**Sandersville City Council**

**Working Session Minutes**

**November 4, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.**

Council Members and City Employees present:

Mayor Pro Tem Jeffery Smith Alex Lowe, Water Director

Council Member Mayme Dennis Victor Cuyler, Police Chief

Council Member Deborah Brown Brian Shelton, Deputy Chief of Police

Council Member Danny Brown Carson Daley, Mainstreet and DDA Director

Council Member Ben Salter Dave Larson, Community Development

Antonio White, Public Works Field Supervisor

Sharon Eveland, City Manager

Keenan Howard, City Attorney

Mayor Pro Tem Smith called the November 4, 2024 Working Session of the Sandersville City Council to order at 4:00 p.m.

Department Reports

Community Development Director Dave Larson explained that a special exception was on the regular agenda to allow a manufactured home to be placed in a R-2 zone at 309 Pine Forest Dr. Director Larson stated the home owner is aware of the mobile home standards and is in compliance. Director Larson stated that there has been federal updates concerning new construction of wireless communication towers, and he would like to recommend the city imposing a moratorium on issuing permits.

Mainstreet and DDA Director Caron Daley announced that the city has been awarded the Rural Zone designation by the Department of Community Affairs. Director Daley went on to explain that this process was a very long process that began even before her time with the city. Director Daley went on to explain the benefits of the designation including that beginning in January 2025 new business may qualify to claim tax credits. City Manager Sharon Eveland commended Director Daley for hard work throughout the process and thanked Jayson Johnston Executive Director of the Development Authority of Washington County for assisting throughout the process as well.

City Manager Eveland reviewed agenda items beginning with the annual incentive payment recommendations. City Manager Eveland presented the recommendations to the council, the council then had discussion and ultimately decided that they wanted the first tier of the recommended plan to begin with service time less than one year instead of 0-6 months. City Manager Eveland then reviewed with the council on recommended updates to the pay plan for 2025. City Manager Eveland explained the purpose of implementing the plan and that instead of employees receiving a COLA and a step increase this year that the new pay plan would be implementing. City Manager Eveland explained that every employee would get a 5.5% - 6.5% increase depending on where they are on the scale which was close to what the COLA and step increase resulted in last year. Council members asked questions and had discussion regarding the new plan. Council Member Dennis expressed concern about changing the pay scale before completing the pay study that the city was currently conducting. City Manager Eveland explained that the pay plan would not be completed in time to implement before the budget and she has already based the budget numbers on this recommended scale, City Manager Eveland explained that after the pay study is officially completed the plan would be adjusted based on the data received from the study.

City Attorney Keenan Howard passed out a resolution that he has worked with Attorney Brandon Bowing to stay in compliance with federal law while still being able to stay in compliance with the towers on explained that currently there is an issue.

**Sandersville City Council
Meeting Minutes**

**November 4, 2024- 5:00 p.m.**

Council Members and City Employees present:

Mayor Pro Tem Jeffery Smith Alex Lowe, Water Director

Council Member Mayme Dennis Victor Cuyler, Police Chief

Council Member Deborah Brown Brian Shelton, Deputy Chief of Police

Council Member Danny Brown Carson Daley, Mainstreet and DDA Director

Council Member Ben Salter Dave Larson, Community Development

Antonio White, Public Works Field Supervisor

Sharon Eveland, City Manager

Keenan Howard, City Attorney

Mayor Pro Tem Smith called the November 4, 2024, meeting of the Sandersville City Council to order at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith, gave the invocation and Police Chief Cuyler led the pledge to the American Flag.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Council Member Deborah Brown made a motion to approve the October 21, 2024 Minutes. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. (Attachment A)

**Public Hearing:**

Council Member Danny Brown made a motion to enter into a public hearing and Council Member Dennis seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Request #2024-09; Request is a special exception request to allow a manufactured home to be placed in a R-2 zone (single family residence). The property is located at 309 Pine Forest Dr., Sandersville, GA 31082, parcel# 110C-021, owned by Tina Butts.

Community Development Director Dave Larson stated that the staff recommendation is to approve the request. Director Larson went on to explain there are other mobile homes in the neighborhood and that the mobile home meets all mobile home standards required for the R-2 zone.

Natallie Wiley of Wiley Homes spoke in favor of the special exception stating that Ms. Butts was purchasing the mobile home from her. Wiley went on to assure the council that she was aware of the city requirements for mobile homes and the one that Ms. Butts has chosen meets all required standards.

Council Member Danny Brown made a motion to enter into regular session and council Member Dennis seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Request # 2024-09- Special Exception**

Council Member Deborah Brown made a motion to approve Request #2024-09; Request is a special exception request to allow a manufactured home to be placed in a R-2 zone (single family residence). The property is located at 309 Pine Forest Dr., Sandersville, GA 31082, parcel# 110C-021, owned by Tina Butts. Council Member Mayme Dennis seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**2024 Year End Incentive**

Council Member Salter made a motion to approve the recommended 2024 year-end incentive pay for employees as set forth in attachment C with changing the first tier from 0-6 months to less than 1 year of service & part-time to $500 and 1year – 5 years to $1,000. Council Member Danny Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**2025 Pay Plan**

Council Member Ben Salter made a motion to approve the 2025 pay plan. Council Member Danny Brown seconded and the motion passed with favorable votes from Council Member Ben Salter, Council Member Danny Brown, and Council Member Deborah Brown. Council Member Dennis voted against the motion.

**Resolution 2024-20- Moratorium**

Council Member Dennis made a motion to adopt Resolution # 2024-20: A Resolution of the City of Sandersville, Georgia imposing a moratorium barring the issuance of permits and barring the acceptance of applications for special use exceptions, zone changes, and building permits for new construction of wireless communication devices, infrastructure, facilities, and cellular towers in the City of Sandersville. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Debris Removal IGA**

Council Member Salter made a motion to ratify the amended intergovernmental agreement with Washington County Board of Commissioners for emergency storm debris removal and management services. Council Member Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Linton Park IGA**

Council Member Danny Brown made a motion to approve the amended intergovernmental agreement with Washington County for the Linton Park expansion. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Kaolin Festival**

Council Member Danny Brown made a motion to allow open containers for the Kaolin Festival. Council Member Ben Salter seconded and the motion passed with favorable votes from Council Ben Salter, Member Danny Brown, and Council Member Deborah Brown. Council Member Dennis voted against the motion.

**Public Comment**

none

**Executive Session**

Council Member Deborah Brown made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel and real estate. Council Member Dennis seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Regular Session**

Council Member Debroah Brown made a motion to enter back into regular session. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Storm Response Pay**

Council Member Ben Salter made a motion to authorize storm response pay for salary employees. Council Member Dennis seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

Council Member Salter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Danny Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

 Jeffery Smith, Mayor Pro Tem

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Kandice Hartley, City Clerk

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Date