

REGULAR MEETING OF
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 13, 2020

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Council was called to order by Mayor Doug Cheek.

Present: James Dumas, Cliff Hill, Jerry Payne, Sandra Garrison (zoom 6:30pm) and Attorney David Syfan. Absent: David Dunson.

The invocation was given by James Dumas.

The pledge to the flag was led by Mayor Doug Cheek.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. (3-0)

OLD BUSINESS

1. Yonah Homer Well Site/Evans St.

Mayor Cheek stated the Evans Street well will open for use when the permit is received.

Mayor Cheek also stated a second well site at the Evans St. location has been spotted for the backup well. The test well will be approximately \$15,000-\$17,000 according to Ken Bryan. Both wells on the Evans Street property could not be pumped at the same time. Motion was made by James Dumas to move forward with drilling the test well for the backup well on the Evans Street property. Motion was seconded by Jerry Payne and approved. (3-0)

Yonah Homer well has a high concentration of iron and there is not much water in the well anymore. Mayor Cheek stated that Mack Garrison is interested in selling the property. The well will have to be closed if it is not going to be used anymore. James Dumas suggested discussing purchasing the property in executive session.

2. Water Rates

Mayor Cheek stated that they have met with a representative from Georgia Rural water regarding the water rates. James Dumas stated that he recommended that they do an equivalency table to make sure that everyone pays on the same level. Mr. Dumas stated that they will need to talk to the school board and other entities to make sure that everyone understands the equivalency rates. Mayor Cheek stated that they would talk more about the new rates at the work session in November. Jerry Payne suggested having the representative from Georgia Rural water come back and explain the new equivalency table when they meet with the school.

3. Sewer

Mayor Cheek will meet with the school superintendent regarding the sewer and water and the new water rates.

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4. Chimney Oaks Golf Course

Attorney, David Syfan discussed the revision to the Chimney Oaks Golf Course master plan. He stated the goal is to reach resolution so there will not be continuing contention between BCG (Banks County Golf) and the town. His suggestion to BCG is that they amend and put their PCD plan in writing to give the town some notice about what they are planning to do. BDG wants to speed up the approval process by not having to go through planning and town council review on minor matters. Mr. Syfan stated that other entities do allow a designated agent to approve those minor changes, such as setbacks. BCG will have to go through the rezoning process to amend the current plan. They have sent a written PCD plan and a master site plan to the attorney to be reviewed. He made redline changes to the submitted written plan in order to bring it into compliance to what the current PCD regulations say. He stated that on the master site plan there is a problem with the density. There is a difference in the number of lots from the master site plan to the legend. The ordinance cannot be deviated from by BCG or the town, therefore corrections need to be made. Mr. Syfan is discussing some of the changes with the BCG attorney, Tyler Smith. Mr. Syfan is waiting on some answers from Mr. Smith. Mr. Syfan wants to see the site plan be consistent with the written plan. More details will be discussed in the executive session.

Mayor Cheek suggested going into Executive Session to discuss litigation and land acquisition at 7:02 p.m. Executive session ended at 8:23 p.m. Mayor Cheek stated that they will get more information from the engineer to see what the Yonah Homer well will cost. No action was taken on the litigation.

5. Resolution - Face Coverings

Mr. Syfan stated that the citywide mask mandate ordinance was put on hold. This ordinance will remain tabled and on the agenda to be looked at every month in case it needs to be acted on at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Door at shop

Overhead door quote for shop door for \$4,680.00 without vision panel and with vision panel \$5,245.00 was submitted. Motion was made by Jerry Payne to approve the quote of \$4,680.00 for door without vision panel. The motion was seconded by Cliff Hill and approved. (3-0)

2. Municode

Mayor Cheek and Mr. Dumas spoke with Municode regarding codifying ordinances. The cost is approximately \$9800.00 for the year long project. All of the ordinances will be hosted online for the public to view. Mayor Cheek suggested that three or four of the council members get together and compare the Town of Homer ordinances to ordinances which have been approved by other towns and put together a new ordinance to pass on to Mr. Syfan for final approval of the updated ordinance. No decision was made.

OTHER BUSINESS

Henry David Banks advised the council of how much he appreciates them working to keep the Veteran's Park clean. He also expressed his thanks for Sheriff Speed allowing workers to pressure wash the picnic area, sidewalks and the eternal flame area. Mayor and Council expressed their thanks for the veterans helping keep us free.

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Mayor Cheek stated that Rick Billingslea would like to work on a USDA Grant to be used for things like the feasibility study for the sewer system and helping the DDA with funding for commercial buildings in town.

Mayor Cheek and Cliff Hill discussed possible water and sewage line casing being placed on Historic Homer Highway bridge while the DOT is working on new bridge construction. The town will reimburse DOT for the cost of labor and materials. Mr. Hill has discussed this with the engineer.

Chief Hill stated that the new fire engine is down. Freightliner has discontinued all the parts for it. They are trying to find parts to fix it.

Work session November 3, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

CERTIFIED

Tracey King, Assistant Clerk