CITY OF OGLETHORPE

OGLETHORPE CITY HALL

115 CHATHAM STREET

COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

JUNE 29, 2023 – 6:00PM

Call to order: 6:05PM Mayor Pro-Tem Cross

Department Head Reports:

1. City Clerk, Melissa Jones – report emailed to council prior to meeting. – CM Cross did email to request the exact amount of funds that is left in ARPA. Mrs. Jones could not give an exact amount as all of the equipment that was ordered for the Fire Dept has not come in yet. The air packs and AED. (see Fire Dept for more information)
2. Police Dept – Cindy Kleckley / Interim Chief Finch – There’s a few things I want to talk about. I want to thank everyone who came out to the Chief Diploma Program. It was well attended by the Mayor and Council of Oglethorpe. What the program is basically doing for our is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, there is a new factory coming to Macon County on the same level as International Paper. That announcement will be coming out pretty soon. CM Cross – What city will it be in? Chief Finch – I can’t tell you that, it will be in the announcement. Another thing I would like to talk to you about is when we get the police building back up and running, we would like to use the police dept for them to do work because the bulk of the people are here. It used to be there, but the roof caved in and messed up a whole lot of stuff. It’s good now. CM Cross – Since it goes with our police dept. once we get this wall up, yeah. Chief Finch – I want everyone to know with all the stuff on FaceBook, nobody called the Montezuma Police Dept or Oglethorpe Police Dept. How we got involved with it, is that morning I was in Oglethorpe and we got a call that Officer Josh Harris (Sheriff’s Office) was called on his personal cell phone. He got on the radio and said I have an unknown problem in Oglethorpe Hardware. We went over there and the guy had left. We patrolled the area. Then somebody called Deputy Gene Hardage on his cell phone and he called and said on the radio that the guy was back. We picked him up and took him to the county jail. I contacted Middle Flint because we have had problems with him over the last two years. He is always saying he’s hungry. We contacted Ms. Cannon also and let her know. All the rumors saying we don’t respond is not true because no one called 911. If anyone calls 911 we are going to respond and take care of the citizen’s of Oglethorpe. (Chief Finch handed out a packet). CM Cross – I did call and check on Ms. Cannon and she did confirm that you called and that she appreciated it. Chief Finch – basically when y’all gave us access to the system, it shows everything. What I done is pulled the stats from previous chiefs for the first 6 months of the year. It kind of hurt my staff’s feelings because of what they run in. Nobody’s taking care of us because we don’t have a chief. I can pull all of the records and they are not on the level of what we have now. CM Cross – I think this is an important piece that we need to make sure is in newspaper with Ms. Roger Ann. Can you email this to me? Chief Finch – Actions speak for themselves and if you look at the numbers, we are doing double the amount of work. I’m going to let Captain Hill come up because we have an incident and we gone show y’all that we did what happened with the audit because a check got to be paid per the DA’s office. CM Cross – It didn’t get written yet? Chief Finch – no. CM Cross – You’re getting refusal? Chief Finch – We were told that y’all had to give approval. Captain Hill – Good evening. We put together how it was started until we are now. This incident took place in June of 2020. Here are the items that were confiscated and where it was supposed to be in the evidence room. As we got access to the evidence room on August 9, 2022 myself, officer Jennings, and DA assistant Renay Stewart went inside. Here is how it looked when we went in and towards the back you will see what it looked like once we organized it a little better. There was stuff behind doors, on tables, etc. After Ms. Renay saw it she said we could call her back once all organized. So, we went in and did a list of everything that was in the evidence room. I put the list together and showed everything. So like Bin #12 - he had 8 items in the evidence room. I marked what was in there. The money and two fanny pack bags were not in there. On June 7th, 2023 Ms. Renay called and asked if the drugs had been taken to the crime lab because this case is coming up in front of a jury. So, we went June 7th and checked and the drugs were still in the evidence room. On the 8th Office Dunson and myself went down there with the body cams and took the property to the crime lab. The young man went to court last week and he plead out. The judge sent a letter stating to give his property back. Guns, brass