

**City of Temple  
Monthly Council Meeting  
August 1, 2016  
6:30pm, Temple City Hall**

**Council Members Present Constituting a Quorum:**

Mayor Lester Harmon  
Penny Ransom  
Todd Rothwell  
William Simmons  
Howard Walden

**Council Member Not Present:**

Richard Bracknell

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m. by Mayor Lester Harmon.

**Invocation:**

Mayor Harmon led the opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

**Visitors:**

**Gerald Powell & Richard McIntosh-** Mr. Gerald Powell had several questions that he addressed to the Mayor and Council regarding the Downtown Development Authority. He had questions regarding if the DDA is still active, if meetings had taken place in 2016, if there is a budget, if Ms. McIntosh is still the Chair, and if it is not an active organization how do we go about removing her from this position.

**Dawn Adkins-** Ms. Dawn Adkins reported on the travel and training expenses for City employees and Council Members in 2016. She expressed concerns for receipts not being filed with some of the travel expense statements when the employee handbook requires them for reimbursement. She questioned why conference attendees did not carpool to the GMA conference since carpooling is mandated in the employee handbook. She also questioned how the City went over the travel budget, when the budget should be checked prior to the approval of conference attendance.

**Ms. Deborah McIntosh** expressed her concern regarding the actions/non-actions of some of the council members at the July 5th council meeting regarding the cut off date of water bill and building permit fees for Perennial Park; these items need to be readdressed. She has also heard speculative chatter about her being awarded attorney's fees for a lawsuit by former Mayor Ford. After discussing the lawsuit and who was involved, she went on to read part of the order from the Judge of the Superior Court in Carroll County. She concluded by stating that the completed forensic audit verified that what she said was true; there was evidence that Mayor Ford purchased the property before it was ratified by the council.

**Linda Walden-** stated the next time she speaks she does not want a two minute limit.

**Approval of Minutes:**

December 9, 2015, Executive Session- City Attorney Parian stated to wait until the next meeting

March 2, 2016, Special Called Meeting- Motion to Approve by Councilmember Walden, second by Councilmember Simmons. Vote 5-0.

March 7, 2016 & April 4, 2016- Motion to table these minutes and update with corrections by Councilmember Walden, second by Councilmember Simmons.

April 13, 2016, Executive Session- no motion

May 2, 2016, Regular Meeting- motion to table pending corrections by Councilmember Ransom, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0.

July 5, 2016, Regular Meeting- motion to table pending corrections by Councilmember Ransom, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0

### **Old Business:**

1. Status report on the proposed subdividing of the Westshire Townhomes property at 395 Villa Rosa Drive into two parcels with mutual covenants and easements.

City Administrator William Osborne reported that Mr. Huffman received the letter he requested at the last Council meeting. He stated that when the Planning Commission meets later this month, the subdividing of this property will be on the agenda and Mr. Huffman is aware this has to be approved by the City.

2. Updated report concerning the Land and Water Conservation Fund Project in the City Park.

Howard Ray reported that the disturbed area has been seeded and covered in straw. He is showing that through the end of July approximately \$4,300 is remaining in the budget. When asked when we should receive the money for this project, he stated we would be lucky to get it by the end of the year. Councilmember Ransom noted that when we do get it, it does not need to float in the general fund.

3. Updated report concerning the senior discount on City of Temple utility bills.

There was some discussion regarding the senior discount. City Administrator Osborne stated that tonight he just wanted to give information, but wanted the elected officials to know we need to decide on this in the near future, once the new system, Caselle, is in place.

### **New Business:**

1. Select the company to provide grounds maintenance and landscape services at City Hall, the Police Department, the Temple Branch Library, the Senior Center, and the area of the Welcome Sign on Georgia Highway 113 for the period of August 1, 2016 through July 31, 2017; and authorize the Mayor to sign the necessary agreement for the selected company.

