CITY OF ARNOLDSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 15, 2021

Council Present: Mayor George Spearing IV Norma Craddock Danny Morcom Jack Norman Danny Sniff

Media: Jessica Colquitt

Visitors: John Kissane (Firefly Trail Development Coordinator)
(28 additional attendees from the community)

7:06 PM - Meeting called to order

Minutes

On a motion from Jack Norman, seconded by Danny Sniff, the minutes for the June 17, 2021 regular meeting were approved as submitted. Vote 4–0

General Fund Financial Report

On a motion from Jack Norman seconded by Danny Sniff, the June General Fund Financial Report was approved as submitted. Vote 4-0

Water Department Report

Water Superintendent, George Spearing, III reported that he had not received any new information from Dan Elder of Oconee Well Drillers regarding the samples collected to determine what kind of filters will be needed for a new filtration system. There will be at least one more well to be tested before getting the pricing. The plan is to install filtration systems on two wells. Spearing stated that he hoped to hear results from these test in the next week. He also reported that everything is fine with the water system right now. The recent rains have helped.

Water Fund Financial Report

On a motion from Danny Morcom with a second from Jack Norman, the June 2021 Water Fund Financial Report was approved as submitted. Vote 4-0

Construction Account Report

On a motion from Danny Morcom with a second from Danny Sniff, the final monthly Construction Account Report was approved as submitted. Vote 4-0

Online Account Quarterly Report

On a motion from Danny Morcom with a second from Jack Norman, the Second Quarterly Report for the Online Account was approved. Vote 4-0

TSPLOST Quarterly Report

On a motion by Jack Norman with a second from Norma Craddock, the Second Quarterly Report for the TSPLOST Account was approved. Vote 4-0

Fire Department

There were no members from the fire department present to give a report.

Code Enforcement

Lynn Shedd reported that he had recently spoken with Jake Willcox regarding the listing of four lots located on Pine Grove Rd. He had given Willcox information pertaining to a preliminary plat in reference to a minor subdivision. A major subdivision would require approval by the Planning Commission.

Old Business

•Sale of Old City Hall Building
City Attorney Love reported that he had made a call to Vesta Modular Offices with no luck in getting any information regarding the possibility of taking/purchasing the old city hall building. Council member Sniff suggested that there be a plan in place with a final date to dispose of the old city hall. Mayor Spearing stated that he would like to see the building gone by December.

•Old City Hall Marker
Mayor Spearing asked about ideas/possibilities for a new marker in front of the new city hall building. After a brief discussion, it was decided that something simple would be best suited possibly displaying the year of establishment as a city and maybe the ribbon cutting date for the new building. Council member Sniff volunteered to provide a design idea at the next meeting.

•Federal Recovery Funds (ARP)
Mayor Spearing reported that the ARP funds received so far totaled $68,339.00. It is possible that more installments will be received.

•Implementation Plan/STWP
Mr. Morcom will be drafting the new STWP with assistance from the council. The Short Term Work Plan is due October 31, 2021.

•Nuisance Animals Order
City Attorney Danny Love passed out examples of various ordinance options regarding nuisance animals for the council to review and made plans to revisit this issue at the next council meeting.

•Open House
The Mayor announced a reminder about the upcoming City Hall Open House for Saturday, July 31, 2021 from 4-6 p.m.

New Business

•City Hall Cleaning

Next on the Agenda was the subject of hiring someone to clean the city hall building. It was decided that some estimates would be gathered and discussed at the next meeting. Mayor Spearing had already received one estimate but determined that it was too high for what would be needed.

•Water Ordinance Update

City Attorney Love advised the council that a review of all water ordinances should be done to make sure all revisions needed for the changing water system were up to date. The mayor and council will take a look at this at the next meeting.

•Firefly Trail

Next, John Kissane, Firefly Trail Development Coordinator, was given the floor to provide current information on the progress of the Firefly Trail and to also answer questions from the Mayor and Council. He stated that he would like for Arnoldsville to consider making positive steps toward development of the trail within the city limits. After a long discussion which included questions and input from the attendees as well as members of the city council, Mayor Spearing spoke to say that the situation for Arnoldsville is unique. In cities like Winterville and Maxeys, the railroad bed is/was located in between two streets and is landlocked which are good locations for a trail. The area in question in Arnoldsville along the Winterville-Arnoldsville Road is not located between streets. He went on to say that there is a lot of opposition to the trail. Mayor Spearing presented an alternative to the tentative trail plan. The city is currently collecting TSPLOST funds through an Intergovernmental Agreement with Oglethorpe County and other cities in the county. Once these funds reach a certain amount, they will be dispersed to widen and resurface the Winterville-Arnoldsville Road. Mayor Spearing proposed that in keeping within the 80'right of way using TSPLOST funds to widen each side by 4', bike lanes could be developed within this project to run along side the Winterville-Arnoldsville Rd. He gave a visual presentation on screen that reflected all lanes fitting within the right of way. John Kissane agreed that this could be a definite option that should be presented to John Divine of the NEGRDC. That office is in charge of assisting cities with various needs of this nature. They help to come up with alternatives and Mr. Kissane noted that this is a definite option that should be investigated further. Mayor Spearing reiterated that the timing is tied in with the TSPLOST project for the widening of the road to include bike lanes. He also insisted that the council needs more input from the citizens of Arnoldsville. Opposition was strong at this meeting from residents within the city limits as well as attendees from outside the city limits between Winterville and Arnoldsville along that road.

8:50 PM Five minute recess

9:05 PM Resumed regular meeting.

It was decided that the Mayor would have a call with John Divine of NEGRDC to discuss the alternative proposed by Mayor Spearing. There is a small fee for this service so the mayor will find out about that cost. The Mayor stated that the "railroad bed is not a plan."

9:30 PM Regular meeting adjourned on a motion from Norma Craddock with a second from Jack Norman. Vote 4-0

8-19-21

Mayor Date

Minutes prepared and submitted by Clerk, Debbie Love, August 19, 2021