knuckles, and money. I asked Ms. Cindy to make sure the money had not been deposited. In the past the money has been put in the safe until the judge tells them what to do with the money. Ms. Cindy said there was no record showing that money was deposited. Ms. Cindy wrote a statement to that effect. Shortly after that, I emailed Ms. Renay and asked her if she could send me the evidence log from Oglethorpe to show that we sent this out in August. She was working on it, but was back in forth in court. So I reached out to her again the other day and she said that she was able to complete both Montezuma and Oglethorpe’s disposition and for me to call her. They young man came up to the police dept several times this week and last week about this money. I told him it was a process and that he would have to wait until Thursday for the Chief to meet with the council members and we will go from there. He was pretty adamant that he needed his money for bills and such. And I told him I know it’s been three years and I know it’s yours, but just give us some time to get through the process. CM Cross – We owe it to him, we don’t have a choice. The GBI is investigating it, we don’t have a choice, we were in custody of this money. We lost it and we have to pay it or we can be held liable from what I understand. Chief Finch – let me add to it. First of all, I sent an email to y’all, the way money is handled on drug cases – it wasn’t supposed to be handled like that. What is supposed to happen, on drug cases, you are supposed to put it in a holding account and let it sit there until it goes to court. Then it is transferred to confiscated account if judge says so. That’s why Ms. Melissa will have to open a Holding Account. You don’t just have monies sitting in a bin. We turned it over to the DA’s office. When y’all are questioning this stuff, I knew that y’all don’t understand it. I didn’t know who had the keys and that’s why I was telling y’all we need to change the locks. If anything goes wrong, then who’s held accountable. CM Coogle – But didn’t we change the locks? Chief Finch – yes. CM Coogle – Prior to after you came in? Chief Finch – prior to. CM Cross – before any of us sitting here… Chief Finch- Ya’ll wasn’t even on council. CM Daniels – So moving forward, Melissa will have to get an account? Chief Finch – A holding account. CM Daniels – A holding account. Chief Finch – Whenever drug seized fund account, gets labeled then turned into Ms. Cindy to turn into Ms. Melissa and put in that holding account. The DA will send you a formal letter and tell you that’s your property. Then you take that money and put it in the seized fund account. That’s how it’s supposed to work. We just wanted to show ya’ll that we had did the audit before my staff came in to make sure what was there when we took ownership of the Oglethorpe Police Dept. So I could be accountable for what was there. CM Harrison – That’s all I was asking. Chief Finch – and the DA was in those threads as well so we didn’t have nothing to hide. I want to know what was there. We went in there to do the audit we went in there with the DA. I had spoken with Chief Wesley Cannon because Ms. Cindy had previously called them and asked them could they come in and do the inspection and all. He went and done the locks and everything and he said you crazy as all I know if you want to go in there by yourself. You better get somebody else to go in there with you. And that’s when I told them we are not going in there alone. CM Harrison – So this inventory was done when ya’ll took control of the evidence room? Chief Finch – Yes. That’s what we sent to the DA and we sent that to the DA because some of them cases have been there since 2014 and those cases are too old to go to court. So those cases have to be disposed of. That way we can get some of that stuff cleaned out of there. And we are working on getting that done. Like those guns I told you about, if the DA deeds those guns to the city, then the city can trade those in to get weapons for their department. CM Cross – Can we sell them? Chief Finch – not the weapons, you have to give them to one of those companies that buy out evidence and they give you a credit towards new stuff. Captain Hill – I also emailed Ms. Renae today and asked her to look at her log to see if there is any cases coming up in Oglethorpe involving drugs that we need to go in there and see if any drugs are in there? If they had been sent up and tested, then Oglethorpe could have kept the money. She said she would look and let me know. If so we just refence the cases and get drugs tested if needed. CM Harrison – Are there any other cases that we are going to have to pay out money? Captain Hill – That’s what we are trying to find out. Any drug cases that we have, we will look and see if there. CM Cross – What about cash? Captain Hill – There