



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

May 10, 2011, 6:30 pm

Call to Order: The May 10, 2011 Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor David L. Jordan at 6:30 pm.

Attendance: Mayor David L. Jordan, Larry Bowen, Kenneth Roach, Mayor Pro-Tem Keith Turman, Wayne Braswell, Matt Fields, Clark Williams, City Manager Greg Scott, City Attorney Associate Patrick Dollar, and City Clerk Gloria Brown.

Approval of All Outstanding Minutes: Wayne Braswell made a motion to approve the April 12, 2011 Regular Council Meeting minutes; Keith Turman seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

Additions or Deletions to Agenda:

1. Salvage Yard on Jordan St. – Carol Cochran, representing Lounell Martin (Mother) of 595 Jordan Street, Royston, GA.
2. Grass Cutting and Code Issues – Keith Turman

Approval of Agenda: Keith Turman made a motion to approve the agenda; Wayne Braswell seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

DDA Update - Ryan Swails: Ryan advised that the Royston DDA sponsored booth at the Senior Expo was very well attended; the DDA tee shirt is finished and will go on sale this week at the Welcome Center and several of the businesses in town-and thanks to Kenneth Roach for his assistance on the tee shirts; the DDA is continuing work on façade grants and design; updates are being made to the website; promotion committee continues work on the upcoming Car Show and volunteers are needed; Candy Ross hoping to arrange a group of people from Royston to visit Milledgeville business owners for successful ideas; hoping to add DDA Board members over the next few months and volunteers.

Announcements: Mayor Jordan advised that John VanBrunt with Georgia DCA was here on Monday to discuss the Economic Opportunity Zone and encouraged Royston to also seek an Urban Renewal Plan as well. He mentioned several other possible grants and is willing to assist Royston in any way. Senator Isakson's aid toured Royston today in both successful areas and areas needing work, such as the intersection of Highway 17 and 281; we hope this visit will give us more visibility in the Senator's office. A ribbon cutting was held this morning for "You Never Know Variety" and was very well attended.

New Business:

- A. Appointment to Library Board due to Vacancy – Mayor Jordan:** There has been a resignation from the library board and Mayor Jordan advised that Rita Shoemaker is willing to fill this spot. Kenneth Roach made a motion to approve; Matt fields seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Mayor Jordan also advised Council that the Royston Library is #2 on the State's list for funding in FY2012.
- B. Standards Foundation/Safety Check Program – Greg Scott:** Greg advised Council that the number of persons signed up for this service has dropped to 11; the City pays \$4,300.00 per year or approximately

\$440.00/per person with only 11 persons now being served. Greg asked Council to reconsider this program for something more affordable and a one-time purchase rather than an annual cost and/or the police department dispatchers can possibly be utilized for this. Greg also asked Council that the Standards Foundation be paid at a prorated amount. In checking on several options, Greg feels that a self-contained, ongoing system can be purchased for around \$6,000.00. Keith Turman made a motion to pay the Standards Foundation at a prorated amount and to keep the funds available in budget for a future system; Clark Williams seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

