

**City Council Meeting  
February 5, 2024  
6:30PM, Temple Senior Center  
MINUTES**

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

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Mayor Michael Johnson

**Public Comments:**

Councilmember Casey Russom inquired about the wording that has been added to the top of the agenda which states that to speak during the meeting on a specific agenda item or during the public comments section, that a citizen would have to submit a request in writing at least one hour prior to the scheduled meeting time. He expressed his concern that this would potentially limit the public's opportunity to speak and he asked that this be discussed further at a committees meeting. Assistant City Administrator Lisa Jacobson explained that this is what the City Charter states regarding speaking at meetings and that we could add this to the next committees meeting agenda so that it can be discussed further.

**Introduction of Temple's Municipal Court *Solicitor* and *Public Defender*:**

Chief Lee introduced the City's new Public Defender John McKinley. The new Solicitor was not able to attend the meeting. Mr. McKinley thanked the elected officials for the opportunity to be Temple's new Public Defender.

**Approval of Agenda, as presented:**

Mayor Johnson explained that we would need to amend the agenda due to some late developments. He proposed adding agenda item #14 to consider authorizing Davenport Lawrence to issue an RFP beginning January 1, 2025. There was a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of item #14 regarding Davenport Lawrence, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0.

**Approval of Minutes:**

January 8, 2024 City Council Meeting: There was a motion by Councilmember Walden to approve the January 8, 2024 Council Meeting minutes, second by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 4-0.

January 29, 2024 Special Called Meeting: There was a motion by Councilmember Walden to approve the January 29, 2024 Special Called Meeting minutes, second by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

**Announcements:** N/A

**Mayor's State of the City Address:** Mayor Michael Johnson presented the State of the City Address.

#### Consent Agenda

1. Authorize the execution of the Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement between the City of Temple and the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS).

There was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to approve the consent agenda, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0.

#### Old Business

1. (Tabled 1/08/24) Untable and then consider accepting one of three proposals received by the City of Temple for the installation of a camera security system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, with funding from SPLOST2021 in the FY24 Capital budget.

There was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to take this item off of the table, second by Councilmember Miller. Vote 5-0.

The elected officials had three bids which included references as requested. They asked Director Jimmy Jenkins if he had a preference; he stated his preference would be inTelegent. This company had the lowest cost and they also agreed to wait and receive the entire payment upon completion of the project when initially they requested half of the payment up front.

There was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to accept the bid from inTelegent, in the amount of \$6,608.94 with entire payment to be made at the end of successful completion of the project, second by Councilmember Russom.

Vote 5-0.

#### New Business

2. Hold a public hearing and then consider taking action on the Temple Planning Commission's January 18, 2024, recommendation (5-0) that the City Council *approve* the **Final Plat** for Evergreen at Lakeside Phase I as requested by Kevin Hornbuckle of Smith-Douglas Homes, Tax Parcel #T03 0070001, Landlot 181, District 6. A total of 83 lots located off Simmons Drive.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. The applicant, Kevin Hornbuckle was present. He stated that they have taken care of everything that engineering has requested and that he has already submitted information for Phase 2. There was no one else present at the meeting to speak for or against this request. The public hearing was closed. It was confirmed that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the final plat as requested.

There was a motion by Councilmember Walden to approve the Final Plat for Evergreen at Lakeside, Phase I, second by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

3. Hold a public hearing and then consider taking action on the Temple Planning Commission's January 18, 2024, decision (5-0) to recommend approving the Preliminary Plat for Hidden Oaks as requested by William Collins of WT Collins, Tax Parcel #T03 0010003, Landlot 180, District 6, with 6 lots on a total of 7.83 acres at the corner of Rome Street and Driver Street.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. The applicant, William Collins, was present at the meeting. He stated that he was available to answer any questions about his request. Councilmember Walden explained that at the committee's meeting last week it was discussed about re-zoning this property from R-4 to R-1 to avoid any potential parcel splits in the future. Mr. Collins said that would not be a problem for him.

There was a motion by Councilmember Russom to approve the Preliminary Plat for Hidden Oaks which has six lots, second by Councilmember Bracknell.

Vote 5-0.

Councilmember Walden asked if there was a timeline for completing the re-zoning request from R-4 to R-1. Community Development Director Deidra Walker explained that this would take place at the March Planning Commission meeting and then it would be brought before the Council.