is some cash inside the safe. CM Cross – Well don’t we need to get that to Melissa to get that deposited? Chief Finch – Drug season funds coming up there and that’s why we asked ya’ll to buy that safe. Drug money goes in the holding fund. If money comes from an arrest and it’s not drug related, that’s why we asked ya’ll to buy that safe so we can lock it up. A court can’t order the non-drug related money to go to the city. The way we got it now, I can hold my officers accountable because we are supposed to have a log of what’s in there. CM Daniels – So everything that we are dealing basically happened before you got here. Chief Finch- This happened in 2020– yes before us. CM Cross – Yes before all of us. This bag has chain of custody on it and shows Officer Z. Chief Finch – I was just showing you that because it was supposed to have $5K in it and it’s been cut open. I wondered. Was there $5K in this bag? Chief Finch – There was supposed to be $5K in that bag. CM Cross – How much was in it? Chief Finch – that bag…… CM Cross – So do we have somebody investigating? Chief Finch – We done turned all this stuff into the DA’s office. When I first came here, I was asking for all this stuff, I was protecting my staff and myself. I ain’t throwing nobody under the bus. CM Cross – Has this $5K case gone to court? Chief Finch – I can’t tell you. We can check it tomorrow. CM Cross – I think we need to check it. We had talked about that case a long time ago. That’s why I wanted to audit that room before taking responsibility. Ms. Cindy said there hadn’t been one since Chief Cannon. CM Cross – Can we authorize Melissa to go ahead and cut that check to that individual. Melissa please cut that check for the individual and we will vote on it next week. Chief Finch – my last thing I’m going to say, I took Mr. Granville up to the police dept to get a quote for that wall and the other one is done. The quicker we can get that wall up, the quicker ya’ll can go in and start renting the building. The building looks good, just some missing tiles here and there. CM Cross – Cindy has ordered those. Chief Finch- But as far as the building we pretty much got it ready. CM Coogle – This wall has to be blocked? Chief Finch – it has to be blocked because we can’t have nobody to get to the evidence room. CM Cross – We will get the account set up.
3. Librarian, Glenda Rigby – report to be emailed at first of the month
4. Water/Sewer/Streets, HWR Jeff Harrison – absent – CM Harrison reported as Jeff was tied up with another municipality that has 5 mains that have broken at the same time. We got the emails on Kaigler, Johnson, and Chatham up here by Dew Drop that have been worked on and look really good. There is one more thing, but I can’t remember what he has to told me what he needs to do at Dew Drop, oh he said we had to put a little more concrete out there. Jordan St looks way better also. The prison tank is back up and running and all went well. The cemetery is good. We did have a few complaints about weeds which that’s difficult to manage this time of year. The grass is cut, but like around individual graves it’s really not our responsibility to do that anyway. Not sure how we can message that to people, but we are doing above and beyond what we are supposed to do. And we have trash cans out there, but citizens are bringing their personal trash and putting it in there and our contractor is having to empty them out. The waste water plant, Mr. Ingram is putting it out for bid at the end of August. Jeff and I both are a little concerned that we haven’t seen a set of plans yet, so I called Tim and left him a message to call me back. I did see him in Savannah and he assured me that everything was on track for the project to be done by the deadline, I think it’s October next year. For May Road Jeff, Mr. Ingram, and myself came up with a concept and we want council to vote on it to discuss it. Because its so hard to get firms to come down to smaller towns and rural cities to do these small jobs, we thought we could combine the May Road project and the Anna Drive project that might be more attractive to some firms to come down. We thought to bid them out together. We have the money in SPLOST for both projects. I think it’s a great idea, but it would need to be voted on. CM Cross – So did ya’ll find out it they had to put in that lane? CM Harrison- GDOT decided that we do not have to do the deceleration lane. Per Mr. Ingram’s email – not requiring the deceleration lane. It’s a huge relief. It appears we can reshape the existing ditch to help this are with drainage. For Ingram & Associates to prepare the drawings and GDOT permit this project we will need to survey the first 200ft of May Rd as well as 100ft upstream and 100ft down servicing the chicken houses. This will help decide the grade and ditch slope to drain the