

CITY OF REMERTON
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 8, 2008
City Council Chambers
5:30 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor-Cornelius Holsendolph
Mayor Pro Tem-Reginald Stacks
Council member-Sherry Wood
Council member-Ryan Gordon
Council member-Lydia Day
Council member-Bill Wetherington

Mayor Pro Tem Stacks gave invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

The minutes from Regular Session, November 10, 2008 approved with corrections noted from Council member Wetherington and Council member Wood. Motion to approve with corrections by Council member Wetherington which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Stacks. All in favor, motion carried.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Landon Lassiter from Jaks Library spoke on behalf of the Bar Association which was formed of all the bars with the exception of CJ's and Charley O's. . He stated the bars would lose money with the 2:00 am closing time. Without the last hour of service he stated a lot of money would be lost by the bars. He stated the Bar Association agreed to help with the trash issue. He stated they had offered to help pay for the cleaning of trash in the parking lot and agreed to take turns cleaning up around property. He said they started to take up funds to help pay for any damages to property around the bars and that they were taking a proactive approach to the issues. He stated he spoke to many of the businesses in the area (Southern Lamp and Shade, Remerton Square tenants, Bishop Cleaners, Star Insurance and the Car lot. He stated they did not talk to Jays Florist or Another Way.) He also stated the Bar Association had agreed to pay "Off Duty" Police Officers to help with the problems at the bars.

Ashley Hill spoke on the matter of tall grass at 1811 Plum Street (property currently for sale) and showed the Mayor and Council pictures of the property. He stated he had spoken to Mr. McDougal about it but nothing had been done about the grass.

READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

Motion made by Council member Wetherington to read only the enactment clause of each ordinance which was seconded by Council member Day. All in favor. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION REGARDING A SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REPLACE THE ALCOHOL REGULATIONS FOR THE CITY OF REMERTON KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS CHAPTER 6 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF REMERTON; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Second reading of alcohol ordinance enactment clause read by Attorney Brad Folsom. Motion to adopt by Council member Day which was seconded by Council member Wetherington. Council member Day, Council member Wetherington and Mayor Pro Tem Stacks voted in favor of alcohol ordinance. Council member Wood and Council member Gordon opposed. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION REGARDING A SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A NEW ARTICLE REGARDING AN IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM TO COMPLY WITH FEDERAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO RED FLAGS AND IDENTITY THEFT; TO PROVIDE FOR CODIFICATION; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN ADOPTION DATE; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES ALLOWED BY LAW.

Second reading of Red Flag Ordinance enactment clause read by City Manager Brian McDougal. Motion to adopt by Council member Wetherington which was seconded by Council member Day. All in favor. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION REGARDING A SECOND READING OF A JOINT ORDINANCE OF THE LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE MAYORS AND COUNCILS OF THE CITIES OF VALDOSTA, HAHIRA, REMERTON, LAKE PARK AND DASHER, GEORGIA CONTINUING THE GREATER LOWNDES PLANNING COMMISSION (GLPC).

Second reading of GLPC enactment clause read by City Manager Brian McDougal. Motion to adopt by Council member Wood which was seconded by Council member Wetherington. All in favor. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION REGARDING THE FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE A NEW CHAPTER OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF REMERTON, GEORGIA TO BE KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS "STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAYS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSURANCE AND REGULATION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMITS.

First reading of enactment clause read by City Manager Brian McDougal. No questions for Mr. McDougal about the ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS:

INTERVIEWS OF ATTORNEYS AND RESIDENTS THAT EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN SERVING ON THE CITY OF REMERTON, ETHICS COMMITTEE.

INTERVIEWS OF RESIDENTS EXPRESSING AN INTEREST IN SERVING AS OUR CITY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE GREATER LOWNDES PLANNING COMMISSION (GLPC)

The residents for consideration are Sarah Flemming, Scooter Hines and Robert Horne. Mr. Horne and Mr. Hines were in attendance and interviewed at the Council Work Session on December 1, 2008.

Sarah Flemming was present for any questions from Council. Council member Day asks how long she had been a resident in Remerton in which she answered 10 years. Mayor Holsendolph suggested to Council that since we had three interested persons that maybe we would want to have an alternate for the Ethics Committee. Council member Day suggested we use Robert Horne and Sarah Fleming for the Ethics Committee and have Scooter Hines serve on the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission due to that position being open and Mr. Hines being nominated for that also. Mr. Robert Coleman was the only person interviewed for the Attorney Position. Ms. Bahl never responded to the phone calls to be present for interview. Motion made by Council member Day to have Sarah Fleming and Robert Horne serve as resident members for Ethics Committee and Mr. Robert Coleman as the Attorney for Ethics Committee. She also made motion for Scooter Hines to serve on the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission which was all seconded by Council member Gordon. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

FINANCIAL REPORT

City Clerk Lisa Mashburn gave copies of bank balances and expense/revenue report to Mayor and Council and reported information to Council. Council member Wood stated she would like to see a more user friendly report and that we would discuss it at the Audit Committee Meeting. Motion to adopt by Council member Wood which was seconded by Council member Wetherington. All in favor. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION REGARDING ESTABLISHING THE ALCOHOL LICENSE FEE SCHEDULE FOR LIQUOR, BEER AND WINE BY THE DRINK AND RELATED FEES.

Mr. McDougal stated he could get a full schedule of fees for next meeting if the Council desired. Council member Wood asks if we wait to vote on this when will the fees go into effect. The answer was 2010. Mayor Pro Tem Stacks ask why this was presented to them at the last minute. Mr. McDougal stated he presented at work session previously so that we could make any changes to go along with the new Alcohol Ordinance. Motion to keep the fees the same made by Council member Gordon which was seconded by Council member Wetherington. All in favor. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION REGARDING OUR CALENDAR YEAR 2009 MEETING DATES FOR WORKSESSION AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Council member Wood asks City Clerk Lisa Mashburn for corrected copy of meeting dates. Copy was made and presented to her. Motion made by Council member Wood to adopt meeting dates which was seconded by Council member Day. All in favor. Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council member Wetherington stated he appreciated all the support while he was out having surgery. He also stated he wanted us to keep the Valdosta Police Officer shot this morning in our prayers.

Council member Wood stated she reviewed the information from water study and there would be an estimated 11 per cent increase in water rates per the study. She stated she wanted us to keep the Bar owners and residents informed in regards to the rate increase as we learn what it will be.

Mayor Cornelius Holsendolph said he would like to thank Council and Staff for their patience and participation. He stated we had completed a year with tough decisions to decide on.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to enter into Executive Session made by Mayor Pro Tem Stacks which was seconded by Council member Day. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to come out of Executive Session made by Mayor Pro Tem Stacks which was seconded by Council member Day.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Council member Wetherington which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Stacks. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Cornelius Holsendolph