



**OFFICIAL MINUTES
RINCON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
107 W. 17TH STREET
7:00 PM**

Councilmember Present:

Reese Browher
Ann Daniel
Patrick Kirkland
W. Frederick Long
Levi Scott, Jr.

Present:

Ken Lee, Mayor
John Klimm, City Manager
Raymond Dickey, City Attorney
Dulcia King, City Clerk
Jonathon Murrell, Police Chief
Corey Rahn, Fire Chief
Jason Stewart, City Planner
Mike Osborne, Recreation Director
Tim Bowles, Public Works Director

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM. The Invocation was given by Councilmember Kirkland and Pledge to the Flag was recited.

Approval of the agenda with the following addition:

New business item 5A approval to replace the pump for the Pine Manor lift station.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Kirkland
Vote by Council: Unanimous

Approval of the February 8, 2021 minutes:

Motion to approve: Councilmember Daniel

Second: Councilmember Long

Vote by Council: 4 yes votes, Councilmember Kirkland abstained

Old Business:

1. Request approval to contract with All American Petting Zoo for the 4th Annual Rincon Spring Fair to be held April 2 – April 11, 2021. (Tabled at the 2/8/2021 meeting)

Remove from the table: Councilmember Daniel

Second: Councilmember Scott

Vote by Council: Unanimous

Mr. Klimm said the details and the safety issues were worked out and the concerns of Council were addressed. Mayor asked Attorney Dickey were there any concerns with the contract. Attorney Dickey said there is a provision that we are going to put in, we will send it back to let them know that they have to meet all requirements of Georgia law for holding these events.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Long

Second: Councilmember Daniel

Vote by Council: Unanimous

New Business:

1. Notice of Conflict of Interest Guidelines for FY 2021 CDBG application.

Mr. Stewart said this is a housekeeping item from our consultants so they can move forward with our application. They have identified that Mr. Scott has property in the project area, 835 W Seventh Street Ext and 833 W Seventh Street, and asked us to proceed with City Council to recognize that fact. Attorney Dickey said this is something that we have done on every one of the projects. To Mr. Scott's credit he has been forth right and upfront with the public letting them know he lives in the area and has property. He has put that conflict of interest out into the public.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Daniel

Second: Councilmember Long

Vote by Council: 4 yes votes Councilmember Scott abstained

2. Request approval to surplus Equipment at the Fire Department.

Mr. Klimm informed Council that no one from the fire department be here. This item was tabled until the next meeting

Motion to table: Councilmember Kirkland
Second: Councilmember Scott
Vote by Council: Unanimous

3. Request approval to surplus Bunker Gear.

Motion to table: Councilmember Kirkland
Second: Councilmember Browher
Vote by Council: Unanimous

4. Presentation of the proposed 2021 Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Project list and approval to authorize EMC Engineering to initiate predevelopment work, bidding requirements and financing of the East 4th Street, Weisenbaker Road, Middleground Road, Georgia Avenue and Savannah Avenue projects.

Mr. Klimm said they have had conversation about what the approach should be in terms of the five year program. Mr. Klimm said they have worked through some issues and the proposal is they will to resurface these roads. He has stressed to EMC the importance of getting the jobs done in 2021. The citizens that supported TSPLOST would like to see work get done; we would like to get work started as soon as possible. This is the first year work plan. Councilmember Daniel would like to let the citizens know what we are doing so they can see how the dollars are being spent. Councilmember Scott said it is really important that they understand. Councilmember Kirkland were we ever able to figure if the Chamber was going to do any advertising. Mr. Klimm said that he doesn't want to speak for the Chamber but he knows that they have talked about strategic signage. We are going to try to coordinate it so it is the same all around, Councilmember Scott said the City needs to have signage. Councilmember Browher asked are we going to put signs up permanently, Mr. Klimm said it would ultimately be up to Council. Mayor Lee said he appreciated the process we went through with TSPLOST, we had good discussion, Council had great opportunity to view it and appreciates how we went about the financing piece. We made some good decisions.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Daniel
Second: Councilmember Scott
Vote by Council: Unanimous

5. Request approval of the Service Delivery Stipulation Agreement between the City of Rincon, City of Springfield, City of Guyton and Effingham County.

Mayor Lee said before we approve this item we need to have further discussion in executive session.

After executive session and return to the regular meeting a motion was made to table.

Motion to table: Councilmember Kirkland
Second: Councilmember Long
Vote by Council: Unanimous

**5A. Request approval to replace the pump for the Pine Manor Lift Station.
LI #506.4325.541401**

Mr. Bowles said this is the pump has finally went out, it is cheaper to replace than repair. He is currently running off one pump and the bypass pump as backup.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Daniel
Second: Councilmember Long
Vote by Council: Unanimous

6. Administrative Reports:

City Manager – Mr. Klimm said there has been an article in the newspaper about elections, the whole issues of elections is being discussed and at some point the Council may want to have a workshop. We are all concerned about the conditions of our machines and the fact that a few numbers of individuals are qualified to work on them; He wanted to acknowledge that the department heads have addressed a face mask policy. Councilmember Scott we don't need to mandate but we need to be cautious as public officials. Councilmember Browher asked were we going to adopt a formal policy, Councilmember Long said he thinks it has been handled in the letter. Councilmember Scott said this has put Council in a situation, we have addressed it and now we can tell citizens that they have procedures in place. Councilmember Browher asked what will happen is the employees do not follow this, Mr. Klimm said the sense is that if this comes from department heads there will be compliance, if there isn't compliance then we have to bring it to Council's attention. Councilmember Browher asked is it just a general directive from the department heads, Mr. Klimm yes. Mayor Lee said the discussion was that they didn't want this to be a mandate, they wanted to be a procedure. Councilmember Browher said he is not for a mandate and wants that on the record, but we need to have an official policy to back department heads up in case they have to write someone up. Mayor Lee said if necessary we can put more teeth in it. Councilmember Browher said how about we have a review of this in a couple of months to see if we need to tweak it or make something a permanent policy.

Mayor and Council – Councilmember Daniel asked about emergency ambulance response time, Mr. Klimm said that was something recommended by the auditors and it is something that we need to do. It is attached to service delivery. Councilmember Browher asked about the property on the corner of Fort Howard Road and Willowpeg Way, Mr. Mattos said he spoke to the owner and they are cleaning it and putting up silk fence. He thinks the owner is going to sell it. Councilmember Browher asked about Zaxby's, Mr. Stewart said they went before the Planning and Zoning Board last week. Attorney Dickey said they might

need a workshop on that. Councilmember Kirkland asked about DOT putting down the counters in the streets, Mr. Bowles said they are probably just doing traffic studies. Mayor Lee said the City has received an invitation to celebrate the 20 year anniversary of the Veterans Park in Springfield. Councilmember Browher mentioned the wash outs on 4th Street between Richland and Lexington Avenues and said they need some patch work for now.

7. Executive session to discuss personnel, pending litigation, attorney client privilege, and real estate.

Motion: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Daniel
Vote by Council: Unanimous

Motion to return to meeting: Councilmember Daniel
Second: Councilmember Scott
Vote by Council: Unanimous

8. Follow the statutes of executive session, to put on file an executive session affidavit and resolution.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Kirkland
Second: Councilmember Scott
Vote by Council: Unanimous

9. Take any action that is needed on the items from executive session.

After executive new business item 5 was tabled.

Adjourn into a workshop:

Motion: Councilmember Browher
Second: Councilmember Daniel
Vote by Council: Unanimous