**Sandersville City Council**

**Working Session Minutes**

**August 5, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.**

Council Members and City Employees present:

Mayor Jimmy Andrews Bryan Long, Electric Director

Mayor Jeffery Smith Victor Cuyler, Police Chief

Council Member Ben Salter Alex Lowe, Water/Wastewater Director

Council Member Deborah Brown Kandice Hartley, City Clerk

Council Member Mayme Dennis-call in Dave Larson, Community Development

Council Member Danny Brown Carson Daley, DDA / Mainstreet Director

Sharon Eveland, City Manager

Keenan Howard, City Attorney

Mayor Andrews called the August 5, 2024 Working Session of the Sandersville City Council to order at 4:00 p.m.

Recognitions:

Mayor Andrews recognized Zack Webb owner of the new short term rental house The Lawson House.

Department Reports:

Electric Director Bryan Long explained that the electric crew would be installing lamp post around the school property at Brentwood School. Director Long went on to say that the request is on the regular agenda and Brentwood’s would cover the expenses for the materials and the school would pay a monthly charge for the lamp post.

Water Wastewater Director Alex Lowe explained there was a 6-inch water main break on Smith St. and that a water restriction had to be put in place but has now since been lifted. Director Lowe stated the reason was due to the line being old. Mayor Pro Tem Smith stated that the line has been repaired several times and after all the repairs we probably could have replaced the line. Manager Eveland explained moving forward that we need to make investments in our infrastructure instead of having all these rehabs and how we can match up the worse of the roads with the worst of the infrastructure so that we are allocating funds for these projects. Director Lowe explained money was originally put in a CIP for a 22,00 lateral hanger vac truck and instead would like permission to apply those funds to a pump for the vac truck. Director Lowe explained that it would be more beneficial for him to have the pump for the vac truck. Director Lowe stated that they only had one bid for the two lift stations one at the jail house and one at Laurel Acres and the bid came in over budget. City Manager Eveland explained that since we only had one bid and it was $330,000 over budget the city could rebid the project or the city could split the overage between ARPA funds and the water sewer fund. City Manager Eveland asked the council which direction would they like to take on either rebidding it or moving forward once the engineering firm reviews. Council then discussed and decided the engineer should review and if they feel comfortable then move forward with awarding at the next council meeting.

Community Development Director Larson explained the variance request was for a carport to be placed closer to the property line than the minimum required distance. Director Larson also explained that the fire code minimum for carport to be built next to a fence is 5 feet and currently they are 3 feet. Director Larson explained he recommended denying the request due to having to follow the guidelines that are in place. Director Larson explained that there would only be 3 feet between the fence and carport. City Manager Eveland explained that her recommendation was to deny the request because variance ordinances are in place for a reason and there should be a hardship or something unique about the land and that variances do not need to be given due to convenience. City Manager Eveland explained that there needs to be a justification that extends beyond convenience. Council then had discussion about approving with conditions to see if the homeowners could modify what they are wanting to do with the carport.

Carson Daley, DDA/Mainstreet Director stated there will be a regional meeting that will be at the Chamber on September 12th. Director Daley also stated there was an item on the regular agenda to ask for open containers for the September 14th concert on the square.

City Manager Eveland stated that the procurement policy and ordinance is on the agenda again and that a separate meeting with everyone’s schedule didn’t work out this past week. Former Finance Director Wiley is present to answer questions. Reviewing key points in the policy pointing out that this policy will provide more flexibility to the staff but would maintaining safe guards. City Manager Eveland went on to say that there are a lot of operating functions that are delayed due to the purchasing restrictions and the policy will allow things to move quicker. City Manager Eveland explained that this policy and ordinance has been presented at two other meetings to give time for everyone to review along with a memo outlining key changes throughout the policy. City Manager Eveland explained she would start providing a monthly register of expenditures for the council to see so they council could still see where the money is going. Council Member Dennis stated she was still concerned because the council would get a report after the money has been spent. City Manager Eveland said that she and Attorney Howard are still working on some final changes so they would make those changes and bring back to the next council meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Smith explained that the policy would allow the city staff to move forward on purchasing things that have already been approved in the annual budget and that is clearer to him now. Council Member Dennis explained that she felt things still need to come before the council. City Manager Eveland explained the policy more and the council had discussion.

