

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**November 6, 2023**  
**6:30 PM, Municipal Court Room in the Gym**  
**MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Mayor Michael Johnson.

All Council Members are Present: Richard Bracknell, Alexis Boles, Casey Russom, Howard Walden, Tom Wallace

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Mayor Michael Johnson.

**Approve the published agenda of this date's City Council meeting, as presented:** There was a motion

**Approval of Minutes:**

October 2, 2023 Council Meeting

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the October 2, 2023 minutes, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 4-0. Council Member Walden abstained.

October 19, 2023 Special Called Meeting

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the October 19, 2023 minutes, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 4-0. Council Member Boles abstained.

**Public Comments:** N/A

**Announcements**

City Administrator Bill Osborne reminded everyone to go and vote tomorrow.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the consent agenda (items one and two below), second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

1. Authorize City Recreation Director Ingrid McKinley to issue a new Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Temple City Park Security System, with a proposal due date of December 1.

2. Amend the original installation sequence for the City of Temple's major sewer line construction project with F. S. Scarbrough, LLC of Fayetteville for this Sewerage System Improvements - Williams Mill Creek Interceptor Upgrade in order for work on Division Three of this project – which includes that section of the sewer line located on the campus of the Temple High School – to begin approximately one month following the conclusion of the school's 2023 football season.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Hold a public hearing and then consider taking action on the request to the City of Temple from Ridge Cole with Southern Ridge Homes, LLC, for a preliminary plat approval for a residential development of six townhomes on a 1.08-acre tract at 501 Windy Mill Way, being Parcel #T04 0080128 in Land Lot 169, District 6.

Mike Forlaw was present at the meeting to represent the applicant, Ridge Cole. He explained that they are requesting preliminary plat approval for a residential development of six townhomes on a 1.08 acre tract at 501 Windy Mill Way. Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. It was confirmed that the engineer had already reviewed and approved the plat, no comments were sent back. The plat has also been reviewed by the Fire Chief. There was no one else present to speak for or against this request. The public hearing was closed.

There was a motion by Council Member Russom to approve the request from Ridge Cole with Southern Ridge Homes, LLC, for preliminary plat approval for a residential development of six town homes at 501 Windy Mill Way, being Parcel #T04 0080128 in Land Lot 169, District 6, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

2. Hold a public hearing and then consider taking action on the request to the City of Temple from Imogene Moore of Moore's Furniture for the annexation into the City of Temple of a 3-acre tract at 980 Carrollton Highway / Georgia Highway adjacent to the city limits of Temple just south of Interstate 20, being Parcel #1250292 in Land Lot 117, District 2, in unincorporated Carroll County

The applicant, Imogen Moore of Moore's Furniture was present at the meeting. She explained that Quick Trip is wanting an easement for the sewer line. They will grant them the easement but they have to be a part of the City to do so. Moore's Furniture will tap into the sewer system also. Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. There was no one else present to speak for or against this request. The public hearing was closed.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the request from Imogene Moore of Moore's Furniture for the annexation into the City Parcel #1250292 in Land Lot 117, District 2, in unincorporated Carroll County, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

3. Adopt an Ordinance to amend Section 2.06.05 of the City of Temple's Development Code to increase the minimum roadway width of local streets from the current 24' to a new minimum roadway width of 28'.

Council Member Russom clarified that this measurement is from the back of the curb to the back of the curb. There was a motion by Council Member Russom to adopt an ordinance to amend Section 2.06.05 of the City's Development Code to increase the minimum roadway width of local streets from the current 24' to a new minimum roadway width of 28'.

4. Adopt an ordinance to amend Section 16-100 to include required language regarding waste control at construction sites, an EPD requirement for MS4 inspections.

Assistant City Administrator Lisa Jacobson explained that this is an EPD requirement for MS4 that needs to be added to the ordinance and adopted. There was a motion by Council Member Wallace to adopt an ordinance to amend section 16-100 to include required language regarding waste control at construction sites, an EPD requirement for MS4 inspections, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

5. Authorize the purchase by the City Public Works Department of a Skid Steer from Mason Tractor in the amount of \$27,306.43 to be funded from 2021 SPLOST.

Public Works Director Joshua Smith explained that the price includes a \$42,500 trade in value on the current skid steer. He was able to get multiple quotes from Haney Farm, Mason Tractor and Caterpillar; Mason Tractor had the best price.

There was a motion by Council Member Wallace to accept the quote of \$27,306.43 from Mason Tractor and to trade in the 249 Skid Steer that the City owns, with the funding to come from 2021 SPLOST, second by Council Member Russom. Vote 5-0.

6. Authorize the purchase of an ATV by the City Sewer Treatment Plant Department.

Sewer Plant Director Jimmy Jenkins explained that he has three quotes for the ATV, from Tractor Supply, Home Depot and Lowes. The bid from Lowes is the best value, with the price being \$11,100, which is lower than the \$12,000 that was budgeted for it.

There was a motion by Council Member Wallace to accept the \$11,100 bid from Lowes to purchase the ATV which was included in the capital budget, second from Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

7. Authorize the purchase of a truck by the City Sewer Treatment Plant Department.

Sewer Plant Director Jimmy Jenkins explained that he is waiting on two more quotes before he can proceed. There will be no action taken on this item tonight. There was a brief discussion about purchasing vehicles in the future, and possibly looking at leasing vehicles or purchasing all of the vehicles needed at one time to be more cost effective. City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that we could look into these options in the future.

8. Receive a report on the planned establishment of the 20 - 27 Corridor Joint Development Authority involving the local governments and development organizations in Carroll County, Haralson County, and Heard County; then, consider approval of the expenditure of \$3,900.00 as the City of Temple's proportionate share of the cost of contracting with Boyette Strategic Advisors for services to establish this new regional economic development initiative.

