

**CITY OF ARNOLDSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

January 18, 2018

Council Present: Mayor F. Spearing, IV Greg Banks Norma Craddock
Danny Morcom Jack Norman Lee Norman

Visitors: H. Baker, M. Fleming, S. Johnson, D. Hardigree, P. Chubbuck

Media: Jessica Colquitt

7:00 PM - Meeting was called to order by Mayor Spearing

Minutes

On a motion by Norma Craddock, seconded by Greg Banks, the minutes for the December 14, 2017 meeting were approved as submitted. 5 – 0

General Fund Financials

On a motion by Jack Norman seconded by Norma Craddock, the December General Fund Financial Report was approved as submitted. 5 - 0

Water

Water Superintendent, George Spearing, III reported that the washing out and maintenance had been completed at the Hargrove Crossing tank. TankPro will be doing the maintenance on the tank located at city hall in the near future. It was also mentioned that due to some problems with contractors and subcontractors damaging meters at new homes in the process of being built, a separate application for contractors has been created. This will hopefully help cut down on damages if contractors are made aware up front of additional charges that will be applied if damages occur.

The next item to be discussed pertaining to water were the new Emergency Water Rates for Drought Contingencies as required by the EPD. There is no set deadline, but this needs to be put into place before dry weather returns. After some discussion, it was determined that the mayors of Arnoldsville, Crawford, Lexington and Maxeys should meet and agree on these rates.

Water Fund Financials

On a motion from Jack Norman with a second from Danny Morcom, the December Water Fund Financial Report was approved as submitted. Vote 5 - 0

Fire Department

Fire Chief Heath Baker reported that the fire department had been on six calls so far this year. He also reported that they had answered 85 calls last year. They have heard nothing on the 50/50 grant so far. They are still planning a spring fund raiser for March 24. A Chicken Mull will be served from 11:00 – 2:00 at \$8.00 per ticket. It was reported that the cancer insurance premium for the Arnoldsville Fire Department was covered by the City of Arnoldsville for 2018. The amount of \$1,360.00 at \$170.00/each. The city also voted on a motion from Greg Banks with a second from Danny Morcom to give the fire department \$6,300.00 of the \$10,000.00 budgeted for 2018. This will leave a balance of \$2,340.00 to be distributed to the fire department during the remainder of the year. Vote 5 - 0

Annual Insurance

City Attorney Danny Love reported that the annual insurance for the city had been renewed for a cost of \$8,342.00. This amount does not include \$97.00 to cover Terrorism (deliberate acts to overturn government).

Website

City Clerk Debbie Love along with the help of Mayor Spearing, presented a “draft” version of the new city website that is being developed. The council was pleased with the progress and voted on a motion from Greg Banks with a second from Norma Craddock to purchase the three-year maintenance plan due to the lesser expense of this plan. Vote 5 – 0

Code Enforcement

Lynn Shedd had nothing new to report. He did collect one permit fee during January from Mr. Weldon Stewart for a new carport. Mr. Shedd did report that improvements that have been made to the trailer parks so far look good. Gravel and fencing have been added by Allgood Properties.

Other Business

Council was given copies of letters received by the city from citizens of Oglethorpe County on behalf of No. 3 Railroad and the ongoing situation regarding parking. Mayor Spearing remarked that the city is being bombarded with accusations and calls about this situation and the “lack of encouragement of business in the city.” He stated that the city actually did not currently require business licenses or separate business taxes which seemed to him to actually be a positive factor for someone considering placing their business in the city limits of Arnoldsville. Mayor Spearing asked for recommendations from the council or any resolution for parking on Railroad St. He reminded the council that parking is prohibited without designated parking spaces. Mayor Spearing also pointed out that there had been no public input from anyone who is actually a citizen/resident living inside the city limits of Arnoldsville.


After a lengthy discussion regarding the current situation, Mayor Spearing submitted an estimate reflecting a plan for the striping of Railroad St. that included parking spaces to the council. City Attorney Love reiterated that there is a "right of way on a public street by prescription." He also stated that if the city does stripe the street, there will be litigation costs and that the city needs to think about it. After more discussion, Jack Norman stated that he thought two more proposals for striping should be acquired and see what happens. Greg Banks stated that anything done would be spending tax dollars to pay court costs etc. Again, the mayor emphasized that the council would act in the best interest of the city as a whole, all citizens and tax payers as well as businesses.


Mr. Steve Johnson a resident of Lake Oglethorpe, was present to voice that he really hoped something could be worked out, but after hearing the discussions of the council realized that this is quite a problematic issue. Ms. Pamela Chubbuck was also present to voice her concerns.

The Mayor again asked for ideas from the council. It was eventually decided that the city would order a survey of the property located at Railroad St. to get as much clarification as possible. City Attorney again stated that there is no question about Railroad St. being a city street. On a motion from Danny Morcom with a second from Jack Norman, the council voted 5-0 to have the Railroad Street area surveyed as soon as possible.

Mayor Spearing wanted to make sure that it is clear there will be "no side taking" in this matter.

8:50 PM Motion to adjourn by Norma Craddock with a second from Jack Norman. Vote 5-0


Mayor

 2-15-18
Date

Minutes prepared and submitted by Clerk, Debbie Love, February 15, 2018