

SPECIAL SESSION

JUNE 20, 2012

The City Council of the City of Athens met in Special Session on Wednesday, June 20, 2012, 11:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Annex with the following members present, to-wit:

Randy Daniel, Mayor
Jerry Don Vaught
Carol Barton

Pam Burton, City Administrator
Pam Watson, City Secretary
Conor Bateman, City Attorney

others present: Glen Herriage, Gary Crecelius, Buddy Hill, John McQueary, David Hopkins, Haven Cox, Sherri Skeeters, Marlin Smith and other interested citizens;

with the following members absent: Elaine Jenkins, Aubrey Jones;

constituting a quorum at which time the following proceedings were enacted, to-wit:

The invocation was given by Mayor Daniel.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No action was taken.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

A) STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT AND PROPOSED PROJECTS

No report was given.

ATHENS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REPORT

A) STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT AND PROPOSED PROJECTS

No report was given.

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REPORT

A) STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT AND PROPOSED PROJECTS

Gary Crecelius, Director of Planning & Development updated on the following projects:

- 1) Bel Air Elementary remodeling project is in progress, with plans to complete prior to the opening of the school year.
- 2) Athens High School Annex permitted for remodel in excess of \$1 million dollars for a career/technical facility.
- 3) Oakwood Place has one (1) slab to go, with steel being erected on assisted living portion of facility.
- 4) Bail Bonds Office permitted on Murchison St.
- 5) Residences permitted on Mulberry St., Bayshore Dr. and Rico Dr.
- 6) Sears is relocating to old Lone Star Western Wear building.
- 7) Demolition has begun on two (2) buildings on S. Palestine St. for future site of Mooyah Burger.
- 8) Building located at 1415 E. Tyler St. is being demolished for future development.
- 9) Fast food restaurant is looking at old Sonic location on S. Palestine St.
- 10) WalMart has completed \$600,000 remodel.
- 11) Taco Bell has completed remodel.

- 12) Precision Machinery permitted 2,200 sq. ft. addition at 1500 Rocky Ridge Rd.
- 13) Office at 100 E. Tyler St. is being remodeled.
- 14) Mobile home permitted at 602 Wood St.

FINANCIAL REPORT

David Hopkins, Director of Finance, presented the April financials.

CONFIRM APPOINTMENT TO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

City Administrator Pam Burton recommended the reappointment of John Glover to the Civil Service Commission. A motion was made by Councilmember Barton, seconded by Councilmember Vaught to reappoint John Glover to serve another three (3) year term on the Civil Service Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS;

- A) DISCUSS AUDIT REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

Marlin Smith with Smith, Lambright & Associates presented the Audit Report for fiscal year ending 9/30/11, with the opinion that the financial statements are presented fairly and the City is in very good financial condition. He commended Administration, with Councilmember Barton being in agreement. The item will appear on the agenda Monday, June 25, 2012.

- B) DISCUSS SELL OF WINE ON CITY PARKING LOT LOCATED AT 220 N. PALESTINE ST. DURING ATHENS FARMERS MARKET, AS REQUESTED BY TARA VINEYARD & WINERY

Patrick Pierce, owner of Tara Vineyard & Winery, explained that he grows grapes locally and would like to be a part of promoting locally by being allowed to sell at the Athens Farmers Market. Ms. Burton explained that T.A.B.C. is requiring a letter from the City authorizing the sell of wine at this location before they will issue a permit. Councilmember Vaught expressed his concerns with other wineries selling at the Farmers Market, with Ms. Burton explaining that this request is only for Tara Vineyard & Winery. The item will appear on the agenda Monday.

- C) DISCUSS CREATION OF SITE PLAN FOR LOTS 2A, 3A & 4A, BLOCK 10, ATHENS ORIGINAL TOWN, OWNED BY FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (300 & 302 EAST TYLER ST.)

This item was removed from the agenda.

- D) DISCUSS CREATION OF SITE PLAN AND REZONING OF LOT 62, J.B. ATWOOD SURVEY FROM PLANNED DEVELOPMENT-2 AGRICULTURE TO PLANNED DEVELOPMENT-2 COMMERCIAL (SPECIFIC USE PROVISION), OWNED BY TONY MCLEMORE (1800 N.E. LOOP 7)

This item was removed from the agenda.

- E) DISCUSS PURCHASE OF APPARATUS FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief John McQueary explained that the current aerial apparatus (Ladder 81) is a 1985 Thibault made in Canada and it is currently out of service due to a major safety issue with the operation of the ladder. He explained that the water pump on the apparatus is also out of service due to repairs

being too costly, therefore, it has been used for aerial operation only. He stated that repair costs are estimated to be in excess of \$100,000, even if parts can be located, expressing his feelings that it is past its life expectancy and is extremely unsafe. He recommended the purchase of a Quint apparatus, which would serve as a ladder truck and/or a pumping engine.

He explained that there is also a problem with Engine 52 which is a 1999 HME apparatus and is the front-line engine at the North Station and if the Quint is purchased, it will be placed at Central and Engine 53, which is only four (4) years old, can be moved from the Central Station to the North Station.

Chief McQueary provided cost estimates from five (5) manufacturers for Quint demonstrators that are available for immediate sale, with the lowest quote coming from Farrara at \$868,540.

Councilmember Vaught questioned the reputation of the vendors, with Chief McQueary responding that they are all high quality vendors.

Ms. Burton recommended that the Council authorize an emergency purchase of apparatus for the Fire Department, with payments starting after 10/01/12, and authorize staff to seek Capital Lease Financing.

The item will appear on the agenda Monday.

F) DISCUSS AWARDING BID FOR SEAL COATING OF EXISTING STREETS

Glen Herriage, Director of Utilities explained that two (2) bids were received for seal coating of existing streets, recommending that the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Lone Star Equipment Co. at a total cost of \$131,918.40. The item will appear on the agenda Monday.

**G) DISCUSS APPROVING ANGELINE & NECHES RIVER AUTHORITY
NECHES COMPOST FACILITY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013**

Mr. Herriage reviewed the A.N.R.A. Compost Facility budget for the upcoming year, with the annual cost to the City of Athens being \$162,365.35. The item will appear on the agenda Monday.

DISCUSS ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSENT AGENDA;

- A) DISCUSS APPROVING MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6, 2012 SPECIAL SESSION
AND JUNE 11, 2012 REGULAR SESSION**
- B) CONSIDER FINAL READING OF AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TAXICAB
FRANCHISE TO CITY CAB OF ATHENS**

These items will appear on the Consent Agenda Monday.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO EXPRESS ITEMS OF CONCERN

There was no discussion and the meeting was adjourned.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 9TH DAY OF JULY, 2012.

Randy Daniel, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pam Watson, City Secretary