

**Council Meeting
March 4, 2024
6:30PM, Temple Senior Center
MINUTES**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Johnson at 6:30PM
Council Members Present: Alexis Boles, Hiley Miller, Casey Russom, Howard Walden
Council Members Absent: Richard Bracknell

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mayor Johnson.

Public Comments:

Lester Harmon (70 Harmon Rd.)- Mr. Harmon stated that he has heard there has been discussion about the City making landlords responsible for their tenants water bills. He said that he doesn't need help of the City ordering him to pay someone's water and sewer. If a renter is behind, the owner of the property can not cut off the water or sewer; that is illegal. If Temple has a problem collecting payments, it should not be the property owner's fault. He stated that he pays taxes on his property and it is current. He doesn't need the City's help telling him he has to pay someone else's water bill. He will be glad to pay their delinquent water bill if the City will be their delinquent rent. He said it is a ridiculous thing for the City to be discussing. He stated that the people are fed up with the high water and sewer rates and taxes. The people moving into the townhomes or anyone buying in the City is in for a big surprise with their water bill. The City has gone through many refinances, it should have been paid off years ago. He is not going to be in favor of adding his name to anyone's account; he can promise that tenants that don't pay their water bills owe the landlord a whole lot more.

Introduction of Temple's Municipal Court *Public Defender*

Chief Creig Lee introduced the Municipal Courts new Public Defender, Mr. John Howe. Mr. Howe explained that he met Chief Lee several years ago. He has a practice in Carrollton and knows Judge McCreary really well. He is happy to accept the position of the City's Public Defender.

Approval of Agenda, as presented:

Mayor Johnson explained that staff has asked to add an item #5 to new business, to read: Adopt a resolution for the \$4,472,400 loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, administered by the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA).

There was a motion by Council Member Russom to adopt the GEFA resolution as worded above, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 4-0.

Approval of Minutes:

February 5, 2024 City Council Meeting

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the February 5, 2024 Council Meeting minutes, second by Council Member Russom. Vote 4-0.

February 14, 2024 Special Called Meeting

There was a motion to approve the February 14, 2024 Special Called Meeting by Council Member Walden, second by Council Member Boles. Vote 4-0.

Announcements

Interim City Administrator Lisa Jacobson announced that Regina Shaw is the City's new Finance Accountant. She also reminded everyone that the April City Council Meeting will take place on Monday, April 8th at 6:30PM, instead of the first Monday of the month, due to that week being the school spring break.

Consent Agenda

There was a motion by Council Member Miller to approve the consent agenda (which includes the ten items listed below), second by Council Member Walden. Vote 4-0.

1. Authorize the transfer of two (2) CDs that mature on March 12th from Truist Bank to Bank OZK at the interest rate of 5% for twelve months.
2. Authorize the Mayor to sign the three-year renewal contract with Spectrum VoIP for \$710.74/month.
3. Approve Senior Center Director Sandra Stillwell to use contractor DCW Construction to remove the existing flooring and install new flooring and mould in the Senior Center for \$13,500.00; funding from FY24 Capital Budget SPLOST 2021.
4. Authorize Recreation Director Ingrid McKinley to issue the Request For Proposal (RFP) for the Tennis Court Improvement project.
5. Authorize Recreation Director Ingrid McKinley to issue the RFP for the Museum - Phase I (greenspace).
6. Adopt an update to the Personnel Policy Manual.
7. Approve Public Works Director Josh Smith to purchase a boring machine from Prairie Dog Boring Equipment, Inc. for \$11,180.46 from the FY24 Capital Budget SPLOST 2021.
8. Authorize Public Works Director Josh Smith to purchase a compact roller from Pro Grade Equipment for \$19,895.00 from the FY24 Capital Budget SPLOST 2021.
9. Approve the purchase of seventeen (17) Rugged laptops in the amount of \$26,794.38 to replace the outdated laptops used in police vehicles; funding from FY24 Capital Budget SPLOST 2021.
10. Authorize Chief Lee to purchase tasers from Axon Enterprise, Inc. for \$30,894.00 and rifle lights from Amazon for \$2,339.54; funding from FY24 Capital Budget SPLOST 2021.