Attorney Howard updated the council on easements that he has been working on for the Tybee sidewalk project. Mayor Pro Tem Smith questioned the status of the easement for Council Member Dennis property on Oak St. Council Member Dennis stated that the survey is being done next.

Mayor Andrews announced that he attended the GA Hi-Lo groundbreaking ceremony and it was a success.

City Manager Eveland stated that the she has received word from MEAG that the transformer for cleanspark was ready.

**Sandersville City Council
Meeting Minutes**

**August 5, 2024- 5:00 p.m.**

Council Members and City Employees present

Mayor Jimmy Andrews Bryan Long, Electric Director

Mayor Jeffery Smith Victor Cuyler, Police Chief

Council Member Ben Salter Alex Lowe, Water/Wastewater Director

Council Member Deborah Brown Kandice Hartley, City Clerk

Council Member Mayme Dennis-call in Dave Larson, Community Development

Council Member Danny Brown Carson Daley, DDA / Mainstreet Director

Sharon Eveland, City Manager

Keenan Howard, City Attorney

Mayor Andrews called the August 5, 2024, meeting of the Sandersville City Council to order at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith gave the invocation and Water/Wastewater Director Alex Lowe the pledge to the American Flag.

**Approval of Minutes: July 11, 2024 and July 15, 2024 Minutes**

Council Member Deborah Brown made a motion to approve the July 11, 2024 and July 15, 2024 minutes as written. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. (Attachment A)

**Public Hearing:**

Request 2024-06; Request is a zoning variance for an accessory structure to be placed closer than the 10 foot required setback from the property line. The property is located at 431 Moye Dr., parcel S31-014, owned by Glenda Sauerhoefer. (Attachment B)

Mayor Andrews asked if anyone was present at the meeting to speak in favor or in opposition the variance request. There were no comments from the public.

**Motion to approve variance request 2024-06 with conditions;**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith made a motion to make a conditional approval for a 5 ft set back variance not a 10ft for Variance Request 2024-06, located at 431 Moye Dr., parcel S31-014. Council Member Danny Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Rescind Variance Request 2024-06:**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith made a motion to rescind a conditional approval for a 5 ft set back variance not a 10ft for variance request 2024-06, located at 431 Moye Dr. parcel S31-014. Council Member Danny Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Council Members had discussion back and forth and ultimately decided to table the decision.

**Table Request 2024-06:**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith made a motion to table variance request 2024-06; located at 431 Moye Dr. parcel S31-014. Council Member Danny Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Brentwood Lighting Project**

Council Member Danny Brown made a motion to authorize the purchase of supplies to complete lighting project for Brentwood School in the amount of $45,619.51. Council Member Dennis seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment C)

**Ordinance 2024-02 & Purchasing Policy:**

Council Member Deborah Brown made a motion to table the second reading of and adopt ordinance 2024-02: An ordinance amending the City of Sandersville, Georgia municipal code regarding finance procedures related to procurement along with the purchasing policy. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment D & E)

**Library Board Appointment:**

Council Member Dennis made a motion to appoint Cathy Mayberry to the Washington County Library Board to fill the unexpired term of Kelli Smith expiring on December 31, 2026. Council Member Danny Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment F)

**Open Containers:**

Council Member Salter made a motion to allow open containers for the September 14th concert on the square. Mayor Pro Tem Smith seconded and the motion passed with favorable votes from: Mayor Pro Tem Jeffery Smith, Council Member Ben Salter, Council Member Danny Brown, and Council Member Deborah Brown. Council Member Dennis voted against the motion.

**Jet-Vac Equipment Company LLC**

Council Member Deborah Brown made a motion to approve a quote in the amount of $25,690.86 to Jet-Vac Equipment Company LLC to add a trash pump to the back of the Vac-Truck. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment G)

**Executive Session:**

Council Member Danny Brown made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss real estate matters. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Dura-Line**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith made a motion to reimburse Dura-Line in the amount of $192,782 for code-specific required upgrades to the Dura-Line building that the city owns. Council Member Danny Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

Council Member Salter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Dennis seconded and the motion passed unanimously adjourned.

 Jimmy Andrews, Mayor

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 Kandice Hartley, City Clerk

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