After some discussion, there was a motion by Councilmember Simmons to take the lowest bid which was Muse Landscaping, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

2. Consider a change in the schedule for the collection of recyclables, as set forth in the new amendment to the City of Temple's agreement with Waste Industries, Inc., which has been approved by the City Council but not acted upon by Waste Industries.

City Administrator Bill Osborne state when Waste Industries made an amendment to the contract, they showed recycling on a weekly basis. They did not catch this error until the signed the agreement was sent back to them; they have not signed the contract and plan to provide only bi weekly recycling service. After some discussion, it was determined that we would offer customers a second cart for their recycling when needed at no cost to the customer.

3. Report concerning storm water discharges within the City of Temple, as well as State of Georgia requirements for compliance by local governments with discharges associated with small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems

Howard Ray discussed the 2015 annual report that needs to be completed along with mapping that is required; as part of the MS4 permit the City is required to map the storm sewer system. In the next agenda item, action is taken on this.

4. Presentation by a representative from the engineering firm of Hughes-Ray Company, Inc., concerning actions which need to be taken by the City of Temple to begin the process of complying with State of Georgia requirements for storm water management; consideration by the City Council for the proposal from Hughes-Ray Company, Inc

After Howard Ray completed a presentation regarding the State of Georgia requirements for storm water management, there was a motion by Councilmember Simmons to approve the \$12,500 agreement for consulting services to be provided by Hughes-Ray working with Waterworks Group to prepare the annual report on work done in 2015; this is to be paid out of the Public Works/Engineering line. Second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

5. Authorize the removal of a large dead tree on City right of way on Carrollton Street adjacent to downtown Temple.

Public Works Director Dwayne Eberhart stated there is a dead tree on Carrollton Street which is an accident waiting to happen; the cost for removal is \$2,275. Only \$150 is in the professional fee line to pay this; the request is to pay to take the tree down out of the engineering line. Motion to approve the estimate on the tree removal by Mr. Walden, second by Mr. Simmons. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

6. Staff report concerning two proposals for the display "flag banners" in the area of City Hall and in and near the center of the City of Temple.

Public Works Director Dwayne Eberhart shared two proofs for banners to be used in the beautification of Temple. There is a \$40,000 budget for beautification, the estimate for 10 banners is \$1,732. There was discussion of purchasing American flags and holiday flags that could be interchanged with these banners. It was suggested to put the two banners on the website and let the citizens vote.

7. Staff report concerning a possible clarification in one section of the City of Temple's Adoption Agreement for its Defined Benefit Retirement Plan with the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that Gerald Henry retired 14 years ago, three years ago he started working again on a part time basis. GMA stated we have an employee who is drawing retirement and it appears he is working full time. In the City's plan document, it says employees aren't eligible to participate in the retirement program unless they work more than 20 hours (typed) per week or 30 hours (handwritten) per week. We need to clarify which version is correct, 20 or 30 hours. There was a motion by Councilmember Rothwell to change the hours to 29 and send that to GMA, second by Councilmember Simmons. Vote 3 for, 1 abstained. Councilmember Ransom abstained because 29 is not an option on the plan document.

8. Authorize the employment of an individual in the City of Temple Public Works Department in the position of Public Works Maintenance, with responsibilities to include water meter reading and water meter connects and disconnects.

Mayor Harmon recommends Terry Lee Sorrows for the position of Public Works Maintenance. Motion by Councilmember Walden to fill this position, second by Councilmember Simmons. Vote 4-0.

9. Authorize the employment of an individual in the City of Temple Public Works Department in the position of Public Works Maintenance.

Mayor Harmon recommends David Lewis for this position in Public Works Maintenance. Motion by Councilmember Walden to fill this position, second by Councilmember Simmons. Vote 4-0.

10. Authorize the re-employment of one certified officer in the City of Temple Police Department

Mayor Harmon recommends James Thorn to be re-employed as a certified officer in the Temple Police Department. Motion by Councilmember Simmons to rehire Mr. Thorn, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 4-0.

