CITY OF OGLETHORPE

OGLETHORPE CITY HALL

115 CHATHAM STREET

COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

MARCH 30, 2023 – 6:00PM

Call to order: Mayor Bruce Hill 6:00PM

Department Head Reports:

1. City Clerk, Melissa Jones – report emailed to council prior to meeting.
2. Police Dept – Cindy Kleckley / Interim Chief Finch – Officer Whitehead has been put in radar car. 54 citations been written and 14 warrants have been written. So, basically your tag reader’s been working, it just was an operator error. Flock is in process. Need y’all to look at your leash law so that we can write citations when needed. I sent that to y’all. I sent y’all the study we had on Sumter St. We had a little excitement yesterday. Stolen vehicle from Ideal and flying the Oglethorpe. Captain Hill caught him at the Board of Education Office. Another highlight, a wire popped and caught on fire (courthouse) and Ga Power took care of. No other real issues in Oglethorpe. CM Harrison – I noticed visibly that speeders slowed down with that sign up on Sumter, but other areas seem to have gotten worse. Can we move that sign around? Chief Finch – yes, we are going to move it around. We got Officer Whitehead signed up for radar classes. Might get them set up for over here. Also, Dunson hasn’t worked a few days because of some issues. You heard about the incident with the officer in Americus…. Basically, that officer said he told Officer Dunson what he had done that night and Dunson went straight to his supervisor. That tells you that Dunson is a straight forward guy and if something isn’t right, he’s going to tell it. CM Cross – First let me start off with thanking you for placing the radar sign, but I wondered if you would have gotten different statistics turning it around to face the other direction because they weren’t going very fast coming from the red light up, but from the other direction I feel they would have been going faster. Chief Finch – we’ll try to get it, but we already have it on Hwy 26. CM Harrison – I would be interested in seeing the stats for that also. Chief Finch – We will get that taken care of. CM Cross – Thank you for everything you are doing though.
3. Librarian, Glenda Rigby – report to be emailed at first of the month
4. Water/Sewer/Streets, HWR Jeff Harrison – We had a bill that was messed up and had to fix it. About 77K is about average. I have our engineer here for the waste water plant and I’m glad he’s here. If you have any questions, he’s here. We have some streets and T-Splost projects we need to talk about. It keeps getting brought up. We have like four or five that needs to be done, May Road is one of the top ones and we start talking about it and then it stops, we start talking about it and then it stops. CM Harrison – Yes, we want to get a plan tonight. Jeff – If we are wanting to do May Road, there are some drainage issues out there that have to be taken care of. Mr. Ingram would need to look at that and send it out to bid for contractors. We been cutting grass, picking up limbs and trash. The Waste Water Plant gate at the dumpster is open 7 days a week for people to bring in their household furniture, etc. to dump. The gate to the actual pond is closed. The field at the Elementary School is also always open if they have big limbs or whatever they need to take out there. I think we had one week where we had to fix a leak out at Mill Creek Road. We have one more to look at tomorrow. CM Harrison – Jeff will talk about some of your personnel issues? CM Cross – Do we really need to know his personnel issues? Jeff – One person handled it himself, he just walked off and left. We tried to call him 4-5 times and would never answer the phone. Left messages, he would never call back. He left a lawnmower sitting over here on Macon St. with sitting on it. Just walked off and left it. That was Mr. Bryant. I had to write up Mr. Maurice yesterday. He showed up at 10:00AM, I’ve already talked to him about his tardiness. My other guys are here by 8:30AM which means leaving Thomaston by 7:30AM. After three offenses, termination. CM Harrison – I asked you to bring that up because Jeff is really trying to establish a local team to where his guys can focus on the water and sewage, but it’s like a revolving door trying to get a team to stick. Jeff – That’s what I’m trying to do and having 2 guys on this part and 2 guys on the other part. CM Harrison – But the success story is the guy that you have doing the cemetery. Jeff – Yes, he staying on top of the cemetery. I rode out there a few minutes ago and there were a couple of spots that