low point on May Rd. We will be sending a proposal for May Rd once I get the cost for the survey. CM Harrison – Looks like there will be no issue paying for these projects. We do need to ad to the agenda to vote to move forward with requesting bids for Anna Drive and May Road projects. After talking to Jeff today, when he does Anna Drive he also wants to include fixing the water main pipes and resurfacing everything at the intersection of Clifton Bradley and Anna Drive because it is rough. All of that can be bulked in together to keep the cost down low. We will have the bid verbiage when we talk to Tim. Another thing I had is I asked Mr. Welch to come as I had a request about needing some gravel behind the business area downtown. I’ve already talked with Jeff. Kenny Welch – this is inline with what Jill said about having a contractor come in to do such a small job for the city. Previous meeting we talked about servicing the service alley between Dollar General and the Warehouse. I contacted two different asphalt paving companies and they have yet to send anybody down here. They kept saying they would send someone, but haven’t. In the meantime, the alley is still being used by vehicles. The heaviest one is the Galls truck and comes in every week. It needs to have some more gravel put in it because the low spots are holding water and its getting worse. I have drained it off several times using my tractor and not the gravel that was there is getting less and less. It’s down to the ground and I contacted two trucking companies for a larger stone crush and run. It would be all sizes in it. I’m after a #4 stone which is about the size of a hen egg. That’s a larger stone for heavier weights. Quote of $1,000.00 for a 21- ton load brought in and dumped. That will cover an increase in the stone from the quarry July 1, 2023. I will come in and spread. Between the DDA and the City splitting it, it would be $500.00 a piece and then we will have gravel back on that service alley behind the buildings. CM Cross – And free labor. CM Coogle – Is that a regular jump truck? Kenny – That’s a two - wheel dump truck. Not a semi- trailer. CM Coogle – I know a fella who does it, let me give you his name. He can spread it pretty good. Kenny – To budget a $1,000.00. Not much they have to do when they get through. CM Harrison – So when Kenny brought it to me to see if the City could help out, I went to Jeff. Jeff said that after Jordan St. is complete, he feels like there will be a couple of thousand dollars left in LMIG that he was just going to use to buy a bunch of cold patch just to keep for when we get complaints of bumpy streets or whatever. He feels like he can inch some of that money out to have the alley done. CM Daniels – My only concern is having to fill it up again. Is there any way to get the exact amount that would be needed so we won’t have to write a check more than once. Like if that first truck load isn’t enough, we wouldn’t have to write a second check. Kenny – We are getting one truck load and that is it. We will let it go as far as it goes. No way to really tell how long it will hold up or last. If we can get the first truck load, we will know what the needs are for next time. I don’t want to order three truck loads and have too much and then try to find somewhere to put 21-tons of rock. CM Daniels – is it possible we will need a second load? Kenny – I suggest starting on the far end and working our way down as it higher on that end. Doesn’t hold as much water. You have a drain inlet down at the Warehouse. We will just start and see how far it goes. That’s the best I can tell you. CM Coogle- I will let you know in the morning what my guy says. CM Harrison – And we will vote in the meeting which way to go once we know what this other guy says. Kenny – The truck driver should be able to help tell us how many we need when he gets here also. CM Cross – There are still a lot of people who do not understand what they can and cannot put out on the side of the road to be picked up. They’re not reading the little water bill. Is there another way to get it out to people? The contractor will go by the piles and go put a door hanger on the resident’s door, but that’s more man power used. People still don’t understand they can’t clean out houses and sit everything beside the road. CM Harrison – I can do some graphics we can post on our website and social media pages. CM Cross – maybe see if the post office would post there also? CM Daniels – Put in their boxes? CM Harrison – We did that. CM Cross – But they were little. Maybe if we did it on a sheet of paper? CM Harrison – And do a mailing? CM Cross – something. Maybe stop the people from getting mad and Melissa having to field all the calls, and then we have beds and everything else laying beside the road. CM Harrison – ok. CM Daniels – For beds and stuff, they should definitely be taking that kind of stuff to the waste water plant. CM Cross – Yes, it stays open. Some type of education. CM Coogle – I think we get more than just Oglethorpe’s trash there. CM Cross – I agree. We took a load over there Saturday morning and a dump trailer came in with a truck pulling it. We were leaving and they were coming in. I told Ken to stop and I got out, but then realized that they were Oglethorpe residents. But we definitely have stuff coming in that shouldn’t be from outside. I did tell them that the dump was back open and they had no idea that it was open. CM Coogle – The county dump. They have to pay fee out there. CM Harrison – um hm.
