

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

Council Members present constituting a quorum:

Mayor Lester Harmon
Richard Bracknell
William Simmons
Penny Ransom
Todd Rothwell
Howard Walden

Call to Order:

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

Invocation:

The invocation was given by Mayor Lester Harmon.

Approval of Minutes:

December 7th 2015 minutes

Councilmember Ransom made a motion to approve as amended and a 2nd by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

December 9th 2015 minutes

Councilmember Bracknell made a motion to approve as amended with a 2nd by Councilmember Walden. Councilmember Ransom abstained due to her not being present during this meeting. Vote 4-0.

January 4th 2016 minutes

Councilmember Walden asked that on page 2 under the visitor section item on the Temple Historical Society concerning waiver of the rental fee to use the Senior Center, the vote was 4-1 with Councilmember Walden opposed. Attorney Parian asked that his name be removed from the list of Council attendees. With these corrections being made, Councilmember Walden made a motion to approve with a 2nd by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

January 19th 2016 minutes

Councilmember Bracknell asked that the special called meeting be identified instead as a work session. With these corrections Councilmember Simmons made a motion to approve with a 2nd by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

January 27th 2016 minutes

Councilmember Bracknell made a motion to approve with a 2nd by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0.

Special Recognition:

Mayor Lester Harmon recognized Police Officer James Wheeler for saving a life during a house fire call on January 20th; Chief Craig Lee presented a Recognition Certificate to Officer James Wheeler.

Visitor:

Visitor (Richard McIntosh) with Crossroads Artisans wanted to let the Mayor and Council know how the organization feels in regards to a meeting in 2015 about Founder's Day; he stated that he felt Councilmember Walden owed the Crossroads Artisans an apology. Mayor Lester Harmon thanked him for his comment.

Visitor (Scott Pickelsimer) told the Mayor and City Council that a verbal agreement was made years ago with a previous Mayor concerning his sewer connection. He said part of the agreement was that the City could run the sewer line through his property at that time and he now wants to see if there is a way to waive the \$4,000 connection fee. After some discussion, Councilmember Bracknell made a motion to amend the agenda to make Scott Pickelsimer's item to be the first item under New Business, with a 2nd by Councilmember Ransom. Vote 5-0.

Public Forum/Citizen Comment Time:

Thomas Rhodes representing David & Barbara Huffman with Westshire Townhomes. He said they want to build more units in this existing development. He believes they already have paid for sewer connections at the address and would like this to be researched. After some discussion, Councilmember Ransom suggested that we determine who the original company was. Councilmember Bracknell suggested Mr. Rhodes set up an appointment with City Administrator Bill Osborne.

Tom Marsee wanted to thank the wonderful officers in the City that helped rescue the family from the fire on Baskin Road. He asked that everyone remember the Brown family in prayer and to see what can be done to help this family.

Old Business:

1. Resolution concerning agreement with Utility Service Partners Private Label Inc.:
Dewayne Eberhart stated he has the agreement ready to be signed. Councilmember Bracknell asked how this would be communicated to the citizens, and Mr. Eberhart advised that the company would send out information at the end of March or early April. There was a motion to approve this resolution by Councilmember Bracknell and a 2nd by Councilmember Ransom. Vote 5-0.
2. Ordinance to amend The City of Temple's Water and Sewer Rate and Structure by adding a \$5.00 per customers month base rate for residential: Attorney Parian read the Ordinance aloud and City Administrator Bill Osborne advised the Mayor and Council that this was a 1st reading. No further discussion.

