CITY OF OGLETHORPE

OGLETHORPE CITY HALL

115 CHATHAM STREET

COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA

DECEMBER 5, 2024 – 6:00PM

Call to order: 6:00PM Mayor Daniels

**Department Head Reports: (All should have been emailed prior to meeting)**

1. City Clerk, Melissa Jones – report emailed to council prior to meeting.
2. Police Dept – Cindy Kleckley (regular council meeting) / Chief Breletic – just going through the transition period and look forward to working with everyone.
3. Librarian, Glenda Rigby – report to be emailed at first of the month
4. Water/Sewer/Streets - HWR Jeff Harrison – Cole fixed 2 leaks on Hwy 49, one on Gordon St, and run 1700ft of 2” main down Smith Road. The customer paid for all of it and didn’t cost the city anything. Fixed a broken line Sunday at the park. Installed new hydrant at the corner of the post office that a log truck hit. Empty trash for the month of November. Lift station pumped out at the waste water plant. All of the loose trash being thrown out is blowing into the lift station. That will eventually cause an issue. CM Harrison – Hopefully we are going to fix that. We have a part time guy now who will work to clean that up. CM Moore – We are going to keep the gate locked in the evening now as well. Jeff – I talked to Tim Ingram and he will ask for more grant money for the waste water plant from ARPA. He will know by the end of December. If we get it, we should be able to do what needs to be done. He’s hoping to use the GEFA money for Anna Drive’s sewage line to be upsized. I gave Tim some names of contractors for the Railroad St project as no one bid. Meter update.
5. Fire Department – report emailed monthly – Chief Childs

**Council/Committee Reports: (All should have been emailed prior to meeting)**

1. Mayor Daniels - none
2. Human Resources/Finance – CM Harrison/CM Woodard – CM Harrison met with Mrs. Melissa to review funding the Clifton Bradley project and waste water plant, we need increased funding. I’ve signed the paperwork to be able to sign checks in your absence Mayor. We interviewed 6 people for the part time public works position and hired 1. Mayor Daniels – Did you guys look at the budget when it was sent out, or ask for any information? Any take a way before we vote on it? CM Moore and CM Harrison – yes we checked some things.
3. Public Safety – CM Moore – Just a few things. Transition is going well, just a few hiccups. The chief has been doing some inventory and de-commissioning some items. The clean up is going nicely. It’s getting up to functionality. Some internet and plumbing issues. CM Harrison has been helping get that done. Locks are being changed today and tomorrow. New program locks. New female officer hired on 11/22/24 from Dooly Co. Computers at the police dept being worked on to get functioning correctly. Ms. Cindy should be worked over in another week, computer system and internet first. Oglethorpe will be dependent on December 7, 2024. Chief has been out meeting and greeting. Next month regular reports back in force. The Meet and Greet will be in January. CM Harrison – Should the Meet and Greet be at the Police Department? CM Moore – I think here would be better at City Hall right before the Council Meeting.
4. Utilities/Streets/Cemetery – CM Harrison – same as Jeff Harrison. We could expand treatment area if needed instead of raising the pond dikes. Tim Ingram will draft the letter for us to have you sign to send to our state representative to ask for a letter of support. That would be a 100% grant with no payback. If this loan comes through from OPB, we should be able to finish the project by January 2026. Railroad Street cost is $70-$80K and we are still looking for a contractor. Bid documents have been submitted for May Road. Commissioners Meeting attended by some of us and we asked them to help with May Road and they have agreed to do all of the bush hogging for May, Jack, and Glen Road as long as we supply the flaggers and pick up the limbs and brush as they cut. We still have to do the overhanging and I have quotes from Blue Tag for that. It will take about a week to do that. Clifton Bradley will cost $30K-$50K, and I have met with Melissa and we have enough money in TIA to take care of that. Mayor Daniels – for the sidewalk? And the county said they would help us with the road? CM Moore – Yes. CM Harrison – They also said they would bring in dirt and fill in the pot holes until we can actually have the road fixed. Mayor Daniels – That’s good. Thank you all. CM Harrison – I also verified with Mrs. Melissa that we are banking the 2023-24-25 LMIG money for Anderson Street area. There are sink holes. Jeff – There’s a catch basin in the church yard and it goes across the street to another basin and is rotted out. Jon Coogle – There’s also sign issues out that way. Stop signs. Mayor Daniels – Yes, we ordered some signs and the new part time guy can start getting them up. CM Harrison – Yes, that is on his list. We did the interviews for part time public works and hired Kyron Smith. So far he has done a great job. CM Mahone – The value amount, I thought we had it at.. CM Harrison - $15-$18 and so we offered $15.50 and he’ll go up to $16.00 after 90 days. (discussion ensued). Mayor Daniels – If that is what he was offered and he accepted then it is just that. Mrs. Melissa will check previous minutes. We want to be fair. May Road project we have multiple bids based on type of work. I asked that it be broken down so as to not exhaust our budget. But with the county doing the bush hogging, I will have him requote. Blue Tag also helped with the Christmas Light hanging by using his bucket truck. He is going to bring Phase 1 of the green space etc. to the January 25 meeting. Residents are continuing to put trash in the limb piles and leaves need to be bagged. CM Mahone – What company did the speed bumps? Jeff Harrison – Shepherd Paving. CM Mahone – I noticed the paint (the ones on Asbury) the paint is faded and you don’t see it at night. Jeff – You can buy a bucket of fluorescent paint. CM Moore – If we get it, we can get the new part time guy to paint them.