needed some weed eating, but for the most part, it looks good. He’s staying on top of it. CM Harrison – Does this mean you have one opening for the team you have? Jeff – Tentatively, yes. Right now the ones we have are staying on top of the work pretty good. CM Daniels – Will that sustain if you have to let Mr. Mathis go? Jeff – If I have to let Mr. Mathis go, that is going to break up. You can do it with 3 guys, but…. We have to do water samples every day and that takes up time. If I have to let Mr. Mathis go (can’t understand). It’s either that or looking at contracting the grass cutting out. The other 2 guys would do the lift stations, tanks, etc. as they are part of the water dept really anyway. CM Cross – Sometimes when you have employee’s it might take a couple of days off for them to get themselves together. Jeff – yes and that’s why I am really trying to work with him. He was doing real good. CM Harrison – Mr. Ingram I don’t think I’ve really had the chance to thank you for our Christmas present. First off, we would like to get a plan together to do some road work. We have some old splost money 2016 - $65K, current splost funds - $58K, Tia - $153K, and LMIG (2017) - $17K so that’s about $293K and we have some roads that are in need of desperate repair. Tim – What about the Buck Creek Bypass – is that something that has already been taken out? CM Harrison – That is something we are working in conjunction with them on and they are doing all of the upfront cost and they are going to let us know on the back-end. Jeff – How much is it going to cost you? CM Daniels – The county, right? CM Harrison – yes. Because half is us and half is them. It was a cost savings to us because we didn’t have to get an engineer, or bids, or anything like that. It will be good in the end, but we don’t know yet how much. If I had to guess I would say about $40K. Tim – What are they doing on Buck Creek Bypass? Jeff – Overlaying. Tim – They doing leveling, striping, etc.? CM Harrison – yes, I think the next phase is widening. Tim – How much of May Road? Is it just the bad bottom? Jeff – The worst part is right off of Hwy 49, it’s bad. There probably needs to be a drain pipe to go there also because water is standing on both sides and running across it. Need to look at. We really need to know about how far out y’all pave, do you go back that far? CM Harrison - Probably that first house to Hwy 49. That would be our first priority and then Railroad St. Jeff – Railroad St needs to be scraped, widened, and an overlay. CM Cross – And then that one section of Anderson St right there next to the church. CM Harrison – That’s the one where we said we are going to earmark 3 years of LMIG. Jeff – That’s a drain pipe issue. CM Harrison – So let’s take out the $18K of 2017LMIG and anything going forward hold on to it. Jeff – We can get together on those main two spots to begin with. CM Harrison – And Jordan St. it’s bad, too. Bumpy. But I don’t know if it takes precedence over the others. Are you done with Chatham St over here across from the Dew Drop? Jeff – no, we have some concrete to put in there. That’s not a problem, we will do that. Jeff – As far as the sewer pond goes, we try algaecide and tried that idea and I think Mr. Ingram had a meeting the other day with some guys and I’ll let him talk about what they came up with. Tim – Years ago we had a company make the covers (mats) and equipment (aerators). Jeff - You have to walk across those mats to go out there and get the motors, etc. You have to trust those mats. Tim – In looking at that we know y’all don’t want the mats. One option to that is we cut them and run air handlers and diffusers through the mats. They would only have to be changed from time to time. Jeff – Which is a cost savings correct? Tim – yes. Jeff – a big cost savings over the aerators that you put in there now. Tim – (discussion of handout) In the next couple of weeks we will probably start with algaecide and see how that works. We’ve had it work in other locations. CM Harrison – Same depth as ours? Tim – it is. Jeff – see with the algaecide, the lift works at the lift station where you first go in. It mixes it all together. I’d like to try that. Tim – We do it at another location we spend about $350. The pond is as big and doesn’t have as much flow to it. That would be much cheaper than trying to deal with the mats. CM Harrison – How much is our monthly operating costs? Jeff – not sure, I don’t get into the money side of things. CM Harrison – but you’re sure it would no less than double on what you were talking about before. Tim – I