3. Revise the customers payment and payment arrangements section in the City of Temple Utility Service Policies concerning the disconnection of water service: Attorney Parian advised the Mayor and City Council that he could not find anything where there is a policy currently in place. He recommended he and Mr. Osborne redraft these policies; then at that time if the Mayor and Council would like any changes made, they could do so. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.
4. Amend the City of Temple's Personnel Policies and Procedures concerning discrimination, harassment, and retaliation; compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and its amendments and disciplinary actions, appeals, and grievances: City Attorney Parian stated that the employee handbook needs to be completely redone and then to readopt employee policies and procedures. He advised that he should have something for the Mayor and City Council in about a month. After some discussion, Councilmember Bracknell made a motion to amend the agenda and remove this item from the agenda and there was a 2nd by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0.
5. Updated Report on Downtown Development Authority: Attorney Parian advised that he had sent a letter to Jessica Reynolds of the Georgia Department Community Affairs (DCA) on January 20th 2016 so that DCA's records would reflect that the Temple Downtown Development Authority is the actual DDA for the City of Temple.
6. Updated Report on the Current City Charter: Attorney Parian stated that the memo that he gave to the Mayor or Council in regards to the City Charter is an attorney/client privilege. If there are questions about his memo, he recommended having an executive session. Councilmember Walden asked if the City Charter is a public document, why would it be an attorney/client privilege. Attorney Parian stated this is a memo of the opinion of the City Attorney. Councilmember Walden stated if everyone is in agreement with the memo that Attorney Parian prepared, why an executive session would be necessary. Councilmember Bracknell stated if there are any questions, contact Attorney Parian. No further discussion.

New Business:

1. Pickelsimer Sewer Connection: Scott Pickelsimer wants to see if the current Mayor and City Council will honor an agreement made by a previous Mayor concerning his sewer connection. Councilmember Walden wanted to be sure this would not cost the City any money. Councilmember Bracknell made a motion to honor this agreement as long as it does not cost the City any money with a 2nd by Councilmember Simmons. Vote 5-0.
2. Appoint an Interim City Clerk for the City of Temple: City Administrator Bill Osborne asked that the Mayor and City Council appoint an Interim City Clerk until the position is filled permanently. He stated that he would be glad to serve as City Clerk in addition to his other duties, or to appoint staff members Pam Edwards or Cindy Moore since they are stationed at City Hall. City Administrator Osborne stated that not having someone with that designation and authority could cause some issues for the City of Temple. There was a motion by Councilmember Walden to appoint City Administrator Osborne to this position with a 2nd by Councilmember Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

3. Report on the City of Temple's Inmate Work Detail Agreement with Carroll County: City Administrator Osborne went over the agreement with Carroll County. He advised at this time this agreement is in place and it appears there is no one to fill in when the supervisor is absent from work. Councilmember Ransom asked does this agreement automatically renew. Councilmember Walden stated the renewal date is June 30th; 2016; he also stated there is an option to have a certified employee work with the detail if the supervisor was out. Mayor Harmon stated it seems like the County would have a floater that they could send if the supervisor is out or on vacation. Councilmember Walden said that in the agreement it states that the County will deduct from the bill if they do not send the correct number of inmates, and this should be kept up with. No further discussion.
4. Report on bids being received by the City for the 2016 Recreation Field Maintenance contract, including eight baseball/softball fields and one football: City Administrator Osborne said a copy of the ad was published in the local newspaper and the bids will close on February 2nd 2016 at noon. No further discussion.
5. Report on the City of Sylvania's ordinance to regulate special events: After some discussion, Councilmember Bracknell made a motion to take this off the agenda to let Attorney Parian and City Administrator Osborne work on this with a 2nd by Councilmember Walden. Vote 5-0.
6. Preliminary report on the City of Temple's 2015 Fiscal Year: City Administrator Osborne called attention to brief preliminary reports from fiscal services consultant Sarah Hefty. The SPLOST report included the \$180,000 expenditure that the Mayor and City Council approved last week. Councilmember Ransom asked if anyone had checked to see if two accounts were opened for SPLOST. Councilmember Walden asked if we had received information on SPLOST revenues coming to the City. City Administrator Osborne stated that as soon as he gets this information, he will send out in an email.
7. Report on SPLOST revenues and expenditures for the City of Temple: This topic was combined with number 6 discussion.
8. Report on the Temple Library: City Administrator Osborne stated the Temple Library is a wonderful addition to the downtown area; and long term he would expect it to be one of the anchors for future development of the central business district. Roni L. Tewksbury director of the West Georgia Regional Library plans to have a special grand opening and program at the library in February and would like to do this on a date when the Mayor and City Council can attend. He said Ms. Tewksbury is hopeful that at some point during this year, the Temple government can provide some operating funds for the library. He said she realizes that the City does not have the library in the current budget, but wanted to let the Mayor and City Council know there may be some discussion later in the year about this. Councilmember Ransom suggested the grand opening could be combined with the Georgia Cities Week.
9. Report on proposed resolution for the City of Temple's participation in Georgia Cities week on April 17th-April 23rd 2016: City Administrator Osborne presented a memo from GMA about the Georgia Cities Week. He would like the Mayor and Council to look over this; and if there are any suggestions, let him know. At the next meeting in March, this resolution will be presented.
10. Report on insurance liability coverage, including events in the City Park: City Administrator Osborne reported on a meeting with a representative from J. Smith