4. Adopt the position of Finance Accountant at Pay Grade 21 and instruct staff to begin the hiring process.

There was a motion by Councilmember Miller to adopt the position of Finance Accountant, the funding for this position is already allocated in the administration budget, second by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

5. Authorize the purchase of Springbrook software, not to exceed \$79,000, with funding from the FY24 Capital Budget.

There was a motion by Councilmember Miller to authorize the purchase of Springbrook software, not to exceed \$79,000 with funding from the FY24 Capital Budget, second by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

6. Authorize an additional \$22,400 for construction project management by Keck & Wood on the AMI Water Meter Project with SPLOST 2021 funds.

There was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to authorize an additional \$22,400 for construction project management by Keck & Wood on the AMI Water Meter Project with the funding from SPLOST 2021, second by Councilmember Boles. Vote 5-0.

7. Receive information on bonds for the funding of infrastructure projects; possible action to be taken.

Assistant City Administrator Lisa Jacobson explained that there is information from Davenport Lawrence in the books. She and City Engineer Greg Ashworth met with them

regarding bonds. They talked to GEFA about the funding for the Williams Creek sewer line. Bonding would take 60-90 days and part of what we are working on is under the high school bleachers. GEFA said that they will fully fund the project with two separate funds. This option would be significantly lower than using bonds. Ms. Jacobson explained that at the next committees meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup>, she would have a representative from Davenport available to discuss bonds, so that if we need to look at funding, we won't have to wait 90 days in the future. Mayor Johnson stated that the GEFA offer was made by staff and will go before the board on February 29<sup>th</sup>. The interest rate will remain in effect and the total amount is 4.4 million. No action needs to be taken tonight.

8. Approve the company, Novatek, to provide printer and copier services for city departments through a lease program.

Councilmember Bracknell made a motion to approve Novatek to provide printer and copier services for city departments through a lease program, second by Councilmember Miller. Vote 5-0.

9. Approve the City of Temple's 2024 updated list of approved vendors and contractors with the corrections made from the approved list at the January 8, 2024 council meeting.

There was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to approve the City's 2024 updated and corrected list of approved vendors and contractors, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0.

10. Authorize Chief Lee to purchase an emergency vehicle with the \$50,000 NFS Safety First Grant.

There was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to accept the quote from Brannen Ford in the amount of \$49,450, second by Councilmember Boles. Vote 5-0.

11. Authorize the City's engineering firm, Turnipseed Engineering, to prepare the engineering design for the intersection improvements at CenterPoint/Venable/Billings Roads for \$97,700.00 to be funded from SPLOST2021.

There was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to authorize Turnipseed Engineering to prepare the engineering design for the intersection improvements at Centerpoint/Venable/Billings Roads in the amount of \$97,700.00 to be funded from SPLOST 2021, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0.

12. Authorize the Mayor to sign a six (6) month extension to the City of Temple's current sanitation services contract with GFL Environmental.

Assistant City Administrator Lisa Jacobson explained that there would be no increase in cost for this six month extension.

There was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to authorize the Mayor to sign a six month extension to the City's current sanitation services contract with GFL Environmental, second by Councilmember Miller. Vote 5-0.

13. Authorize the purchase of a truck with SPLOST2021 funds in the FY24 Capital Budget for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

There were five quotes presented for the truck purchase. There was a brief discussion about truck purchases, the possibility of looking into fleet purchases to streamline vehicle purchasing, and mention of wanting to keep the purchases local whenever possible. It was requested that the Wastewater Plant Director Jimmy Jenkins check with the local vendor, Mike Bell and see if he could match the low bid of \$48,041 by Hennessey. Mr. Jenkins stated that he would check with them to see if a price match is possible.

There was a motion by Councilmember Russom to see if the local dealership, Mike Bell Chevrolet, will match the price of \$48,041 (which is being offered by Hennessey); if they do not match the price, to go with Hennessey, second by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

14. Authorize Davenport Lawrence to issue a Request For Proposal (RFP) for sanitation services beginning January 1, 2025.

There was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to authorize Davenport Lawrence to issue an RFP for sanitation services beginning January 1, 2025, second by Councilmember Boles. Vote 5-0.

**Closing Comments by Mayor and Council**

Howard Walden- Good job with the State of the City Address.

Mayor Johnson- Thanked staff for helping him get together the information for the presentation.

**Executive Session, if needed-** N/A

**Adjournment:**

There was a motion to adjourn by Councilmember Bracknell, second by Councilmember Miller. Vote 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:53PM.