don’t think so. They are going to run the same amount at the same amount of time. CM Harrison – Are we on schedule? Tim – We are going to to take bids in early August, we have been notified by GEFA that EPD is behind schedule on reviews of Engineering Reports, and will probably end up going to the August meeting. We have requested the additional monies that gave us $5M for the project. Half of that is going to be grant and the other half is going to be loan. So, you are going to get a loan forgiveness (subsidy) of $796,889.00. Your interest rate is 1.6%. CM Harrison – Do you anticipate us using the whole $5million? I think we thought not if we don’t have to do the mats thing… Tim – not if you don’t have to use the mats, they will knock $1M off. Jeff – But we are going to have to add the denitrification to get rid of the ammonia. We are high on them all the time. CM Harrison – Is this something mechanical or is it a substance? Tim – It is a pipe material – some 6x6 and 12ft tall, blowers run. It’s all about adding oxygen to the ammonia to get rid of it. They can rotate if needed for back-up. Trying to keep it simple. Right now, schedule wise we are ok. Hopefully next work session we will be able to report that the algaecide sample is a success. Now when do you want to talk about roads? Jeff – We can go right now if you want to go look at them. CM Harrison – So the priority right now is May, Railroad, Anderson, and Jordan (bank monies on Anderson and Jordan).
5. Fire Department – report emailed and Asst Chief Ansley present to go over. Haven’t had an audit since 2017 and that will be happening soon. We hope to keep or lower our ISO rating. Hopefully will lower insurance rates for citizens. Also, we are trying to get an updated agreement with Montezuma Fire Dept to respond if we have construction fires or wrecks with entrapment. Basically, they would be bringing an engine to fires automatically instead of us having to request one. That would also help our ISO rating. (response times, personnel, equipment on scene, etc.) CM Cross – And it costs us nothing. Asst Chief Ansley – no cost to us. We talked about the equipment needed in the last session. CM Cross – yes and I went and looked. There’s 36K in the budget and so the air packs if purchase before April 1st are $37,130.00, after April 1st they go to $39,000.00 (4 pack and 8 bottles) right now we borrow them. The AED is currently $1350.00 before April 1 and $1599.00 after. If we allow an additional $5,174.00 out of ARPA, with their budget they can go ahead and purchase to get the better rates. We have to have them. CM Cross – I don’t know why previous council or the previous chief didn’t look at this and act on it, but I’m not going to go back and beat them up over it. We can’t vote until next week on it, but we tentatively can tell Chief Childs to go ahead and purchase tomorrow. CM Harrison – We have to have them. Ansley – They last about 10 years. CM Daniels – So we haven’t had any in the last 10 years? The last chief didn’t… CM Cross – Ken told me that when the new fire truck was purchased, that was when the air packs were purchased. CM Daniels – When was that? Ansley – The fire truck is 18 years old. CM Harrison – So how often are you supposed to get this audit done? Ansley – I think every 5 years. They usually say they are coming, we don’t normally have to request it. So we weren’t doing anything wrong there. We just have to make sure all of our records are good. CM Cross – So if we look at the last 10 calls they had last month there were some with cardiac arrest and we didn’t have the equipment. So if 3 of us are in agreement than Chief Childs can go ahead and get ordered. (CM Harrison & CM Daniels in agreement) Michael how do you feel? CM Mahone – Well if the money is allotted, I don’t want to hear nothing about no funds or can’t spend anything. CM Daniels – So we just need a purchase order by tomorrow to get the discounts. CM Cross – yes and he will need an additional $5,500.00 and I’m proposing it to come out of ARPA. We still have the roof to do up there and that’s why I have Mr. Whitt here. CM Daniels – What’s the additional for though? CM Cross – Because he has $36K in the budget, but he needs $41,174.00 (if my figures are right). CM Mahone – When they purchase that, do they get more than one bid? CM Cross – yes, he got the cheapest bid. Chief Childs got us the cheapest bid. Mayor Hill – Through the discussion, I’m hearing to go ahead and get this purchased. CM Cross – yes and we will vote to do this next week. Needs to be done or else it is going to cost us another $3K.