Mayor Johnson explained the Joint Development Authority which is being established and would include local governments in Carroll, Haralson and Heard counties. Temple would potentially be one of ten entities participating in and helping to fund this authority which would aid in future economic growth and development. The Mayor's goal is to participate in the financial aspect of this and for Temple to be vigorously represented.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the expenditure of \$3,900 as the City of Temple's proportionate share of the cost of contracting with Boyette Strategic Advisors for services to establish this new regional economic development initiative, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 4-0. Council Member Russom abstained.

9. Approve an increase in the City of Temple's Corporate Credit Card account limit up to \$50,000 with Synovus Bank.

Council Member Walden explained that this had been discussed extensively at the Committees meeting.

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the increase of the City's Corporate Credit Card limit with Synovus Bank to \$50,000, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

10. If the City Council approves an increase in the City of Temple's Corporate Credit Card account limit with Synovus Bank, adopt the Synovus Borrowing Resolution pertaining to this local government's Corporate credit card account limit amount.

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to adopt the Synovus Borrowing Resolution pertaining to the City's Corporate credit card account limit, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

11. Review information from the Carroll County Water Authority (CCWA) and the City's Finance Department concerning current water rates and sewer rates, followed by a preliminary discussion concerning any possible rate changes for 2024.

Council Member Walden explained that Assistant City Administrator Lisa Jacobson has provided everyone with the water and sewer rates of surrounding municipalities for comparison. He said it was his understanding that they do not have to take action tonight, but they need to compare and see where we need to go from here. Financial Consultant Rick Hartley had also provided a five year schedule of revenues and expenses. When comparing the rates of other municipalities, it was shown that Temple currently has the lowest base rates. Council Member Walden explained that everyone in Carroll County pays the same wholesale water rate except for Villa Rica who has a 20 year contract that expires in 2025. They pay a much lower rate because of a contract that was negotiated over 20 years ago.

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that for the last five years the rates have increased. Council Member Russom stated that in the last 3-4 years, when the county has increase the rates, the Council has elected to absorb the cost and not raise the rates for citizens. It was decided that the rates would be discussed further at a Special Called Meeting which will take place in the next couple of weeks.

12. Report on the receipt of the remaining financial documents completed and sent to the City's auditing firm Will Robinson, CPA, LLC.

Financial Consultant Rick Hartley explained that the auditing firm has everything that they need as of today. He will touch base with them tomorrow and make sure to get back on their schedule. Hopefully by the next meeting we will be where we need to be.

13. Report and recommendation from consultant Rick Hartley concerning the transfer of certain funds into a money market or other interest-earning account.

Financial Consultant Rick Hartley explained that he has reached out to a couple of banks. American Commerce currently has a money market rate of 4.62%. He has started doing the RFP for banking services. He would like to get that done first to make it more competitive. He said he could get the RFP out in the next couple of weeks.

14. Report on current staff work to prepare one or two applications to be considered by the Mayor and City Council for submission to the Norfolk Southern Corporation prior to that organization's November 15 deadline for the purpose of obtaining funds from Norfolk Southern through its Safety First grant program and/or its Thriving Communities grant program.

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that there are a couple of different grant programs and we are looking at both of the applications. The deadline is coming up soon. He said that in talking with Norfolk Southern it was determined that the safety grant would be a max of \$40,000 and the community economic development grant would be up to \$150,000. We hope to be able to apply for both of these grants.

15. In accordance with the "Civility resolution" promoted by the Georgia Municipal Association and adopted by the Temple City Council on April 10, a brief presentation on the resolution's final pledge which states that "the City of Temple expects members of the public to be civil in their discussion of matters under consideration by and before the Temple City Council, as well as with elected officials, staff, and each other."

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that over the last seven months he has been providing the Council with a one page report regarding Civility. Council Member Walden stated that Mr. Osborne has done a fine job putting the civility reports together.

16. Authorize the City Administrator to provide the Georgia Municipal Association Executive Director with a copy of the seven separate printed presentations approved by this City Council in 2023 in accordance with GMA's initiative to establish a special "City of Civility" designation, which has been achieved by the City of Temple.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to authorize the City Administrator to provide the Georgia Municipal Association Executive Director with a copy of the seven civility presentations that were approved by the Council this year, second by Council Member Boles. Vote 5-0.

17. Report on the special recognition of the City of Temple Recreation Department and some of its staff members, which was made during the City Council's November 30 series of committee meetings.

Mayor Michael Johnson explained that the Temple Recreation Department was recognized at the meeting last Monday night. They received three different awards from GRPA; we are grateful to the department for a job well done.

18. Report on plans for City of Temple government operations during the Thanksgiving Weekend.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that City offices would be closed on November 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

19. Set the date for the City Council's regular monthly voting meeting in December 2023, as well as the date for the City Council's series of committee meetings, which usually are held a week prior to the regular monthly voting meeting.

It was decided that the dates for the next voting and committees meetings would be determined at a Special Called Meeting next week.

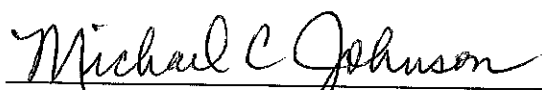
#### **Closing Comments**

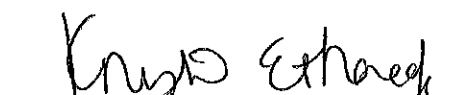
Tom Wallace- He reminded everyone to vote tomorrow.

Howard Walden- Get out and exercise your right to vote. Saturday is Veterans Day, get out and thank a veteran.

**Executive Session, if needed - N/A**

**Adjournment:** There was a motion to adjourn by Council Member Bracknell, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:25PM.

  
Mayor Michael Johnson

  
City Clerk