5. Fire Department – Chief Childs – the sales rep for the breathing apparatus said that it looked like it would be the end of the month before it would come in. I don’t have a contact for the AED. CM Cross – I do and I will give it to you, I know that it’s back ordered. CM Harrison – wow things are really taking that long? CM Cross – Everything medical is. Chief Childs – We got the packs themselves, but other parts are back ordered. CM Harrison – We ordered those like in April? CM Cross – We ordered the AED before that. CM Harrison – So at the end of July, first of August, y’all should have everything? Fire Chief Childs – according to what my rep told me, yes. (Then gives the monthly report that was emailed). We will complete the ISO rating July 24, 2023. It will be the first one we’ve had since 2017. CM Cross – That should help with \_\_\_\_\_\_. Chief Childs – yes, after we get all the paperwork filed. We are working hard to get all of that information in order so that our ISO Rating will go up. With some of our changes and different equipment it will go down to a 4. We are at a 5 now. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is donating a medical bag and the supplies for it to us because we do come across a lot of medical calls and we have to just sit there waiting on transport. We are getting some service training done, also. I’m working with the EMS director on that. We are going to start networking once a year with each one of our guys with driving. July 15th is the date that we can do the water in the park. The time frame that we can do it is when we run out of 1000 gallons of water that our tanker holds. CM Cross – Can you hook up to the fire hydrant there? Chief Childs – We can, but the neighbors would get aggravated with us. The city will probably get a lot of calls about dirty water for a day or so. CM Cross – What we thought we could do is spray the slides and stuff so they could slide, but as far as having personnel we are talking about an hour and a half, maybe 2 hours at the most? We also talked about picking up a slide. CM Mahone – I got one. CM Cross – and doing some hotdogs, but we would have to have some volunteers who would stay there longer than a couple of hours. What time do you want his guys to come out? CM Mahone – 11am – 2pm maybe. But let’s go back to the guys hooking up to a hydrant and it dirtying up the water for a couple of days? Chief Childs – yes it will stir up the dirt and stuff down in the. CM Coogle – Isn’t that just like flushing the hydrants? Chief Childs – yes. CM Cross – I’ll make sure that I go to the house right there and let them know that on the 15th that we are doing something and that they may not want to throw a load of clothes in the washer or anything as we will have low pressure. Chief Childs – It shouldn’t be low, basically going to run dirty water. CM Mahone – The water won’t last that’s on the truck? Chief Childs – At 100PSI it won’t last too long, maybe about 10 minutes. CM Mahone – Once that is finished, we will have a regular water slide and we can just hook up a regular water hose to it and it won’t affect the citizens as much. CM Cross – Well I think its fun for them to spray the hose. CM Mahone – We are just not wanting them to mess up the water in the system. Instead of hooking up to the hydrant, just use the truck and then we can use a regular water hose for the water slide. CM Harrison – What did you do today? Chief Childs – Sprayed a tank of water out there, and pumped it at 30PSI so it lasted longer for such a smaller area. We can make it work. CM Cross – For the one on the 15th maybe we can get Jill to do us a pretty flyer. CM Harrison – ok. CM Cross – Melissa said once we said ok, she would get it out there. I think Jill is out of town that day, but I will make sure I am there and it sounds like Michael is going to be there. If we have some others there it would be good. I will try to get some popsicles or something. CM Coogle – I can get the popsicles. How many? CM Harrison – Do you want people to RSVP? CM Mahone – They just going to come. CM Cross – We need to make sure we have law enforcement there. Captain Hill – got it.