Council/Committee Reports:

1. Mayor Hill – no report
2. Human Resources/Finance – CM Coogle - absent
3. Public Safety – CM Cross – no report
4. Utilities/Streets/Cemetery – CM Harrison – no report
5. Planning & Recreation – CM Daniels, Jr. – will discuss under other business.

New Business:

1) Police Dept/Business Center Roof – Whitt Roofing – Mr. Leroy Whitt submitted a quote via email. CM Cross – So Mr. Whitt is here to explain that he can take the existing roof that we have at the police dept, spray it

with something, which is the lowest quote we have gotten from anyone and it has a 10 - year warranty at $86K. He bid last time for us for fixing the whole roof, but this is a new quote where they can spray it. Mr. Whitt –

Because there is so much water in that roof and so many leaks, we are going to have to take that old roof off. We may have to go all the way to the concrete deck to get all of that saturated material off of it. Then we will

clean and spray it with 1 inch of foam all the way through. It’s a close cell foam. CM Harrison – Is that addressing the pitch issues though? Mr. Whitt – No mam. The other way to change the pitch is going to be to put a

whole new structure on it. CM Cross – Which is going to really cost us. Mr. Whitt – At $86K wouldn’t even be a drop for that. You would probably have to have a steel structure. So on the quote here you would have 1

inch of foam sprayed, then a base coat is put on, and then we put a top coat over that. You will end up with a layer of foam and two layers of coatings. The issue is when the roof was sprayed previously, there was either

moister under it or something happened during the application of it that caused a lot of big mounds on it. Have any of y’all ever been up on the roof? (a lot of no’s) There are a lot of big mounds up on it and water all over

the place. The water has to be able to drain off, otherwise the roof is going to break down and fail. So, it has to be sprayed in a way to allow the water to run off. That’s why we would do the tear off. We do flat roofs all

the time and if done right it will last you a long time. One thing is that this roof would need to be recoated every 10 years. It doesn’t have to be near this price. Where it says top-coat you’re looking at $12K-$15K every

10 years and that will extend the life of that roof drastically as long as it’s maintained. Should last at least 50 years. One thing I can suggest is an annual maintenance to clean it off yearly. Costs about $500-$600. CM

Cross – So, $86,413.23 with a 10 – year warranty with no leaks, going to rip off all the old bad stuff and haul it off, and then could do a maintenance this could last us up to 50 years. And then have it recoated every 10

years. CM Mahone – Is it going to create some type of drainage off there? Mr. Whitt – The roof itself has a slight drainage, like the actual concrete deck. But the way it was sprayed last time with all those mounds of foam

up there, it’s just blocking everything. It’s not allowing the water to flow off like it should. CM Mahone – So, once you finish will it have a drain off? Mr. Whitt – Yes it will. It will not be holding water. In the

manufacturing specs, after 48 hours of rain there can not be more than 5% of the roof holding water, and that is what we have to abide by. Anything less than 5% is going to evaporate so that will not be an issue. CM

Harrison – So you are or you are not replacing any of the wood that is rotten? Mr. Whitt – There is no wood on that roof. It’s concrete. That’s one reason it is very difficult to find the leaks now because the concrete has

joints /breaks every so often so you have no idea where the leak is coming from. CM Cross – So even if we were to go back and try to put trusses on, we would still have to rip all that off down to the concrete because

otherwise it’s just going to be a moldy mess. CM Mahone – This would be the best option. CM Cross – yes it will. That’s why I asked Mr. Whitt to come in. He had already put in a bid when we previously put out the

request for bids, so I thought if he came in to discuss and answer questions as we didn’t know what was really over there, it would make more sense. CM Daniels – You mentioned that there are holes in the concrete that

creates leaks. So, what would be done to fix. Mr. Whitt – The concrete itself is fine. CM Daniels – So what about the leaks? Mr. Whitt – The leaks are because the water has gotten through that foam that’s up there. Once

it gets through the foam it has to go somewhere. CM Daniels – Is it possible that every joint is leaking? Mr. Whitt – I haven’t been in there like 3 months, but when I was, there were multiple leaks. CM Cross – If he rips it

all off and gets one solid surface then it’s not going to leak. CM Harrison – I’m like Jimmy, I’m trying to understand if there is actually damage to the structure itself. CM Daniels – Once you remove the foam, are you

going to seal the joints? Mr. Whitt – We can, but you don’t need to. Typically, it’s just like expansion joints on the sidewalks out here. That joint allows that concrete to move when it gets hot and cold. Your buildings

constantly move. We can put a strip of caulk down through there, that’s not a problem. The foam will tie the two pieces together. It’s a liquid so it will fill all the cracks and everything. CM Harrison – So as long as the

water will run off once everything is fixed, then we’re good. The maintenance afterwards is significantly cheaper. In 10 years, a lot cheaper. Mr. Whitt – it just has to be properly maintained.

