

CITY OF STATHAM

MEETING MINUTES

Statham City Hall

327 Jefferson Street, Statham, GA 30666



WORK SESSION

AUGUST 6, 2020

6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Piper called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Council members present: Lyle, McCormic, Thrasher, Venable

Council members absent: Crawley

Also present:

Sandra Bennett, Assistant City Clerk

Jody Campbell, City Attorney

Andy Autry, Public Works Department

Jerry Weitz, Planning & Zoning Administrator

Jordan McDaniel, Water Director

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Piper led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN INPUT – None

REPORTS

- A. Mayor Piper – to purchase two zero-turn mowers and a bush hog for the Kubota tractor for the public works department in lieu of the approved and budgeted John Deere tractor and bush hog. After discussions with staff, purchasing two zero-turn mowers will increase staff productivity and provide a cost savings to the city. Section 3.03 (e) of the City Charter, “Administrative Duties of the Mayor” states “The mayor shall have authority to make allotments of funds within the limits of appropriations and no expenditure shall be made without the mayor’s approval.”

Councilmember McCormic asked about the total for the equipment. Mayor Piper explained the cost, which was included in their packets. Public works maintenance supervisor, Andy Autry, was asked which equipment (the two zero turns or the single budgeted tractor) would be more useful, and Andy agreed with the Mayor on the two zero turns.

- B. Mayor Piper – update on well development

EMI will be doing a topography study and will be obtaining three bids for the work.

- C. Councilmember Venable – public works building

Councilmember Venable is still working on this, and hopes to use the proceeds from the sale of 1921 Broad Street house to improve the public works building. Additionally, he requested to have Public Works Director, Sam Powell, to finish an RFI so it can be released in September.

D. Statham Public Library (included in packet)

E. Lakes of Statham Presentation

Lakes of Statham representative, Mr. Cooper, asked to eliminate the open space 3 in exchange for lots 16, 17, 25, 62, 75 and 82. In addition, he was hoping to replace the pool for a fire pit and recreational area. Planning and Zoning Administrator, Jerry Weitz, explained that was not a good idea and needed to remain as it; flooding issues were brought up about sidewalks that had been underwater at one time. The Pacific Group is also working on list numbers 11 and 12 that was provided to the Rotunda Group. Cash bonds were discussed, and Mr. Cooper was informed that no plat would be approved until the bonds were paid.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Tree Ordinance – first reading of a new tree and care standards ordinance presented by the Beautification and Tree Committee to enhance the quality of life; to ensure proper planting and care of trees within the city; to make provision for emergency removal of trees; and for other purposes.

Councilmember Venable chose to delay the report until the following council meeting, September 3, 2020.

2. Broad Street Repair – to authorize Mayor Piper to enter into an agreement to repair a drainage pipe and paving on Broad Street. Three proposals have been received by the City: Burge Construction \$178,900; McDaniel Utilities, Inc. \$81,410 and McDaniel's Grading & Hauling \$91,875.

Council discussed the bids they had received so far, and it was mentioned that one of the bidders was related to a City of Statham employee. City Attorney Campbell explained that it was more of an issue if the bidders were related or had dealings with the council and not employees. Mr. Chris McDaniel, one of the project bidders, explained what had happened and how it needed to be repaired. It was questioned on how the City was accepting bids, and they needed to be sealed bids. It was also brought up that engineers needed to be brought in.

Other Items:

Smoke testing is scheduled for the week of August 17, 2020.

Joyce Jacks asks about hosting a lunch for Statham police officers on August 29, 2020.

ADJOURN

Mayor Piper asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Councilmember Venable moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Thrasher seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.