

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held at Dublin City Hall, on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 5:30 P.M.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 1, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING

A motion was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Councilman Brown to approve the minutes. The motion carried 4/0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS OVER \$15,000

A motion was made by Councilman Smith and was seconded by Councilman Jones to approve the following bills. The motion carried 4/0.

CHECK#	DATE	PAYMENT TO	PURCHASE	AMOUNT
MGAGCSH	4/22/24	Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia	Gas Purchase	16,261.73
MGAG	4/22/24	Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia	Gas Purchase	592,097.58
40204	4/26/24	CSLRA	2024 1st Quarter Net Income for CSH	46,330.33
40243	4/26/24	Thomas & Hutton Engineering Co.	Church-Rice, Madison, East Jackson St.	45,996.50
40213	4/26/24	Flock Safety	Flock Safety Falcon	57,000.00
40245	4/26/24	Truist Bank	GMA Loan Payment	119,162.04
OneAmerica	4/30/24	One America	Life Insurance	15,567.92
DFT0002097	4/30/24	Internal Revenue Service	Payroll Taxes	106,037.88
DFT0002098	4/30/24	Department of Revenue	Payroll Taxes	17,177.67
LifeHealth	5/01/24	GMEBS-Life & Health Insurance	Health Insurance	213,226.68
40311	5/03/24	Truist Bank	GMA Loan Payment	72,968.23
40280	5/03/24	Goodwynn, Mills and Cawood	New Fire Station/Shamrock Renovation	23,852.54
40307	5/03/24	T. Lake Environmental Design	FY 24 Landscaping Fees	18,274.43
40288	5/03/24	Laurens County Library	Appropriations	18,580.06
40271	5/03/24	East Coast Asphalt LLC	COD 2023 Street Resurfacing	111,443.48
40259	5/03/24	C.E. Garbutt Construction Co.	Emery Thomas Auditorium Project	53,798.92
40293	5/03/24	National Business Furniture	Furniture for City Hall	18,611.94
40298	5/03/24	Ryland Oil Company	Restock Fuel	28,018.43
40269	5/03/24	Dublin-Laurens Co. Recreation	Appropriations	54,145.00
40322	5/06/24	Dublin-Laurens Co. Recreation	Hotel/Motel Tax	32,801.02
40320	5/06/24	Downtown Development Authority	Hotel/Motel Tax	16,400.53
40321	5/06/24	Dublin Board of Education	April 2024 Tax Collection	247,534.11
40323	5/06/24	Visit of Dublin	Hotel/Motel Tax	32,801.02
Total:				\$1,958,088.07

APPROVAL OF PURCHASES OVER \$15,000

There was one purchase for council consideration.

Approval of a purchase of \$46,000 for services for the conversion of the tennis courts at Middle Georgia State University's Dublin Campus to Pickleball Courts to be funded with ARPA funds dedicated to the city parks. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve and seconded by Councilwoman Godfrey. The motion carried 4/0 to approve.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #24-02 TO ANNEX 0.50 ACRES OF LAND LOCATED AT PARCEL D04E 015 AS P (PROFESSIONAL) ZONE

City Manager Powell read ordinance #24-02 to annex 0.50 acres more or less, of land located at Parcel D04E 015, as P (Professional) zone. Proposed use is for a medical office. CV Properties of Dublin, LLC is the applicant for this annexation request. The organizer and registered agent for this LLC is Vishal Agrawal. The request is to annex 0.50 acres of property located directly behind 105 Fairview Park Drive for the expansion of an existing medical office. The request is to zone the property as P-Professional Zone. The allowable uses for the Professional zone are in your materials. This annexation will have minimal impact on the city from an infrastructure standpoint, the property already has road access, water, sewer, and natural gas. Currently the land is used as agricultural/forestry property in the unincorporated county. The proposed use is consistent with our comprehensive plan as it supports the continued development of health care-related facilities to support Dublin's vital medical industry. This was the first reading and the second reading and public hearing will be held on Thursday, June 6th at 5:30PM.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #24-03 TO PROVIDE FOR ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF DUBLIN.

City Manager Powell read ordinance #24-03 to provide for the adoption of the Fiscal year 2025 operating budget for the City of Dublin, to update the position and classification schedule for employees of the city; to set criteria for the city's retention incentive; to adopt a five-year capital improvement plan for the city. The budget ordinance is comprised of six sections as follows: Section 1 outlines the revenues by fund, Section 2 outlines the expenses by fund, which correspond with the revenues, Section 3 adopts the personnel classification and compensation schedule, which has been updated based on the general wage adjustment provided by the council in the budget; Section 4 sets the criteria for the annual retention incentive, Section 5 adopts the capital improvement plan, and Section 6 sets an effective date for the ordinance. The total requested budget for FY'25 is \$95,364,169. The budget includes investment in our city parks, roads, facilities, utility infrastructure, and a wage adjustment for personnel. This was the first reading of the ordinance and the second reading and public hearing will be on Thursday, June 6th at 5:30PM.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #24-04 AMENDING SECTION 24-38, 24-39, AND 24-72 OF CHAPTER 24 ENTITLED "UTILITIES" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES

City Manager Powell read ordinance #24-04 amending section 24-38, 24-39, and 24-72 of Chapter 24, entitled "Utilities". This ordinance is the one that council pass each year to increase our

water and sewer rates to keep up with the increased cost of running the water and sewer utility for the city. For FY'25, there is a total increase of \$0.20 per 1,000 gallons for both water and sewer resulting in a new base charge of \$12.40 for each of these utilities (*The base charge is the first 2,000 gallons of water). Currently, the base charge for water and sewer is \$12.00 each. Likewise, proposed consumption rates for both water and sewer are increasing \$0.20 per 1,000 gallons resulting in a new water consumption charge of \$4.95 per 1,000 gallons and a new sewer charge of \$5.00 per \$1,000 gallons. Currently the rates are \$4.55 and \$4.60, respectively. So, the minimum bill for city residents will go from \$24.00 to \$24.80 for water/sewer. The outside of the city limit rates would increase by double the amount to stay consistent with our current fee structure. This was the first reading of the ordinance and the second reading and public hearing will be on Thursday, June 6th at 5:30PM.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION #24-19 TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE TERMS OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS OFFICE OF DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT (DCA), THE LOCAL MAIN STREET PROGRAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND THE DOWNTOWN MANAGER OF DUBLIN REGARDING THE CITY'S DESIGNATION AS A GEORGIA CLASSIC MAINSTREET.