1) Laine Lee with Air Evac Information – I am with Air Evac, which is the air ambulance helicopter out of Americus. Chief Finch here is a wonderful supporter of us and a member. The BOE buys their employees a

membership. We can offer to anyone who has more than 3 employees, if you wanted to do a business plan. You can open it up to council and volunteer fire fighters. (Reviews brochure). One-year membership is $99.

Over 60 years of age is $79. Can pay monthly if needed. This covers any person living at your address (no limit). Macon Co is our 2nd highest call volume from Americus. Each helicopter has their own service areas.

Your down resources, ambulances, paramedics, etc. If we’re called, we come. Where is the closest level 1 trauma center? (council – Macon) You get picked up and there’s one ambulance running in the county and they

can’t leave the county, what happens? A helicopter bill is substantial. But with this policy, you could have it for $79 for the year. CM Cross – So you’re saying the rate of $79 is if we do a membership through the city?

Ms. Lee – Through an individual. Through the city it goes down to $75.00 if you let me come in and offer it to the city employees. Montezuma does it through payroll deduction. CM Harrison – But council will pay it up

front? Ms. Lee – Council would just write a check to the city. Ms. Lee explains the brochure based on where you are located if something happens away from home. This is a hospital to hospital transport. Not a hospital

to home. The closes pediatric trauma center is Atlanta and the closest burn center is Augusta. CM Cross – I’d like to see the city offer this to the volunteers, council, and employees. No cost to the city, all payroll

deducted. Ms. Lee – This is a life saving measure that people do not think about…. Until it’s too late. CM Harrison – So if I sign up today, when does the coverage start? Ms. Lee – Today. You cannot signup while being

flown out, but otherwise it’s immediate. If being treated at one hospital and need to go to a higher level of care, we will take you there. You are in an area that has a high level of helicopter coverage. We are also part of

Farm Bureau services. CM Harrison – So what are we asking Melissa to put on the agenda for next week? CM Cross – For us to be able to offer this benefit to the volunteers, council, paid staff. If doable, then Melissa

can figure out how she’s getting the money from everyone. CM Cross – Chief Ansley how do think the fire dept will respond to this offer? Chief Ansley – I think most of them already have it, but the one’s who don’t

would probably want to get singed up.

2) Mosquito Spraying (CM Cross) - It’s time to resume spraying. It’s getting bad. Steve – Last year we did twice a month. The same time as Montezuma. It’s $1,000.00 per application which is $2,000.00 per month. We

didn’t realize until recently that our computer system glitched and we never sent you all a bill last year, although you did get sprayed. CM Cross – We need to fix that. CM Harrison – So what’s the months? June –

October? CM Cross – Just get with Melissa and see when we can get you paid, that’s her job. Steve – It’s no big deal... We started last year spraying on Friday April 22nd. Normally we start in March. CM Daniels – You

don’t send out notice of late payment? Steve – It was a computer issue, not a payment issue on the city’s part. It was my fault. CM Cross – So we can start in April? Steve – yes. I’ve sprayed Montezuma twice already.

There is so much water standing everywhere. Mayor Hill – I think we need to start ASAP. Steve – Ok, I will get with y’all to figure out the old invoice. CM Cross – Just get with Melissa and she will take care of it. She’s

the money woman.

3) Absenteeism of Council Members at meetings (CM Harrison) – I think we probably need to set up a policy. CM Cross – There is a policy. CM Harrison – I had Melissa check the charter and she said it’s not in there. I know we talked about it in the training we went to. CM Cross – Jon Coogle said there was one, too. CM Harrison – Ok. We just need to enforce it about absenteeism. Making sure we are all here. CM Cross – I know you can do two phone calls a year and two absents, but that was before we started separating the meetings and doing them separate. So, we probably need to talk about that. Is it just the work session? CM Daniels – I thought we talked about changing the time back to work session and go right into the meeting. CM Harrison – I don’t think we need to do that in case there is something we need to research or work on. And then have your meeting the next week. I don’t like the long continuation. CM Cross- I just try to plan for things, with my business travel. I try to work things out, but the last week of the month for April, my boss planned something and I have to do what my boss tells me. CM Harrison – I don’t have a problem with that; however, you can meet for the work sessions, but council meetings – we need to be here. That’s my concern. We need to adhere to whatever is in the charter. But I think you are right, 2 call ins and 3 absents. CM Daniels – The whole year? CM Harrison – Yes. CM Cross – We can get clarification from Jon on this. Melissa can you send Jon an email and get clarification on this?