**A) Mahone Lawn Care –** mowing done on green spaces, city hall, Railroad St right of way, and mowing at cemetery. We usually do the shrubs this time of year. We put like 30 bales of pine straw under the shrubs. CM Harrison – Just get a PO from Mrs. Melissa for that. CM Moore – Lots of improvement been done at the cemetery. CM Moore – to find out about the flag pole project. Also, I would like to create a cemetery trust to be able to get grant money. The only catch is future moneys received has to go into a trust. We don’t lose control, but the maintenance will also be taken off of the city. We can have this without the 501C. I’m taking direction from another city who has 6 cemeteries. They get state and federal money. We control the trust. We make very little on the cemetery sales, but pay a lot out for maintenance. This would help take care of that.

1. Planning & Recreation – CM Woodard – I have another contact for CSX as the one that I have has not responded. I need to go out there and count what is needed and see if maybe Ms. Tracy can get these for us. CM Mahone – It should take about 30. Just replace the top. Would need about screws. The wood will need to be treated. Mayor Daniels – So we can just replace the top. Need to have it done by the 12th…. We have $400 already donated towards it. We can go get it from Lowe’s. (conversation ensued). I’ll see if my dad can go pull that top part up for us. Maybe we can pick up Sunday. CM Woodard to get with Melissa tomorrow. CM Moore – rain is coming in Monday through Wednesday. Christmas Extravaganza….. do we move the date? Or move it into the Business Center? (conversation ensued) Decided to use City Hall on the 12th. CM Harrison – Veteran’s Day turned out great. I stayed in budget. Parade is tomorrow. My contact at channel 13 and she will promote our parade and event next week. CM Daniels – Thank you for the Veteran’s Day event. It was a great turn out and it was a great event.
2. Downtown Development Authority – CM Moore – Parade tomorrow night. 20 entries and the High School Band will lead out the parade and do live music at the street to the Court House. There are going to be 18 vendors. This looks to be the biggest one we’ve had. There are people coming from out of town. Line up is 5PM and parade should start at 6PM.
3. Grants Committee – CM Moore – Still working on FEMA grant for the Fire Truck. I reached out to Senator Warnock and Congressman Bishop for letters. I am asking for $1M not just for the truck, but also improvements for all of Public Safety. If we can get most of this, we can have the most modern Public Service in our area. With Jill’s help, we hope to have an answer by August 2025. CM Harrison – I also have Senator Ossoff’s information as well to reach out to. CM Moore – Melissa sent me information for a new grant for Fire Dept’s as well and I’m going to get that applied for. It can be for equipment upgrades and improvements. Programs for kids included as well. It’s about $25K-$30K and we hope to send in next week. Mayor Daniels – Any GICH updates? CM Harrison – no, we will get back together after the holidays. Mayor Daniels – What about CDBG? CM Harrison – Not sure, I will check on that.
4. Connectivity Committee - CM Beckum -
5. Building Maintenance Committee – CM Mahone – the female restaurant toilets are old and need to be replaced. They continue to run. Saturday we are going to work in the male restroom. Will replace the toilet. I’ve reached out to Mr. Graves in regards to the Senior Center and haven’t heard anything back. Thought he would be here from the Senior Center, but he’s not here. Today we were supposed to decide the status of the agreement with them… I will reach out to him via email to see if we can have a phone meeting with him or something. We need some type of response of them. They have until September 2025 per the contract. I just need some type of response from him. I will say it does look better, I just need some communication. Mayor Daniels – If he has done his part by fixing the odds and ends and cleaned up what he was supposed to, then I suggest that we reach out and get him on the phone. I don’t want to lose our Senior Citizens Center as we have the only one in the county, but if we have someone else who want to come in and offer their services, then we may have to move that way. CM Mahone – I didn’t want to put him on the spot or anything, but did ask him to give us an updated. Mayor Daniels – I will reach out to RVRC since they were a part of when this agreement took place and see what we might can do.

**New Business:**

**Old Business:**

**Other Business:** CM Harrison – Family Connections Meeting – Been attending on behalf of the city. Myself and CM Mahone attended the Chief’s Diploma Graduation on the 14th. CM Moore and myself helped with the food distribution in Ideal with the Legacy Group. They plan to do it in Oglethorpe the first quarter of 2025. This is also the group that donated the benches at the park. CM Mahone – Thoughts on putting something at the Clifton Bradley Park? Like a metal roof and concrete slab. CM Harrison – Tried to get funding for a reading park. Mayor Daniels – Just have to worry about the vandalism…. But we can definitely look into it. (conversation ensued)

**Public Comments:**

**Adjourn:** 7:05PM Mayor Daniels