

**CITY OF METTER
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024
5:30 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the city council was held on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall.

Attending the meeting were the following officials:

Mayor Edwin O. Boyd
Councilwoman Rashida Taylor
Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease
Councilwoman Victoria Gaitten
City Manager Carter Crawford
City Clerk Angie Conner
Police Chief Robert Shore
Fire Chief Jason Douglas
Planning Director Teresa Concannon
Jerri Goodman – Metter Advertiser

Councilman Gregg Stewart was absent.

GUESTS

Penny Lott
Polly Porter
Dixie Odom
Tim Spenser

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilwoman Kilcrease led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Councilwoman Kilcrease gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- a) Regular Meeting, Monday, December 11, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Greg Strickland was listed on the agenda but was not present at the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Reappointing Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease as 2024 Mayor Pro tem

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve a resolution to reappoint Councilwoman Chyrileen Kilcrease as Mayor Pro tem of the City of Metter for 2024. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution Reappointing Mr. J. Kendall Gross as 2024 Municipal Court Judge

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a resolution to reappoint Mr. J. Kendall Gross as City of Metter Municipal Court Judge for 2024. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution Reappointing Mr. Duff B. Ayers as the City of Metter Indigent Defense Attorney for 2024

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve a resolution to reappoint Mr. Duff B. Ayers as the City of Metter Indigent Defense Attorney for 2024. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution Reappointing Mr. Brent Carter as the City of Metter Municipal Court Prosecutor for 2024

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a resolution to reappoint Mr. Brent Carter as the City of Metter Municipal Court Prosecutor for 2024. Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution Reappointing Mr. Brent Carter as the City of Metter City Attorney for 2024

Councilwoman Kilcrease made a motion to approve a resolution to reappoint Mr. Brent Carter as the City Attorney for 2024. Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending the City of Metter's Municipal Code Title 5 Business Licenses and Regulations by adding Chapter 5.31 Mobile Food Trucks

An ordinance amending the City of Metter's Municipal Code Title 5 Business Licenses and Regulations by adding Chapter 5.31 Mobile Food Trucks was presented to mayor and council for the second reading.

City Manager Carter Crawford recommended changing #3 in the ordinance to read as follows: A mobile food truck can only be on public property during a City, County, or Chamber sponsored event or other events approved by City Council.

Councilwoman Gaitten had questions concerning # 11 and #13. To clear up some of the concerns, Councilman McKie suggested to add a (c) under Section 5.31.050 Exceptions to read as follows: The provisions of this article shall not apply to mobile food trucks that are operating or participating in a city council approved event. The rest of the council agreed that this would clear up the issues.

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve the second reading of an ordinance amending the City of Metter's Municipal Code Title 5 Business Licenses and Regulations by adding Chapter 5.31 Mobile Food Trucks and adding an item (c) under Section 5.31.050 Exceptions to read as follows: The provisions of this article shall not apply to mobile food trucks that are operating or participating in a city council approved event. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The agenda packets contained written reports provided by each department head for the mayor and council to review.

Chief Shore announced that Jennifer Phillips, an employee of the animal shelter, has resigned effective January 19, 2024, due to health reasons. He said that he also had a police officer to resign.

Chief Douglas announced that he has one job opening in the fire department.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

The city received a check from the tax commissioner for November receipts which brought the city into the black. We have collected 50% of motor vehicle taxes through November. People are still buying cars.

The Mayor and City Council Retreat is scheduled for February 10, 2024, at the Pineland Telephone Conference Room. GMA will be facilitating the retreat. It will begin at 8:30 a.m.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Boyd reported on the following:

1. Thanked all the departments for a successful Lighting of Metter.
2. Reminded council members of the trip to Atlanta for the 2024 GMA Cities Summit. He said that this is very important for the council to see what is going on with the legislation and with other cities.
3. Informed council that he had received a call from a lady about a year ago complaining of the jake brake noise made by big trucks when traveling through the city. He said that he also recently got another complaint from Cleve Goodman, at Ace Hardware, saying that the noise from the jake brakes almost vibrates items from the shelves in the store. Mr. Goodman said that other cities have signs prohibiting the use of jake brakes within their city limits. We need to study this issue and produce our own ordinance.

Councilman McKie suggested that while we are looking at the jake brake issue, we also need to be considering commercial traffic ordinances. While we are doing this, we may need to designate truck routes, especially with the new plant coming.

4. We are working on workforce housing on Hiawatha Street where it joins the new DAS plant.
5. We are waiting for the federal government to release the funds for the downtown park renovation project.
6. The hold up with the new fire station is because of the Georgia Department of Transportation. They need to sign off on the project. The information went to the wrong office, and they have been sitting on it.

After Mayor Boyd finished his report, he called on the guests to see if anyone would like to speak. Ms. Polly Porter said that she had some concerns about the downtown park project. A drawing of the plans was presented to the guests. Ms. Porter along with the other

Regular Meeting, January 8, 2024

guests agreed that the plans looked good. Mayor Boyd said that there will be places for electric chargers. People can visit our local stores while charging their vehicles.

This rehab project will be funded totally by a grant. There is no city match. Mayor Boyd said that the DDA and Main Street Boards have worked and tweaked these plans.

ADJOURNMENT

After no further discussion, Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 p.m. Councilwoman Kilcrease seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Angie Conner, City Clerk