4) Updated Intergovernmental Agreement (Police Dept) sent over by City of Montezuma (they never signed the approved one we sent over in January) – CM Cross – Jon Coogle provided us with the agreement and had it written. Then the City of Montezuma never signed it. Chief Finch – We had some wording changed because there wasn’t some detail listed. Jon redid it so that it included that. CM Cross – So Jon prepared this one, too? Finch- yes, we had it to where we had control over the employees. It’s the same as the first temporary agreement. CM Cross – reads the updated agreement. The question here is if there is someone on Oglethorpe’s payroll, can you pull them over to do work for Montezuma? Chief Finch – We already have an intergovernmental agreement to go back and forth. I’m trying to let Montezuma be Montezuma and Oglethorpe be Oglethorpe. CM Cross – So for instance if you have a festival in Montezuma. Chief Finch – only Montezuma officers. CM Cross – But say you needed extra help. Chief Finch – only Montezuma. CM Cross – I’m just asking. Chief Finch – I’m using Montezuma. I understand trying to keep y’alls identity. If we have a parade in Montezuma, Montezuma officers are working. Right now, we are two officers short in Oglethorpe. So, me and the Captain will come over here. You have an Easter Egg hunt scheduled, so Whitehead is already on the schedule to work that facility. Montezuma will be in and out as well to make sure all is going, good. CM Cross – So what Melissa was saying is that we approved this one and signed it, so next week we have to approve the new one so Bruce can sign it. Chief Finch – for all of y’alls events we try to utilize what we have. I had Whitehead come in so he can meet the business people. CM Harrison – so right now we only have one officer. Chief Finch – we have him, Dunson (part time), and probably going to bring Spain on. She graduated from the academy Friday. Going to try and get her and then Moses back in school. CM Cross – Did you work with Moses? Spain is one we didn’t send in, did she send herself through? Chief Finch – She works at the school, but she’s not going to learn anything just walking around the school. By us teaching her over here, she will be more equipped with what’s going on at the school. CM Cross – So she’s going to be working part time? Chief Finch – yes. CM Cross – But Mosely will be full time. Chief Finch – yes. Let’s say if Whitehead worked Friday night and couldn’t work Saturday, Captain or I am going to work. We are your employee’s too. We are going to float around. It’s just the wording wasn’t the same as the temporary one so we changed it. We asked Jon to go back in and change the wording.