City Manager Powell read resolution #24-19 to accept and approve the terms of a memorandum of understanding with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Office of Downtown Development (DCA), the Local Main Street Program Board of Directors, and the Downtown Manager of Dublin to maintain the city's Georgia Classic Mainstreet City Designation. Every three years the Office of Downtown Development with DCA conducts an in-person visit and evaluates our Mainstreet program. The agreement in your materials is to confirm the city's commitment to maintaining the Georgia Classic Mainstreet Status by agreeing to set and review boundaries for the Mainstreet program; employ a full-time downtown manager, which we do through DDA; and provide financial and in-kind financial support. DCA agrees to provide our downtown with facilitation of communications regarding Mainstreet programs, training, organizational assistance, social media outreach to promote our local program's work, and resource materials. The contract term is from the date of execution until June 30, 2025 and it terminable with 60-days' notice. Councilman Brown made a motion to approve the resolution and seconded by Councilman Jones. The motion carried 4/0 to approve.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION #24-20 TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH GEORGIA POWER COMPANY FOR THE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF STREETLIGHTS ALONG A PORTION OF MADISON STREET

City Manager Powell read resolution #24-20 to approve an agreement with Georgia Power Company for the installation and maintenance of streetlights along a portion of Madison Street. Prior to the execution of the previous agreement, Georgia Power indicated there was a price change and the up-front cost was reduced from \$150,000 down to \$139,750, but the monthly cost thereafter changed from \$234.88/month to \$382.88/month. This is for sixteen of the green lamppost style lights for Madison Street. Staff's recommendation was for council to approve the

resolution to approve the agreement. This up-front cost will be paid for out of Account # 222-4221-541411 (the Rural Downtown Redevelopment Grant from DCA for Madison Street). The monthly costs thereafter will be paid out of the general fund. Councilman Brown made a motion to approve the resolution and seconded by Councilwoman Godfrey. The motion carried 4/0 to approve.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION #24-21 TO ESTABLISH NEW RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL GARBAGE RATES.

City Manager Powell read resolution #24-21 establishing new residential and commercial garbage collection rates. The Laurens County Solid Waste Management has increased their fees an average of 13%. In addition, the city's costs in personnel and supplies and equipment have increased. The resolution will increase our rates in order to compensate for these increased costs of doing business. These rates will be effective as of July 1st. The residential garbage rates will go from \$25 to \$29 per month and the commercial rates will increase from \$35 to \$39.95 per month. Additional roll carts will go from \$10 to \$18 for residential and \$20 for commercial. Additionally, the current rates for dumpsters will increase from \$4.68 per cubic yard to \$5.42 per cubic yard. These rates are within the range of others providing similar services even though the city provides a greater service through bulk pickup and also yard debris pickup. Councilman Jones made a motion to approve the resolution and seconded by Councilman Smith. The motion carried 4/0 to approve.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION #24-22 TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS OPERATING, LLC FOR THE MADISON STREET PROJECT.

City Manager Powell read resolution #24-22 to approve an agreement with Charter Communications Operating, LLC for the deconstruction of aerial facilities and installation of underground fiber and coaxial services along a portion of Madison Street. Staff received the quote from Charter Communications for the cost of relocating their utilities under the ground along with Georgia Power and our own Telecommunications lines. Staff had estimated this work would cost \$100,000 and the quote came in at \$72,653.24. This will be paid out of Account #222-4221-541411 (Madison Street Rural Downtown Redevelopment Grant). Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the resolution and seconded by Councilman Brown. The motion carried 4/0 to approve.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Rae Bloodworth expressed her concerns with council about an accident on Garner Street and who is responsible for carrying out the close of an accident.

Robin Williams expressed her fear of fast cars and animals in the neighborhood while walking. She also talked with council about the recent accident on Garner Street.

Mayor Kight commented on the recent tragedy in the neighborhood and expressed that all of council are concerns and are working to address pedestrian safety.

Vonda Morton gave council a history of the Origin of the Federal Flag and she pledged to the Georgia Flag.

John Hall requested an update on the sewer repair project. He also wanted to know the code for changing meeting times and letting the citizens know about the change.

City Manager Powell stated that the preconstruction bid will be held on Friday, May 17th. He also stated that by law the local government is required to give the newspaper notification of the date and time of meetings. It is up to the newspaper to print the information. Staff will use social media to get the word out as well.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

City Treasurer Daniels had no comments.

City Attorney Groover had no comments.

Councilman Brown thanked everyone for coming and comments are well taken.

Councilman Jones thanked everyone for coming and for the well-spoken comments. Announced that on Saturday, May 18th, there will be a popup library at the Katherine Gray Resource Center.

Councilwoman Godfrey reminded all the citizens that May 17th, is the last day to early vote.

Councilman Smith thanked everyone for coming out and for the comments. Hopefully we can get a rush on lighting in the Southside.

City Manager Powell thanked the citizens for their comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Kight adjourned the meeting at 6:08 P.M.



Joshua E. Kight, Mayor

ATTEST:



Heather M. Browning, City Clerk

