

SUMMARY OF August 26, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor and Council met on August 26, 2021, in person at the Jackson EMC Meeting room. The Mayor, Clerk and council members Brian Kopenick, John Barber and Marilyn Walton were present in person and council member, Donna Gantt, was present via telephone due to illness. In addition, attorney Freddrell Green, Mayor Cynthia Hobbs from the City of Carlton, and John Clark and Nefetara Clark from the law firm of Clark and Clark were present

Minutes of the July meeting and July Financial Reports were approved.

Clark and Clark law firm introduced themselves and gave an overview of their experience and fees with respect Mayor and Council consideration for their taking over from Attorney Green who has resigned.

Mayor Walton again addressed ARPA funds, multiples uses and Attorney Green advised that he was working towards completing an application to be completed and presented to Mayor and Council for consideration in connection with receipt of such funds.

Mayor Walton presented a Resolution that was read by the Clerk in its entirety that had been prepared by Attorney Green concerning an attendance policy for council. After review and discussion this Resolution was approved.

Mayor Walton reported that he was still waiting to hear back from several people with respect to the final steps to approve the Zoning Ordinance and asked that the matter be tabled until September.

Brian Koepnick gave an update on the watering and upkeep on the landscaping and plantings on Highway 72.

Mayor Walton reported that things were moving along on the Firefly Trail. He had spoken with Commission Chairman Higdon who indicated the county was very excited to help the project to move forward. There are two homeowners in the proposed project that still need to be contacted.

Mayor Walton advised that interest earned from ARPA funding can go into the general fund. Clerk advised that the current account was not an interest bearing account but she will check with bank to see if the account qualifies to be converted to an interest bearing account.

Mayor Walton reported that he had not had any feedback from the residents on Easy Street and Davis Street with respect to the City placing speed bumps on these roads. He will prepare a letter, obtain names and addresses and have the Clerk send out requesting comment.

Mayor Walton gave an update on the status of the new City Hall that things were moving along, that letters had been sent out to 11 different agencies requesting feedback as to environmental issues, etc. and the audit would be complete next week.

The Clerk reported that qualifying for the three council seats had ended last Wednesday and that both John Barber and Brian Koepnick had qualified to retain their seats and Mike McElroy had qualified for the seat currently held by council member Marilyn Walton and since no one had opposition an election would not be necessary. All three council members will be sworn in at the January 2022 meeting.

Under new business Mayor Walton reported that he had been notified by GDOT that paving on Highway 72 from highway 29 all the way out would begin in October.

Mayor Walton advised that he would like to see Mayor and Council do something to honor former Mayor Paul Walton who was the oldest living Mayor of Hull. It was decided to have a ceremony by the Well on September 18th at 2:00p.m.

Council member Marilyn Walton requested that council consider voting on a budget for Christmas Decorations and installation and take-down so that she could move forward with planning. She presented some information she had received and discussion followed. A motion was approved to set a budget at \$3,000.00.

Mayor Walton provided information concerning a grant through T-Mobile that could be used to complete the beautification around the Well. The deadline to apply is the end of September. Discussion followed and council member Kopenick suggested that we talk further with College Pro who had presented a proposal several months ago and also speak with other potential landscapers. Due to the time constraints Mayor Walton advised that a called meeting may be necessary to address this before the deadline. NEGRC is willing to help with the application process.

The last item was business was discussion on changing the payment times of the Mayor, Council and City Clerk compensation. Currently everyone is paid at the end of the year for the entire year. Mayor Walton took comments from council members concerning changing this to quarterly, semi-annually or leaving it as is. After discussion a motion was made and approved that beginning with 2022 compensation will be paid semi-annually in June and December.

There being nothing further the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Pou
Hull City Clerk