**City of Bowdon**

**Mayor and Council Meeting**

**August 12, 2019**

**7:00PM**

**I.-IV. Agenda Items:**

The Mayor and City Council met during a regular session on Monday, August 12th, 2019, in the Mayor and Council Chambers, 182 Grammar School Road, Bowdon Georgia. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Chaffin at 7:00PM.

Roll call was conducted by City Clerk Susan Pierce.

Members present: Mayor Jim Chaffin

Mayor Pro-tem Jan Johnson

Councilmember Marty Johnson

Councilmember Noah Steed

Councilmember Wes McEntyre

Staff present: City Manager Gary Bullock

City Attorney David Mecklin

City Clerk Susan Pierce

Police Chief Mark Brock

Main Street Director Jan Gibbs

The Invocation was led by Councilmember Wes McEntyre and was followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**V. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of Mayor & Council Meeting on July 8, 2019 were read and presented for approval.

*Motion by Mayor Pro-tem Jan Johnson to approve the minutes as presented; second by Councilmember McEntyre; motion carried unanimously.*

**VI. Second Public Hearing – Comprehensive Plan Update**

Paul Jarrell gave an overview of the updates for the Comprehensive Plan since the first Public Hearing. He also asked for any public comments and addressed those accordingly.

**VII. Public Comments**

None.

**VIII. Business Session**

1. Auditor Engagement Letter – Annual engagement letter from Will Robinson, CPA, to conduct FY 2020 Audit.

*Motion by Councilmember McEntyre to approve the Auditor Engagement Letter; second by Councilmember Marty Johnson; motion carried by a 3-1 margin, with Councilmember Steed abstaining.*

1. 2019 Property Tax millage rate discussion – City Clerk Pierce presented the current numbers from the Carroll County Tax Commissioner for Council to review. The two options are 8.577 or the rollback rate of 8.239. She reminded Council that there were still 34 appeals to bear in mind when considering these rates. At 8.577, taxes levied are estimated at $448,186; at 8.239, taxes levied are estimated at $430,524.
2. Jerry Rollins – Green space at corner of Mill Street and Red Barn Road – Mr. Rollins would like to donate the property to the City of Bowdon. After discussion of the pros and cons of accepting the property, and upon recommendation of City Attorney Mecklin, Council decided to table the discussion until further information is obtained concerning tax revenue and maintenance.
3. Quit Claim deed – Adamson Avenue at Bowdon High School

*Motion by Mayor Pro-tem Jan Johnson to authorize the signing of a quit-claim deed transferring the property formerly known as Adamson Avenue at Bowdon High School to the Carroll County School Board; second by Councilmember Marty Johnson; motion carried unanimously.*

1. Water System Improvement Contract – The low bid for the water line replacement along Hwy. 166 west of town, and Red Barn Road and N. Hwy. 100 was received from LCS & Associates, LLC in the amount of $799,539.

*Motion by Councilmember Steed to approve the low bid from LCS & Associates in the amount of $799,539 for the water line replacement project as presented; second by Mayor Pro-tem Jan Johnson; motion carried unanimously.*

1. Grant Approvals – the City has received several grants recently, which need to be formally approved, as follows: $1462 from Carroll EMC for Main Street to install a kiosk at Heritage Park for informational materials; $4500 from Carroll EMC for a metal detector for our Municipal Courtroom; $5000 from the Warren and Ava F. Sewell Foundation for benches and picnic tables at Barr Gardens Park; and $18,260 from the Warren and Ava Sewell Foundation for new library doors.

*Motion by Councilmember McEntyre to approve grants as presented; second by Mayor Pro-tem Jan Johnson; motion carried unanimously.*

1. Historic Preservation Board recommendation – Council recognized a recommendation to appoint John Michael Watts to the Historic Preservation Board. Mr. Watts is an architect and will be a beneficial addition to the board.

*Motion by Councilmember McEntyre to accept the nomination of John Michael Watts to the Historic Preservation Board; second by Mayor Pro-tem Jan Johnson; motion carried unanimously.*

1. Main Street Board recommendations – The Main Street Board recommended the re-appointment of Carolyn Crawford and Matt McCord, as well as the appointment of Allie Rahr to fill the remaining term of Judy McWhorter.

*Motion by Councilmember McEntyre to approve the Main Street Board recommendations as presented; second by Mayor Pro-tem Jan Johnson; motion carried unanimously.*

1. Zoning Appeals Board recommendations – Council recommended Janet Cooke, Bonnie Smith, and Hailey Boggus as new members, and Vicky Browning and Pam Parham upon their agreement to re-appointment.

*Motion by Mayor Pro-tem Jan Johnson to approve the Zoning Appeals Board recommendations as presented; second by Councilmember Marty Johnson; motion carried by a 3-1 margin, with Councilmember McEntyre abstaining.*

1. Capital Purchase items from the FY 2020 Budget – City Manager Bullock reviewed the requests from the Department Heads, along with his recommendations for the priority of the items. All of the purchases will be funded by SPLOST revenue.

*Motion by Councilmember McEntyre to approve beginning the process for acquiring the Capital Purchase items as presented; second by Councilmember Marty Johnson; motion carried unanimously.*

1. City Manager Reports – Part of our LMIG project has been completed. The culvert has been replaced at Barr Ave. We have several storm drains to repair which will be part of the project as well. Tyus Road has been paved with help from Carroll County Public Works, which saved about $40,000. Founder’s Day was a big success. Thanks to the Historical Society, Main Street Board and all the volunteers who helped. Councilmember McEntyre reported there were 194 runners who participated in the race. The generators for the Water Treatment Plant, which are part of our Comprehensive Plan, a portable generator for the lift stations, and a generator for the Municipal Complex (for police and other necessary functions in case of a power outage) will total around $370,000. We have applied to Georgia Emergency Management Association (GEMA) for the funds, and have made the first cut in getting approved for the loan.
2. Department Reports – Police department has been very active this month. Chief Brock reported the Drug Task Force headed several arrests last week. Councilmember McEntyre thanked Main Street and the Police Department for their assistance during the Founder’s Day race. We are getting a lot of participation in the Recreation Department and the Library.

**VIII. Financial Session**

1. Reviewed Property Tax Unpaid Balance Summary.
2. Reviewed July financial reports
3. Cash balances as of July 8, 2019

**IX. Executive Session – Personnel (cancelled)**

There being no other business, Mayor Chaffin asked for a motion to adjourn.

*Motion by Councilmember McEntyre to adjourn the meeting; second by Mayor Pro-tem Jan Johnson; motion carried unanimously.*

**X. Adjournment**

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Mayor Jim Chaffin City Clerk Susan Pierce