

REGULAR MEETING OF  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MARCH 10, 2020

---

The regular meeting of the Council was called to order by Mayor Doug Cheek.

Present were James Dumas, Sandra Garrison and Cliff Hill.

Absent:

Jerry Payne and David Dunson.

The invocation was given by James Dumas.

The pledge to the flag was led by Mayor Doug Cheek.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. (3-0)

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Water and Garbage Rates**

A rate increase of \$2.00 on both the water and garbage rates was discussed. The water rate will go from \$14.00 to \$16.00 for the first 3,000 gallons and garbage rates will go from \$15.00 to \$17.00 per month. Mayor and council are wanting to discuss the increases and other concerns with Georgia Rural Water. James Dumas suggested having a public hearing in April so that the citizens can voice their opinions regarding the rate increase. Sandra Garrison made a motion to go up \$2.00 on both the water and garbage rates to go into effect in May. Motion was seconded by Cliff Hill and approved. (3-0)

**2. Mayor & Council pay**

No discussion.

**3. Sewer**

James Dumas read the email from Turnipseed Engineers answering questions that were asked in the work session regarding what their proposal included. Mayor Cheek is concerned with the fact that there is a county election coming up in November and that there will be new people in county positions to work with regarding this issue. James Dumas will contact Ken Bryan at Turnipseed and ask what his opinion is on this issue. James Dumas stated that Ken Bryan mentioned that they can do the feasibility study but when it is to the point of funding the project a procurement of an engineer. Request for proposal will have to be done. GEFA requires a request for proposal with their loans. This opens it up for other engineering firms to bid. Mr. Dumas stated that it is not a requirement to change engineers, the process just needs to be completed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Harris Local Government representative - Jody Bennett**

Harris Local Government Representative, Jody Bennett, discussed the software system. James Dumas asked if the software would be compatible with the new computers that were just purchased. Mr. Bennett stated that it would be compatible. He stated that the software was fully integrated and has ease of use especially for utility billing. They have a support staff that is available and willing to help with any problems or questions that may arise. After more discussion, James Dumas made the motion to proceed with the upgrade of the software package from Harris Local Government. Motion was seconded by Cliff Hill and approved. (3-0)

**2. Chambers Street Property – Kaye Allen**

REGULAR MEETING OF  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MARCH 10, 2020

---

Ms. Allen stated that she has owned the property at 193 Chambers Street for 4 years. She had a mobile home on the property which was stripped. Trash has also been piled onto the property. She has been attempting to clean up the property. As of now she has spent \$2,500.00 on the cleanup effort. She stated that she cannot be 100% sure, but she thinks that all of the trash is coming from the neighbors that is being dumped on her property. The neighbors have three dogs that she has made three complaints to the Banks County Sheriff's Office about. She stated that the dogs are aggressive and will attack. She has also been to Paul Ruark at the Banks County planning and zoning office regarding the dog situation. Ms. Allen stated that she is receiving letters stating that her property needs to be cleaned up. She asked why the other people were not receiving the same letters. Mayor Cheek stated that they are receiving the letters. James Dumas and Mayor Cheek thanked Ms. Allen for doing her part in the cleanup effort on her property. Mayor Cheek stated that the cleanup project is being worked on.

3. **Possible Hunting Ordinance Cannon Creek Resident – James Morris**

James Morris did not attend the meeting. Due to lack of knowledge on exactly what he is wanting (allowing hunting or not allowing hunting) the item was tabled.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **Remodel at Town Hall (office space)**

Mayor Cheek presented a quote from Jeff Banks in the amount of \$7,718.00 for the extension of Town Hall office space and a quote from Reed Renovation in the amount of \$8,200.00. Motion was made by Sandra Garrison to approve quote from Jeff Banks in the amount of \$7,718.00 for the extension of Town Hall office space. The motion was seconded by James Dumas and approved. (3-0)

2. **Special presentation to James Dumas**

Mayor Cheek presented James Dumas with a Certificate of Recognition from the University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government for classes that he has completed.

Mayor Cheek suggested going into Executive Session to discuss staff salaries and litigation. Cliff Hill made a motion to go into closed session at 6:45 p.m. Roll call: Mayor Doug Cheek, Sandra Garrison, James Dumas and Cliff Hill.

Opened regular meeting at 7:52 p.m. Roll call: Mayor Doug Cheek, Sandra Garrison, James Dumas and Cliff Hill.

Mayor Cheek stated there is nothing to say on pending litigation.

James Dumas made a motion to give a 3% raise to salaried employees and a \$2.00 per hr. raise to all hourly employees as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Motion was seconded by Sandra Garrison and approved. (3-0)

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Cheek, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Ayers, Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MARCH 10, 2020

---