning the start of work on the City of Temple's 2016 audit.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that Auditor, Robyn Denson was at City Hall on January 3rd and all of last week. She met with the Department Directors and will be back at the end of March.

18. Staff report concerning possible receipt of a payment from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) to reimburse the City of Temple for \$7,185.03 in winter storm expenses incurred in 2014.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that things are now squared away with the GEMA grants and a check is about to be in the mail.

19. Staff report on a \$7,000.00 grant to the City of Temple Senior Center from the Community Foundation of West Georgia, Inc.

Senior Center Director Sandra Stilwell stated that last year they received a grant of \$5,600, this year it was \$7,000. They keep track of the number of veterans and their spouses that eat at the Center each day.

Council Comments:

William Simmons- asked if he wanted to make a proposal that all tap fees be spent on the principal of our loan do I need to put that on the agenda? The City Attorney responded that when we finish the study from North Carolina we can determine what is happening with current money and then have a work session on that to discuss rates, etc. He said this would be the time to discuss that.

Penny Ransom- review for city clerk and administrator ***

Mayor- Belinda Foster contacted Mr. Osborne and wanted me to do a proclamation that January will be Cervical Cancer Society month in the City of Temple.

Adjournment:

There was a motion to adjourn by Councilmember Bracknell, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:27PM.