Council/Committee Reports:

1. Mayor Hill - nothing
2. Human Resources/Finance – CM Coogle – I don’t have anything other than what Melissa sent out to us earlier.
3. Public Safety – CM Cross – I do want to report that I’ve tried to educate the citizen’s that things are going better. I reached out to Angela in regards to the FB post about Mr. Lawson walking in on her over there. Last week or the week before I called the police in regards to a driver almost running me off the road and then continuing to run someone else off the road, and then stopping at the liquor store. They got him for DUI, hit and run, etc. There were 3-4 police vehicles on the scene. We need to make sure that our citizens are calling 911 to get things reported and not to call officers on their cell phones for that so that we can have people responding. We need to help educate to call 911, that we do have a police force, and that we do have a police chief and that we are getting service.
4. Utilities/Streets/Cemetery – CM Harrison – see above. Also wanted to say Thank You to the city for allowing her to go to Savannah. Very grateful.
5. Planning & Recreation – CM Daniels, Jr. – Just to make sure we are doing a flyer for July 15,2023. CM Cross – Maybe could get some G.E.N.T.S. to help with all the little kids? CM Daniels – sure. That’s all I have.

New Business:

1) Dog/Cat Tag Registration Drive – CM Harrison – So we’ve had an ordinance for the tags and we had a public hearing and two people came. Melissa said she had only sold 2 licenses for people who are registering their

pets so I think it’s a lack of education and we know it’s a lack of enforcement so I thought about why don’t we have a drive. Like one day where we promote and push it to get people to come and get their animals

registered and talk about the benefits of it. Maybe talk to a local veterinarian and get them to come and do free or reduce cost vaccination if you come and register your pet. I mean there’s no incentive to do it. CM

Daniels – I think that’s a great idea. When we get the wall finalized and the building back up I think we should do a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ pertaining to that. If you promote it and get people to come out so they can get educated on

that. CM Cross – I can ask Dr. Wilder if she’d be interested in doing it. CM Daniels – Doing education on it. We can promote it and do cats and dogs in one spot. CM Harrison – So education first, encouraging to do the

registration, and then enforcement. CM Cross – With your plan we should do a Grand Reopening of that building and invite the community in, have punch and cake. We could start renting at that point again and get the

rental calendar up. Go over the process of renting and have that information available. CM Harrison – When were ya’ll thinking, like August/September? CM Mahone – Once that wall is up. The funds from ARPA money that saved that, we can resignate some of that stuff in there and utilize it there, like refreshing the restrooms there, put some newer stuff in there. I know it needs painting. I haven’t been there since they done the roof, but I’m pretty sure some stuff fell down. CM Harrison – debris. CM Cross – Captain Hill was it cleaned up? Captain Hill – Yes, Ms. Cindy had the inmates down there and they cleaned it all up. CM Harrison – Oh did they? Captain Hill – Yes, they cleaned up the bathrooms and everything. CM Mahone – So we just need to do a walk through to see what all we need to freshen it up a little bit. CM Cross – I’m wondering, I think the stoves need to be removed, they’re not hooked up and could be a liability. CM Mahone – yeah, they don’t work. CM Cross – yes, I think they would be a liability if someone caught one on fire. CM Harrison – They don’t work? They were gas, right? CM Mahone – Or get somebody that can come in and service them. CM Cross – But if somebody leaves them on or something could end up costing us a lot more. Just thinking we need to do some things like that. CM Harrison – First we need to see what monies we have left in ARPA. CM Mahone – We know we have $14K. CM Harrison – We know we have $14K from what we saved on the roof. CM Cross – No, we don’t have $14K because I asked Melissa how much we had left in it from the email today and there wasn’t much left in it. CM Mahone – Hold on now, we had done budgeted for the roof and all. CM Cross – I’m just telling you what she said from the email she sent out today. ARPA - $17,244.00 left and we have outstanding fire dept equipment invoices as they have not delivered yet. We aren’t going to pay for something we haven’t received yet. It’s not pulled out and allocated because we don’t have the invoices. CM Daniels – Can we agree that when we rush like to pay things she gives out like a report or receipt or anything. CM Mahone – then we paying out money…. CM Cross – she ought to be able to do what you are asking. CM Harrison – I kind of agree with the guys though because I thought we had to pay for it up front in order to get the cheaper pricing? CM Cross – No, we had to order it by a certain time to lock in the cheaper pricing. CM Daniels – We rushed it then because there was a deadline or the price would go up. CM Cross – I can tell you how much the AED is. CM Mahone – Melissa as soon as possible give us a print out of what funds are left in the ARPA. CM Harrison – the AED was like $3K. CM Cross – So the AED industry is struggling with supply chain issues. On the 25th of May he said they were running 100 days to ship from the time of the order. CM Harrison – So that’s like August. CM Mahone – We had those funds in there a month ago to pay for the roof, then those funds should still be there. CM Cross – The AED $1799.00 CM Mahone – Melissa at your earliest email out those figures for the ARPA fund. CM Harrison – Thank you. So we do agree to have a Registration Drive after the building is up and running and education. Grand Reopening date to be determined.