Lanier & Co. about liability coverage at the recreation center. This will be discussed more in next month's meeting; then if any changes need to be considered, the City Council can do so at that time.

11. Updated report concerning staffing for fiscal services and code enforcement services in the City of Temple: City Administrator Osborne is continuing to work with the City of Villa Rica in an effort to determine if an intergovernmental agreement could be developed to assist the City of Temple with fiscal services and code enforcement services. More detailed information should be ready for the next meeting, enabling the Mayor and City Council to decide whether to pursue this or not.

Department Heads:

Department Head Dewayne Eberhart with public works had a concerned parent contact him in regards to a limb falling down on the street near Temple Elementary School. He obtained an estimate of \$1,850.00 to remove the trees. He also wanted to let the Mayor and City Council know that he spoke with a representative from Waste Industries about the dumpsters he discussed at the previous City Council meeting, and said they advised him the 1st three hauls will be free; then it would be \$100.00 per haul and \$30.00 per ton. He passed out flyers for this proposed Community Clean-up so the Mayor and City Council could give their recommendation on the event. Councilmember Walden would like to know when the contract with Waste Industries will expire.

Concerning the City Council's special called meeting held January 27th regarding the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant, Mr. Osborne said cancelled checks and other information requested by the State was provided on Friday, January 29th.

Mr. Osborne stated that he talked with the auditors and they should have the copies of 2014 audit report ready by February 18. When he requests a special called meeting of the City Council be held at that same meeting, he said he would ask that the Mayor and City Council do the 2nd reading on the proposed new \$5.00 base charge on residential water rates.

He advised the Mayor and City Council that the City is still taking applications and resumes for the City Clerk position; the deadline will be February 18th 2016.

Mr. Osborne stated that he realizes competitive quotes usually are required for any purchase with a cost of \$2,500.00 or higher; however, he felt an exception should be made for the annual renewal fee for the tag readers on police patrol vehicles. There was no objection to paying this renewal fee.

Mr. Osborne reported that the United Methodist Church is planning its annual Easter Egg Hunt and wants to be certain to avoid a direct time conflict with any Easter weekend event the City of Temple might be planning. Following a brief discussion, Mayor Harmon said he would appoint a special committee to plan the City's Easter weekend activities, including any jointly sponsored Easter Egg Hunt.

Police Chief Craig Lee handed out his monthly statistical reports and let the Mayor and Council know he is still in process of getting bids for new cars and is still looking for body cameras for the officers. Councilmember Walden asked what kind of cars they are looking at; Chief Lee said Ford Sedans.

Council Comments and Adjournment:

Following brief comments by some City Council members and there being no further discussion, there was a motion by Councilmember Bracknell to adjourn and a 2nd by Councilmember Walden at 8:08pm. Vote 5-0.

Lester Harmon, Mayor

William D. Osborne, City Clerk