- C. FY2012 Library Budget Request – Cheryl Slater, Co-Chair Library Board:** Ms. Slater advised Council that the Library Board is asking for additional funds for library operation for the FY2012 budget in order to give the staff a small increase and for additional funds to purchase books. Mayor Jordan asked the City Clerk to note this during the upcoming budget work session.
- D. Comments and Citizen Advisory – Larry Bowen:** Larry advised Council that a few weeks ago a citizen noticed an uprooted tree had fallen on a power line while she was walking in the area and advised Larry of this. Larry thanked city personnel in the Street and Police departments and Georgia Power for their quick response in taking care of this problem.
- E. Fund Balance Policy (GASB Statement 54) – Wayne Braswell:** Wayne advised Council that this policy is required for the City to be in compliance with the Georgia Accounting Standards Board and makes a motion to approve the policy; Larry Bowen seconded the motion; Mayor Jordan asked City Clerk if this interfered with transferring funds from the enterprise funds to the General Fund and the City Clerk stated that it did not; motion carried 6-0.
- F. Voting Delegate for GMA Annual Business Meeting – Mayor Jordan:** Mayor Jordan advised that a voting delegate needs to be appointed and a flag bearer also for the upcoming GMA Convention in June. Clark Williams made a motion for the Mayor to be the flag bearer; Keith Turman seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Keith Turman volunteered to be the voting delegate. Larry Bowen made a motion for Keith Turman to appointed as the voting delegate; Clark Williams seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.
- G. Wastewater Treatment RFP – Greg Scott:** Greg advised Council that RFP's were mailed out for an opportunity to improve and extend the life of the waste water treatment ponds/process. Two bid proposals were received and he feels that the best suited proposal was from Absolute Aeration, LLC/Blue Frog System. Butch Watson and Keith Turman made a trip to Nebraska to evaluate and see this system in operation. Keith Turman advised that he was very impressed and believes this system would save the City a lot of money in the future; this system digest sludge and will eliminate the process of sludge removal and increase capacity. We would be the first City in the Southeast to install the system and have the ability to host other areas to visit and look at the system in operation. Butch advised that all questions were promptly answered and he has no doubts that the system will do the job. We will have an electrical expenditure of around \$25,000.00 above the cost of the system. Butch also advised that this system also lowers the BOD and suspended particles as well as improvements in other areas. The EPD is familiar with the system and we would need to write them a letter with what we propose to do and what we hope to accomplish. Greg advised that this should be a quick payback and that the system is guaranteed to work or our money will be returned; he also suggested that we have a response from the letter to EPD prior to signing a contract. Keith added that the system they looked at had been in operation since 2006, it is all natural – no chemicals and they have had no maintenance issues. The City will receive a 25% discount of the 3 phase system if we a 1st in the State of Georgia to sign a contract. Gloria advised that the Water/Sewer remaining SPLOST will be used for the down payment and the remaining amount will be loaned from a general fund CD to the Water/Sewer department. Kenneth Roach made a motion for Greg and Butch to proceed as presented including amending the budget, approval of SPLOST, and the loan to the Water/Sewer fund; Clark Williams seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0/
- H. Nomination for Park City Advisory Board – Greg Scott:** Greg advised Council that Jared Hightower and Ryan Swails have agreed to serve on this board and Keith Turman advised that Barry McGlockling is also interested. Kenneth Roach made a motion to accept all three; Keith Turman seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

- I. Park Name - Greg Scott:** Greg advised Council that 70% of the votes for naming the park came for “Royston Wellness and Community Park. Keith Turman made a motion to make this the official name of the park; Matt Fields seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Greg advised that a grand opening will be held on a potential date of June 13, 2011.
- J. GMA District 2 Officer Ballot – Greg Scott:** Keith Turman made a motion to vote for the GMA nomination of officers; Clark Williams seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.
- K. Salvage Yard on Jordan Street – Carol Cochran:** Ms. Cochran expressed appreciation for what Mayor and Council accomplish for the City. Ms. Cochran advised Council that her mother has suffered with having to look at this eyesore for many years and pictures were shown. Ms. Cochran asked Council what can be done to have this salvage yard removed. Discussion held. Keith Turman commented that the City does have ordinances in place and a city-wide enforcement needs to be done. The issues with these type instances will be actively researched and handled within legal limits.
- L. Grass Cutting and Code Issues – Keith Turman:** Keith advised Council of several areas of annual problems with grass cutting, skunk infestation, etc. and that Capt. Daniel Ankerich advised him that he has had no response in over a year as to who owns this property. Discussion held. Greg advised that the City can cleanup/cut grass with 14 days of mailing a certified letter and bill the responsible party for the work. Further discussion held.

Old Business: None

Executive Session: Keith Turman made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel; Kenneth Roach seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0; executive session entered at 7:50 p.m...

Kenneth Roach made a motion to reopen the meeting at 8:03 pm; Wayne Braswell seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

Adjourn: Wayne Braswell made a motion to adjourn; Kenneth Roach seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0; meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Gloria A. Brown, City Clerk/CFO

Mayor David L. Jordan

(SEAL)

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