

REGULAR MEETING OF
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
JUNE 9, 2020

REGULAR MEETING

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

Present: James Dumas, Cliff Hill, Sandra Garrison and Attorney David Syfan. Absent Jerry Payne and 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. Water and Garbage Rates

No decision was made on water rate increase, this will be discussed at the work session on June 23, 2020. Motion was made by Sandra Garrison to increase garbage rate from \$15.00 per month to \$17.00 per month beginning July 1, 2020. Motion was seconded by Cliff Hill and approved. (3-0)

2. Mayor & Council pay

Tabled until a later date.

3. Sewer

Mayor Cheek stated that he has not heard anything regarding the sewer project. He will find out what Banks County is doing at this point. James Dumas stated that the engineer would do a feasibility study to see if it was practical to move forward with the project. The projected cost for the feasibility study is approximately \$24,000.00. The study will include gathering data on who potential customers could be, projection for 20 years, preliminary map, preliminary work with GA EPD, working with Banks County, etc.. Mayor Cheek stated that he will get information from Banks County regarding the project and this will be discussed at the next meeting. No decisions were made.

4. Well

Mayor Cheek stated that the power is hooked up. The well is almost ready to start being ran for 24-48 hours straight in order to get the levels adjusted correctly. Testing will then be done. James Dumas stated that Ken Bryan had sent a letter stating that June 17, 2020 will be the start date for the testing. Assuming that the punch list does not take long, the project should be ready to close around July 1, 2020.

There is \$144,000.00 remaining in the loan if there is still work that needs to be done on the water system. There is \$202,000.00 remaining in the meter loan which can be used for water conservation projects if needed. Money does not have to be used but is available for use if there is a need. Payments for GEFA loans were discussed. Mr. Dumas stated that he looked at the amortization table and it looks like June 20, 2021 is the first payment date. Payment for one of the loans will be \$2028.00 per month and the other will be approximately \$2500.00 per month.

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Mayor Cheek stated that there is one more spot for a potential backup well on the Evans Street property. James Dumas asked if any of the old wells are functioning or useable. Mayor Cheek stated that they could be, it will depend on the technology and what the council is willing to spend on it.

5. Virus issues

Mayor Cheek asked for discussion on when to open Town Hall back up to the public. Attorney, David Syfan stated that the Governor is still saying for at-risk people to continue sheltering in place at home but his understanding at this time is for everything else to open back up at the end of June or beginning of July. He also stated that Covid-19 cases are trending back up at this time according to the website, but he still feels like everything will open back up whether it is a good idea or not. Town of Homer public works employees will continue to drive separate vehicles until further notice. Town Hall will open back up to the public July 1, 2020 with social distancing still in place.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 4th of July fireworks have been cancelled.
2. Sandra Garrison asked if she should cancel the Sunday School Celebration. James Dumas stated that he suggests that if they have the S.S. Celebration they shouldn't have a meal. Sandra Garrison stated that the Sunday School Celebration would still be held the last Saturday in July but no meal will be served. James Dumas offered to help Sandra contact churches if he was needed.
3. Mayor Cheek discussed the upcoming Labor Day festival. No decisions were made. This will be discussed at the work session in July.
4. Mayor Cheek stated that a meeting needs to be scheduled with Attorney, Wink Verdery to discuss wells. He suggested that the meeting be held at Town Hall one morning. The dates June 15th, 16th, or 22nd at 9:00 a.m. will be given to Mr. Verdery. David Syfan will inform the council if any of those dates are going to work for him.
5. Mayor Cheek made the recommendation to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation. James Dumas made the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation with the Golf Course. Motion was seconded by Sandra Garrison and approved. (3-0)

Executive Session 6:30 p.m.

Roll call: Mayor Doug Cheek, Sandra Garrison, Cliff Hill, James Dumas.

Regular meeting opened 7:15 p.m.

Roll call: Mayor Doug Cheek, Sandra Garrison, Cliff Hill, James Dumas.

No action taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

Cliff Hill stated that about $\frac{3}{4}$'s of the parking lot is complete at the Fire Station.

Jessi Rothell will be completing her term as Library Board of Trustees. Stacy Krumnow made the recommendation to appoint Sarah Blackmon who resides at 499 McCoy Bridge Road to replace Ms. Rothell. She will serve the term July 1, 2020 until June 30, 2023. Ms. Blackmon has agreed to serve if appointed. Motion was made by Sandra Garrison to appoint Sarah Blackmon as Library Board Trustee replacing Jessi Rothell. Motion was seconded by Cliff Hill and approved. (3-0)

Work session June 23, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

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There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

Doug Cheek, Mayor

Tracey King, Assistant Clerk