11. Authorize the employment of one certified officer in the City of Temple Police Department

Mayor Harmon stated that this individual works for another police department and his recommendation is pending review of his clean personnel file from that department. Motion by Councilmember Rothwell to hire him, second by Councilmember Simmons. Vote 4-0.

12. Staff report on the City of Temple Police Department's Confiscated Assets Fund (Drug Fund), including replacing a police patrol vehicle recently totaled in an incident on Interstate 20.

Chief Creig Lee reported on the settlement with the insurance company for the vehicle that was wrecked (\$40,000 was put in the drug seizure account for this) and the request to purchase a 2013 Ford Taurus for \$15,000. There was a motion by Councilmember Simmons to purchase the 2013 Taurus for \$15,000, second by Councilmember Ransom. Vote 4-0.

13. Staff report on the City of Temple Police Department's Shop with a Cop program, including the July 23rd Yard Sale

Chief Creig Lee reported that the yard sale was a success and made over \$1,700 from the donations from citizens and businesses.

14. Staff report concerning plans for the removal of two structures in the downtown area which once housed the City of Temple Police Department.

Chief Creig Lee reported that they are trying to get rid of everything from these buildings and have sold half of the items on Gov Deals. They hope to have finalized the sale of everything by the end of the month.

15. Staff report on recent activities at the Sewer Treatment Plant, including the emergency purchase of two pumps.

After a report from Mr. Vernon Harris regarding the need for two pumps (cost \$14,196), Councilmember Ransom mentioned to check the 2004 SPLOST which has money in it to see if this would be a valid expense from that account. There was a motion by Councilmember Simmons to purchase the two pumps, second by Councilmember Walden. Vote 4-0.

16. Staff report concerning the setting of the 2016 millage rate for the City of Temple.

City Administrator William Osborne reported that Carroll county is moving slow and he will have more information on the millage rate at a later date.

17. Staff report concerning the City of Temple's 2016 Fiscal Year Budget and the schedule for the development of the City's 2017 Fiscal Year budget.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that the City is about a week away from having worksheets for the 2017 budget. Councilmember Ransom stated that when starting the budget process, refer back to the charter and capital budget has to be presented before regular budget. She also asked if the account for 2015 SPLOST has been opened and Mr. Osborne said he will have to verify that.

18. Staff report on the City of Temple's agreement with Hixardt Technologies and FOGO Data Centers for certain information technology services, with an August 31st deadline for deciding whether to extend said agreement for another year.

City Attorney Cade Parian stated that there is no reason to extend this agreement and that the City should just let it die.

19. Staff report concerning the City of Temple payroll taxes paid in calendar year 2013.

City Administrator Osborne reported that the City recently received a letter from the IRS stating that the City did not pay as much as we should have in payroll taxes and we owe the IRS approximately \$8,000. Councilmember Ransom stated that it was her understanding that this got paid and settled in 2014. City Attorney Parian said that penalties are negotiable.

**Closing Comments:**

**Howard Walden-** He is excited that four positions were filled tonight

**William Simmons-** none

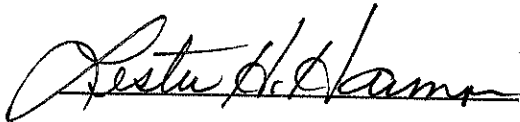
**Penny Ransom-** none

**Todd Rothwell-** none

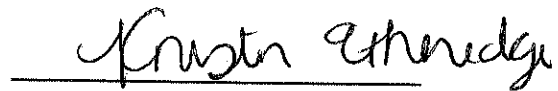
**William Osborne-** received a request from the Chamber of Commerce to have a small ad in their newcomers book and Temple High School would like the City to have an add in their program. Mayor Harmon asked if there are any objections to this, Councilmember Walden said not as long as money is available in the budget.

**Adjournment:**

There was a motion to adjourn by Councilmember Rothwell, second by Councilmember Walden. The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.



Mayor Lester Harmon



City Clerk