2) Housing Grant – CM Daniels – I was approached by two citizens about the grant for the city housing. I have four residents asking about why a trailer instead of a house. I had one who had a trailer brought out, but couldn’t live in it. I’m not really sure what’s going on. CM Harrison – And all of these people you are talking about were included in the CDBG? CM Daniels – Yes. One resident said she asked for repairs and the lady gave her a quote. Another guy gave her a higher quote. She wants repairs. Another house was torn down and she was told she would get a new house, but nothing yet. So, I was just trying to get the lady to come to the next meeting to explain to the citizens what is going on with their homes. They have questions and I’d like to know the answers, too. Was wanting to see if we could get her to be at the next city council meeting. CM Harrison – Let me read you the narrative from the DCA website for the $901,025.00 CDBG Funds will be used to address the substandard housing conditions in the Kaigler, Bivins, and Ellis Street area of the city. The project will consist of the rehabilitation of 5 housing units, the reconstruction of 5 housing units, and the removal of 3 vacant dilapidated housing units. The project will benefit 29 persons of whom 100% are low to moderate income people. The total project is $917,525.00 with a $16,500.00 match in leverage. I am not happy with that either Jimmy. If ya’ll call when she came to our very first meeting in February, I was not hearing positive outcomes from the beginning, so yes let’s ask her to come back. CM Daniels – She did do some stuff on Stewart St. I haven’t seen 10 houses, she only tore down one and I saw 2 trailers. It’s not matching what you just read v/s what we are seeing and I have 4 people asking questions that I can’t answer. Maybe we could get her here to explain it and see what’s going on for the houses under repair. CM Harrison – Maybe host another public hearing about it where she can explain it all so everybody can come and it’s not so formal like in a council meeting. Then we can ask those questions. She’s been talking to them because she’s been asking them to write letters and they gave me some letters copies. CM Harrison – letters for what? CM Daniels – Like saying what repairs they are wanting, etc. So she has been talking to them. She has reached out and talked to them. They just want to know when they going to have their house built, when they going to have work done. CM Cross – Yes, that concerns me that we have a brand new trailer and the woman can’t move in it. CM Daniels – Yes, that’s Ms. Blanchie Roquemore. Right that at 211. They said something about she had to pay something first. CM Coogle – We need to get her in here. CM Harrison – And also response time. (Someone speaking from audience – not understandable)

Old Business:

