CITY OF OGLETHORPE

OGLETHORPE CITY HALL

115 CHATHAM STREET

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

OCTOBER 3, 2024 – 6:00PM

**Call to order:** Mayor Daniels 6:23PM

**Council Present:** All present as well as Ms. Jones, Chief Finch, and Attorney Coogle

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Invocation:** CM Harrison

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Moore, AIF

**Approval of Minutes** from September 5, 2024 Council Session and September 24, 2024 Called Meeting. Motion to approve afore mentioned minutes made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Beckum, AIF

Motion to adopt Resolution to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Beckum, AIF (7:00PM)

**Executive Session:** Personnel

Motion to leave Executive Session and return to Regular Council Meeting made by CM Beckum, 2nd CM Harrison, AIF (7:35PM)

**Recognitions of Guest(s)**:

**New Business:**

1)Approval of 2024 Millage rate at 15.050based off of Consolidation & Evaluation Digest

2024 and Rollback calculation (LOST): Motion made to approve the 2024 Millage rate at

15.050 made by CM Harrison, CM Beckum, AIF

2) Chief of Police Position: Motion made to TABLE until October Work Session made by CM

Harrison, 2nd CM Woodard, AIF

3) Public Works contracts: Limb and Brush - Motion to accept and approve the Limb and Brush Contract with Blue Tag Tree Service at $40K per year made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM

Beckum, AIF

Discussion in regards to do “as needed” items for the street/road bush hogging and cutting.

More research to be done financially. CM Beckum advised he would check with Georgia

Power about coming in and getting some of the overgrowth cut back as well.

CM Harrison advised that she had revamped the Bid Request for the Roads and Streets and

Mrs. Jones advised that the ad was already sent to the paper to run the next couple of weeks.

30 days to receive bids.

Cemetery Contract: CM Harrison – We need to vote to approve this contract and CM

Mahone, you will have to recuse yourself from voting as you are related. The bid came in at $33,600/ year from Mahone Quality Lawn Care. He also sent in a bid for the addendum for the grass cutting at the parks and green spaces of $54K / year. CM Moore – I think we need him to come in to get some clarification on that. Some of us aren’t sure if the total is $54K or is it in addition to the $30K? This would make it over $80K. CM Harrison – I understand. The green spaces contract was the addendum only. That would be $87,600.00. CM Moore – I just think we need to have him come in so we can all be on the same page. Mayor Daniels – So, since we voted on the cemetery bid, what do we do about that contract? CM Harrison – We have to revote because CM Mahone can’t vote. Attorney Coogle – Yes, you have to revote. CM Moore – I’m concerned about the pricing as he cuts the grass for Montezuma for 4 cemeteries at $37K and charging us $33K for just one? That’s why I would like to talk to him just to get an understanding. (conversation ensued).

Motion to Table the Cemetery Contract made by CM Moore, 2nd CM Woodard, AIF

Motion to Table the Green Space Addendum until further discussion with Mahone Quality Landscaping made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Woodard, AIF

CM Harrison – Right now we are at $33K for the cemetery, $40K for the limb and brush. That’s not including what will come in for the road maintenance. We don’t have anything for the green spaces yet nor anything for the trash and miscellaneous things. What is the total budget? Ms. Jones – We are working on the budget, but needed the information from these bids to be able to complete. Mayor Daniels – Before we get into this discussion what are we going to do in the meantime? CM Moore – At least have the discussion with the contractor so he can tell us if it’s a detail issue at the cemetery, etc. If it is, it just is. (discussion ensued) CM Woodard advised that the grass was needing cut prior to October 1st…. CM Harrison brought up part time person. Motion to Table to hire part time person for miscellaneous tasks until October work session made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Woodard, AIF

CM Mahone – The same last name – go into more detail on that there. City Clerk Jones advised that it was a conflict of interest for any council member to vote on anything that had to do with family members involved. CM Mahone – so hypothetically, it was just assumed we were related because we had the same last name? City Clerk Jones – Jeff mentioned it previously as the contractor was concerned about working for HWR; however, since he was not in contract with the city, but with HWR, it didn’t matter. CM Mahone – I understand that, but just because it was the same last name…. What’s Jills’ last name? Same as Jeff’s, so same thing. City Clerk Jones – Jill was not on council when HWR (Jeff) was approved for their contract. Attorney Coogle advised that you recuse yourself from such a vote so that there is not the “appearance” of something being done that shouldn’t be. Doesn’t mean that the vote still won’t pass. CM Harrison – So do I need to make it clear for record, that Jeff is not related to me? Not to my knowledge anyway.

**Old Business:**

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn made by CM Woodard, 2nd CM Beckum, AIF