New Business

1. Hold a public hearing and then consider taking action on the Temple Planning Commission's February 20, 2024, recommendation (4-0) that the City Council approve the **Preliminary Plat** for 12 Townhomes on Marie Street as requested by Dino McDowell with JDMC Investments, Tax Parcel #T02 0050030, Landlot 173, District 6. A total of 2.07 acres.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. The applicant, Dino McDowell was present. He explained that they made a decision to get rid of the mobile home park on Marie Street and to put townhomes in its place. He was asked what kind of improvements that he would do on the street. He explained that they would be widening it by about five feet and there would be curbs and a storm drain. He was asked if there would be anything on the South which adjoins ACE Hardware. They plan to leave the tree line there undisturbed; they will not be putting up a fence. He said there won't be a common area, there will be grass and that he can do a sidewalk in the front part. There was a question about the new ordinance which requires street width to be 28 feet, it was confirmed by the City attorney that is for new streets, and this would be considered an improvement to an existing street. There was no one else present to speak for or against this request. The public hearing was closed.

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to uphold the Planning Commission's recommendation of approval for the preliminary plat for 12 townhomes on Marie Street, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 3-1. Council Member Russom opposed.

2. Hold a public hearing and then consider taking action on the Temple Planning Commission's February 20, 2024, recommendation (4-0) to approve the **Rezoning** of 628 Sage Street from (R-2) Single Family Detached Residential to (G) Government, as requested by Terry Jones with Carroll County Board of Education, Tax Parcel #T04 0030045, Landlot 172, District 6, a total of .36-acres.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. Community Development Director Deidra Walker explained that this home is on the fire station side of the high school and the plan is to demolish and use the land for either additional parking or a building. There was no one else present to speak for or against this request. The public hearing was closed.

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to uphold the Planning Commission's recommendation of approval of the rezoning of 628 Sage Street from (R-2) Single Family Residential to (G) Government, second by Council Member Boles. Vote 4-0.

3. Approve the purchase of police headgear from Big Tex Ordnance IMS Supply, LLC in the amount of \$9,420.00; funding from FY2024 Capital Budget SPLOST 2021.

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the purchase of the police headgear, in the amount of \$9,420.00, from the FY2024 Capital Budget, with the funding from SPLOST 2021, second by Council Member Boles. Vote 4-0.

4. Announce Friday, March 22, 2024 at 5:00 PM, the City of Temple will hold a ceremony for the renaming and dedication of Temple's Public Safety Building to the J.M. Rutledge Public Safety Building.

Mayor Johnson made this announcement. Mayor Johnson invited everyone to attend and explained that J.M. Rutledge was the Police Chief in Temple from 1952-1982.

5. Adopt a resolution for the \$4,472,400 loan (#CW2022034) from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, administered by Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA).

There was a motion by Council Member Miller to adopt the resolution, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 4-0.

Closing Comments by Mayor and Council

Hiley Miller- Requested that in our monthly committee packet that they can get an update on the SPLOST projects and where they are at, and the current funding for them. She would also like a list of every CD, with the maturity date, amount and interest rate.

Mayor Johnson- He explained that the Carroll County Readers First Program is having a fundraiser. They have asked several members in the community to become a character in a book. Je agreed to participate and selected the Tin Man from the Wizard of Oz as his character. If you make a \$10 donation, you can vote. They have a goal for each person to bring in \$1,000 in donations. Mayor Johnson explained that the organization provides books to children every month and promotes literacy. He said that any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Executive Session, if needed – N/A

Adjournment: There was a motion to adjourn by Council Member Walden, second by Council Member Boles. Vote 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:02PM.