1) Quote for wall in the Business Center/Police Dept – CM Cross – Quotes were sent to council members and also copy given at meeting. CM Harrison – My only question is that Mr. Granville’s seems more detailed, but it says remove drop ceiling… I assume that means you replace it with tile? CM Mahone – you have to go all the way to the top and that won’t be a ceiling anymore. CM Harrison – Ok. And on Army Dunn it just says removal and replace existing ceiling tiles. CM Cross – I think Chief Finch walked them through there when the quotes were done, is that right Captain Hill? Captain Hill – Yes. The last one Mr. Dunn, he mentioned to me if the city buys the material then the project would be a lot cheaper. I told him he needed to let Ms. Melissa know. What they want you to do is everything for the job so we are not responsible for anything. CM Harrison – I also don’t see a warranty for either one, so. Would you have a warranty for something like this? CM Coogle – Probably not. Just blocks. But Mr. Dunn is local? CM Cross – Yes, says here VFW Road. CM \_\_\_\_\_\_ - I’ve had some experience with him and he’s always done good. Someone speaking from audience about Family Connections to be housed at the police dept building. CM Mahone – Like have a room inside the building? CM Harrison – Like lease it? CM Mahone – That is part of the plan for the renovation. There are several rooms in there that are not being used. (Same audience person) they need more room. They have office space, but they need storage space. CM Cross – Could be we lease, we can’t, the attorney said we can’t “give” it away, but we can lease it. CM Mahone – There’s a room in there that’s like 30x60 that has access to water and all as well as a restroom on the end. CM Cross – We want to be able to do something like that to help the community and provide revenue for the city. CM Harrison – But like CM Cross said we can’t give space away, we have to rent it. Audience person – something can be worked out as this is a non-profit organization. CM Daniels – She has space at the school now and when you walk in her room it is the junkiest, but organized place I’ve seen. So she does need space. They have meetings every month, Kiwanis Club, so we could work something out. CM Cross – I think several walls could be put in to be able to house things. With so many remote workers now, there are a lot of people who need a spot to work outside of their homes sometimes. CM Harrison – With internet. CM Cross – In some of the larger cities, they are setting up these cubicles where people can just come in and work at the cubicle. CM Harrison – Vote on this at next meeting.

2) Oglethorpe Advisory Council – Table for now per CM Harrison

Other Business:

1) Debris piles on Thomas St. – CM Harrison – I had four complaints from Cuyler St, English, Macon, and Anderson St. (2 locations) Anderson St has mattresses. It speaks to what you’re saying about education. The one on Cuyler has been there for months. However, the contractor is getting frustrated with picking up things that they are not supposed to be picking up because if they continue to pick it up, then people are going to continue to do it. CM Mahone – That tree on Cuyler? On both sides. They paid for the to be taken down and therefore they should have removed it also. They just piled it on the side of the road. We’re lucky it’s not school time and having the school traffic going through there and scratching a car. CM Coogle – School was still in when they had that done. CM Mahone – Yes, they had a couple of week’s left. Some people are picking some of it up to use for firewood. It’s going to take a tractor to remove those big pieces. CM Cross – But it’s not the city’s responsibility. CM Coogle – It’s the landowners who hired the contractor. CM Harrison – It goes back to our ordinances and how do we enforce it. To summarize, I learned a lot about that with an idea that came from another city that spoke about the same issue. It has to do with the diminishing law-enforcement community and trying to retain the force that they have and attract some more good ones and don’t want them out writing tickets on high grass. So they hired a team of just code enforcement people that do carry a gun, they were like retired officers or came from the prison system, and they do nothing but address code issues. That’s it. Now if there is a huge issue where they need to assist officers they can, but for the most part they are just generating revenue by writing tickets and that means we need to get the fines in place. We said we were going to work with RVRC, but I am going to make that my business by next meeting to have had a meeting with RVRC so that we can get the ball rolling on putting some fines to some of these issues. Then we need to figure out if we want to hire a part-time person to do nothing but write these tickets. CM Daniels – Who hires code enforcement? CM Cross – If we had one, it would be us and we would have to have that money in the budget for next year. She is working on the budget right now. CM Daniels – If I’m not mistaken the city was Macon. He said he had like 24 for code enforcement and that’s all they do. CM Harrison – And it’s cleaned up areas that were horrible and it’s generated money. CM Mahone – To get back to things put on the side of the road, I know that in larger cities they don’t pick up anything. But, they have like a number that they call and someone comes by and quotes them what it would cost to move the items. That could be a job for someone with a truck and a trailer. They would have to pay for it. CM Harrison – you got my wheels turning. I got you.

2) Water Day at the Park – Fire Chief Childs – done already

3) Regular Council Meeting for July to be the 13th at 6PM. CM Harrison – I won’t be here, but I’m the only one who won’t be here. Melissa will have to announce it.

Adjourn: 7:32PM Mayor Hill