

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held at Dublin City Hall, on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 5:30 P.M.

Mayor Joshua Kight called the meeting to order. Council members Bill Brown, Bennie Jones, Tess Godfrey, Sara Kolbie, Paul Griggs, Chris Smith, and Rich Mascaro were present. The invocation was given by Ms. Sonya May Calvin, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 4, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

A motion was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Councilman Brown to approve the minutes. The motion carried 7/0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS OVER \$15,000

A motion was made by Councilman Smith and was seconded by Councilman Mascaro to approve the following bills. The motion carried 7/0.

| CHECK# | DATE | PAYMENT TO | PURCHASE | AMOUNT |
|------------|---------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 38870 | 1/05/24 | Dublin-Laurens Co. Recreation | Appropriations | 54,145.00 |
| 38868 | 1/05/24 | Downtown Development Authority | DDA Funds FY2024 | 60,000.00 |
| 38864 | 1/05/24 | C.E. Garbutt Construction Company | City Hall Interior Upgrade | 82,840.59 |
| 38877 | 1/05/24 | Laurens County Library | Appropriations | 18,580.06 |
| 38890 | 1/05/24 | T. Lake Environmental Design | FY 24 Landscaping Charges | 18,274.43 |
| 38891 | 1/05/24 | Ten-8 Fire & Safety Equipment | Fire Trucks | 314,532.83 |
| DFT0001879 | 1/09/24 | Department of Revenue | Payroll Taxes | 22,107.20 |
| DFT0001880 | 1/09/24 | Internal Revenue Service | Payroll Taxes | 135,365.75 |
| 38903 | 1/09/24 | Dublin Board of Education | December 2023 Property Taxes | 6,295,935.30 |
| 38904 | 1/09/24 | Dublin-Laurens Co. Recreation | Hotel/Motel Tax | 31,368.06 |
| 38902 | 1/09/24 | Downtown Development Authority | Hotel/Motel Tax | 15,684.06 |
| 38905 | 1/09/24 | Dublin-Laurens Tourism | Hotel/Motel Tax | 31,368.06 |
| AFLACDec23 | 1/11/24 | AFLAC | December Premiums | 18,354.90 |
| Retirement | 1/11/24 | GMEBS-Retirement Trust Fund | December Retirement Admin Fees | 155,537.67 |
| | | | Total: | \$7,254,093.91 |

APPROVAL OF PURCHASES OVER \$15,000

There were no purchases for council consideration.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #24-01 TO ANNEX 331 ACRES OF LAND LOCATED ON HIGHWAY 257.

City Manager Powell read ordinance #24-01 to annex 331 acres, more or less, of land located at Parcel 100 067, 1 and 2 as M2 zone. The second reading and public hearing will be at our February 1st council meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON A CONTRACT TO THOMAS & HUTTON
ENGINEERING FOR DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE CHURCH STREET/RICE
AVENUE SEWER REPAIR PROJECT.

City Manager Powell explained that in order to address the sewer issue on North Church Street, I've requested Thomas and Hutton to submit to us a proposal for their services to engineer the replacement and upgrade of the portion of the sewer line that staff believes to be the problem. In discussing the project with them, there is a general concern that this project wouldn't be substantial enough to incentivize a contractor to bid on it. Therefore, staff propose to add the Rice Avenue project, another maintenance issue, to this in order to make it large enough to attract bidders. The proposal from T&H includes the general engineering consultation services, surveys, easement plats, design, permitting, bidding, construction administration, and they will bill for any additional services needed on a time and expense-based budget. The total for engineering services on both projects is \$97,200, plus the time and expense that is exceeded on those items as quoted in the proposal. Staff recommended using SPLOST 2018 funds for the project. Councilman Mascaro made a motion to approve the contract and seconded by Councilman Smith. The motion carried 7/0 to approve.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON TRAFFIC CALMING FOR EARLWOOD DRIVE.

Staff evaluated and considered the closure of both ends of Earlwood Drive and received feedback from the residents about each. City Manager Powell explained that if council votes to close the Veteran's Blvd side of Earlwood, staff will work with the neighborhood to see if they want to participate in a functioning gate. If they do not, staff will recommend one that will work for the city's purposes and provide access to emergency responders; sanitation; school busses, etc. Additionally, staff will need to make improvements to the Walke Dairy entrance/exit to accommodate the larger vehicles going in and out from there. Councilman Griggs made a motion to close Earlwood at the Veterans Blvd entrance and seconded by Councilwoman Kolbie. The motion carried 7/0 to close.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Kight recommended to council the reappointment of Laura Irwin to the Library Board. Councilman Jones made a motion to reappoint and seconded by Councilwoman Kolbie. The motion carried 7/0 to approve.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Artiffany Stanley, with GMA, congratulated Councilman Bennie Jones on being nominated as the district 9 Third-Vice President for the Georgia Municipal Association.

Ben Hall thanked council for listening and responding to the community on the closure of Earlwood Drive.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

City Attorney Groover had no comments.

City Clerk Browning had no comments.

Councilman Brown thanked everyone for coming and thanked the community for their input.

Councilman Jones thanked everyone for coming out. He also announced he was selected as the Chairman of the Military Community Council with National League of Cities. Thanked the citizens for their input.

Councilwoman Godfrey thanked everyone for coming out. Thanked Ms. Artiffany Stanley and congratulated Councilman Jones. Also thanked Mr. Hall for his comments.

Councilwoman Kolbie thanked the citizens for coming out. Thanked Ms. Stanley for her service with GMA as well as her service on the Dublin-Laurens Recreation Board. Congratulated Councilman Jones on his recent appointment.

Councilman Mascaro thanked Ms. Stanley for her service and congratulated Councilman Jones.

Councilman Smith thanked everyone for coming. Congratulated Councilman Jones on his appointment. Thanked the citizens for coming out and sharing their concerns. Thanked council and the city staff for listening to the citizens and reacting to concerns.

Councilman Griggs thanked everyone for coming. Stay Warm.

City Manager Powell thanked the Police Department for keeping the city safe. Congratulated Councilman Jones on his recent appointment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Kight adjourned the meeting at 5:48 P.M.


Joshua E. Kight, Mayor

ATTEST:


Heather M. Browning, City Clerk