5) Animal Control (CM Cross) – So, Chief Finch sent us Montezuma’s ordinance versus what Oglethorpe’s is. Melissa went through it and it looks like the restraint portion is what we need. We don’t have a leash law. Basically, we need this restraint part added in and the running at large. We are having a dog problem. CM Harrison – You all can write tickets on that? Chief Finch – Yes, if we can identify who they belong to. This is an ongoing problem in both cities. We have nowhere to put the dogs. We used to have a part time animal control officer. He would take them to the veterinarian office and they would hold them for 3 days. If no one came, they would euthanize them and we would bury them. CM Harrison – What? Who takes on that cost? Chief Finch – the city. It got in the newspaper, somebody went out there to the graveyard and well. I’ve called surrounding counties and they basically said you have to get your own dog pound. We don’t have anywhere to take them like a humane society to where they might could get adopted. Montezuma is trying to propose to the county that they would pay 50% of the costs if the county would pay the other 50% if they would hire a full-time animal control that would go around to all 4 of the cities in the county. CM Harrison – Montezuma offered to pay 50%? Do you know what the budget is? Chief Finch – Regina and I came up with a budget, but the county didn’t want to do it. CM Cross – So this was not recently. CM Daniels – So we will have to address this at the county? Chief Finch – yes this is a county level thing because it’s the county humane society. If you go back in and look at it, all cities have a dog problem. This is a county issue that needs to be addressed and we need animal control. If we can get someone hired, get an animal control truck, pick these dogs up and take them to a location. Then someone can buy them if they want them. CM Harrison – Is it not realistic to maybe partner with Peach Co. or Sumter Co? Give them some money…. They already have it. Chief Finch – They won’t accept our dogs. CM Harrison – Even if they offer them some money? Chief Finch – They won’t accept them at all. It’s hard for them to maintain the ones they already have. CM Cross – There are 3 pit dogs that I know are wondering our town right now that have no place to go. They sleep in the woods, etc. They aren’t bad, but they are hungry. But they have nowhere to go. CM Harrison – so if we had this county humane society would that help with enforcing the ordinance? Chief Finch – yes, they take all types of animals – that’s why we need a humane society. But nothing has ever been done with this. CM Cross – It’s a lot of cost. CM Daniels – What if they proposed a percentage to the cities? (different people talking not sure who) It was brought up before…. Chief Finch – We were going to buy the truck and pay 50% of getting this done and they didn’t want to do it. If we could find a place to store them…. But we don’t have anywhere. That’s the problem. CM Harrison – They have to be fed and that’s not cheap. CM Cross – We can’t do anything on that end, but we can do something about the restraint part. If we can find who they belong to the owner can be fined. Chief Finch – Right what you currently have doesn’t give us that enforcement option. We went and looked at it because there were some people we were going to charge, but then we saw it wouldn’t hold up in court. CM Cross – We can’t do anything with the strays, but we can do something about the restraining. CM Harrison – That’s why we have to have people claim their dogs and get a license for their dogs. CM Cross- We are not enforcing the licenses. CM Harrison – I’m asking if we had a humane society, would that help better enforce making dogs have licenses to link to the owners? CM Daniels – That would be like an ordinance for that? CM Cross – We already have one. If he gets called to a barking dog, the first thing he can say is where’s your license? Chief Finch – And we do. If we get called to a dog that’s barking all night, you are going to end up in front of the judge because your dog is being a nuisance. CM Daniels – So we are just taking the restraint part from Montezuma’s and adding to ours? CM Cross – yes. Let Melissa add it. It has to go up before so long to add it. Probably need to add in some fines also. Chief Finch- once fines set, just give to Ms. Cindy and we can bring it before the judge. CM Harrison – Can you do some recon on that to let us know what other cities charge? Chief Finch- I can get what we charge. I’ll email this to you tomorrow and you can make a decision. Another thing about that contract, Ms. Cindy went out on medical and with that agreement Ms. Williamson was able to come over and do that court and not have to cancel.

6) Addressing the furniture sitting on the streets (CM Cross) – I don’t know if you have noticed or not, but there are couches and mattresses and stuff sitting on the sides of the streets. I know that we have sent out the little post card and all, but it may have been too small for people to read. What the city guys have been doing is putting a hanger on the door letting them know that they don’t pick that stuff up anymore. The gate is being left open so they can drop their items off at the dumpster at the waste water pond. CM Mahone – We could just advertise that now we have the gate open 7 days a week. CM Cross – How do we advertise it, though? Chief Finch – I found out something y’all have that we don’t have in Montezuma. I called Melissa and told her some news and she sent it out in a mass text to everyone. CM Cross – That’s only for people who request it on the website to be notified. She can put it on the website, the FB page, etc. CM Harrison – Can we put it on the water bills? Chief Finch – you could put it on the local radio, everybody listens to that. CM Cross – Danny sold it to Lance Teal.

Old Business:

Other Business:

1) Ga Cities Week Agenda and Budget (CM Daniels) April 23 – 30. Last year we did a budget. CM Harrison – I met with some of the council members and now looks like they may be able to participate. We have decided to do some collective events so that we are not overlapping. There are some things we can do on our own. The 3 unified events would be kick ball, movie night, and game night. I expressed to them that we want to do movie night. Montezuma wants kickball and Mayor Jenkins and Melissa Joiner from Ideal are totally fine with game night. So, if we get Marshallville to come onboard, we want to do a karaoke line dance night in Marshallville. The good news is I got a verbal agreement from International Paper to give each city $1,000.00 each for these unified events. They have a new person named Kaleb and they are ready to get out there. He said as long as they can have a few minutes speaking time and some logo things, they would help. So, the tentative schedule I came up with is. MCIC want to do Earth Day on the 22nd with clean up in Oglethorpe. International Paper will supply drinks and snacks and we would just have to have the gloves and bags. Also, on the 22nd the garden club is having their annual sale at the Farm Bureau. They are going to be very busy. We could do the coffee, drinks, and snacks. Leisa can you help with the sweets. CM Cross – Let me check and make sure of what day they are going to do it. Yes, I can. CM Harrison – So on Sunday, if Pastor Jacob doesn’t have anything, he will come and bring the whole sound system at the pavilion again. On the 24th Montezuma wants to do kickball (unified event) and they will let us know where. CM Daniels – Do they have everything? CM Harrison- I don’t know, but our next meeting is tomorrow at 7pm if you want to get in there. Tuesday is the public safety/law enforcement goes to the Elementary School. The unified event would be the karaoke/line dance in Marshallville. On Wednesday it would be Library/Story Time day. Thursday would be Senior Day – getting high school seniors to go hang out at the senior center and eat lunch with them. That evening it would be our work session – open reception. CM Cross – We don’t need the food and stuff. Most of the food was wasted. So let’s not spend your donated money on that. CM Harrison – I think more people will come now that they know what this is about. Friday will be our unified Movie night under the stars at our city park. CM Cross – I should be able to help with that, but will be gone most of that week. CM Daniels – So are we going to do the blow up thing? CM Harrison – yes and my aunt is having a surprise party that night and I will need ya’ll to handle that. CM Cross – I will be able to help. CM Daniels – We need to set a time for it. Maybe about 8pm. CM Harrison – All of these unified events, we want to open up to let vendors come. They are reaching out to me about it. We can charge $25.00 per spot. Saturday night is unified Game Night in Ideal. They will have corn hole, spades, etc. We really want to push supporting the unified events and bringing everybody together. We do have a verbal commitment from IP and each city can keep the vendor money for their city. CM Cross – I don’t know that Melissa can write checks for money that we haven’t gotten in yet. CM Harrison – Oh no, I told them we need it up front. He just asked me to send him an email and he can turn it around pretty quick. CM Daniels – I suggest that the $1,000.00 we get, we don’t spend it – can we start a budget for planning and recreation with those funds? CM Harrison – we will have some expenses because last year when we went to the school we gave them coloring stuff, etc. CM Cross – But if it’s designated funds and they give us $1000.00 for Cities Week – it has to all be spent on Cities Week. CM Daniels – That’s not categorized as planning and recreation as you are planning…. CM Cross – no. Designated Funds are for a specific thing. CM Mahone – Can we get it out of ARPA? CM Cross – You can’t for, per Jon due to some law. If she can get them to state for planning and recreation, and not specific thing, then yes it can be put in the budget for other things. CM Harrison – yes I’ll word it that way and add Cities Week into it also. Are we going to do the Pecan Drop this year? CM Daniels – I don’t know. CM Cross – I don’t want to deal with folks drunk… and New Year’s Eve we are all going to be drunk. CM Harrison – If we can have a Buzzard Drop in Perry, we can have a Pecan Drop. Someone speaking in audience – just want to commend you all for what you are doing. The citizens are talking and everything is turned around. Thanks for having the work shops separate because there’s a lot to talk about. CM Harrison – And thank you Jimmy for saying that because you know we could use money for Veteran’s Day again, etc. CM Cross – And you still have funds left over from the last Veteran’s Day that you can use. You could buy flags if you wanted to as long as it has to do with Veterans. CM Daniels – Everything sounds good so you can go ahead and start getting the flyers ready so everyone can come out and enjoy it. CM Harrison – I just need you all to have my back after Thursday because I will be out of town. CM Daniels – sounds good to me.

CM Harrison - Just to bring up I have had more than one citizen come to me about bringing in a card reader to pay their bill. We are in 2023 and it’s time. Everyone else does it. CM Cross – We would just pass the cost on to the customer. We can explore that more.

CM Harrison – The GMA Conference is coming up June 23-27 and registration opened today. I want to go. CM Daniels – I also want to go. CM Harrison – We now have it in the budget. CM Daniels – Can only two people go? CM Harrison – Melissa can you enlighten us on how that works? I thought we had enough money budgeted so that everyone could go to at least one a year. CM Harrison – I think I should go first since ya’ll voted me out when I wanted to go last time. CM Cross -Personally I think that the ones that don’t plan to run again or their term is ending shouldn’t go as the better investment would be with the one’s who plan to be here a while.

Adjourn: Mayor Hill 8:00PM