



CITY OF STATESBORO
WORK SESSION MINUTES
MARCH 17, 2020

Mayor & Council Work Session 58 E. Main St. Joe Brannen Hall 4:00 PM

A Work Session of the Statesboro City Council was held on March 17, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. at Joe Brannen Hall, 58 East Main Street. Present was Mayor Jonathan McCollar; Council Members: Phil Boyum, Paulette Chavers, Venus Mack and Shari Barr. Also present was City Clerk Leah Harden, City Attorney Cain Smith, City Manager Charles Penny, Assistant City Manager Jason Boyles and Public Information Officer Layne Phillips. Councilmember John Riggs was absent.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jonathan McCollar at 4:01PM

1) Emergency Management Ordinance

City Attorney Cain Smith brought before the councilmembers an ordinance revision/replacement of Chapter 30 Emergency and Disaster Management of the Statesboro Code of Ordinances. This will replace the existing chapter 30 which was last revised in 1987. Cain put together this ordinance based on the GMA model emergency management released in 2010, he went through each section of the ordinance with council. The purpose of the ordinance is to allow the Mayor to declare a state of emergency. The duration would be 30 days unless extended by the mayor. Councilmember Boyum suggested if the state of emergency should go past 30 days, that the mayor and council be on the same page. Cain stated that he would add continuum past 30 days needs mayor and council approval. Staff recommendation was suggested for this ordinance.

2) Parks Assessment Workshop

Ronald Huffman with Wood Environmental and Infrastructure Solutions attended the meeting via teleconference. Ron stated after visiting the parks and holding interviews he had come up with program needs and sketches of the three parks. Ron stated the parks had been well maintained, but with age there was a lot of facilities that are inaccessible, as well as meeting code requirements.

Luetta Moore Park, the key focus is diverse programming, splash pad/aquatics, teaching pool/shallow depth learning, multi-age playground, tennis; expanded parking and keeping the little league field a "Sacred Cow". Sketch concepts include removal of softball field, add splash pad and three lane teaching pool, add a restroom and bath house, volleyball, two tennis courts, multi-age playground, expanded parking (42 spaces), add 2 family pavilions with grills and a detention pond. In addition, renovations and improved parking for the little league field. Councilmember Boyum suggested if they were going to extend the parking, if they could make it more environmentally friendly instead of black top and expressed concern about there not being any green space, for kids to just run around

Grady Street Park, the key focus presented is to install covered basketball, playground, parking, landscape/trees, walking trail, family pavilion/BBQ and renovated restrooms. The sketch concepts covered basketball pavilion – secured entry, expanded parking, playground multi-age, 2 family picnic pavilions with

grills, landscape and tree planting, outdoor ½ basketball court, accessible walking trail, and renovated bathroom/add drinking fountain.

Memorial park the key focus was the impact from “Creek on the Blue Mile”, renovate the playground, outdoor amphitheater, and Veteran’s Memorial. The sketch concepts integrate the “Creek on the Blue Mile”, preserve/reuse existing infrastructure where possible, establish uncovered N/S drainage way as a natural waterway, locate a 2500 seat amphitheater with fixed and grass seating, separate area for a Veterans Memorial park, and identify areas for overflow and event parking.

Council member Shari Barr stated we should start with Grady Street Park and then move to the key pieces in the other two parks.

3) Alcohol License – City and State Laws

This item is postponed and will be brought back to the next work session April 21, 2020.

City Manager Charles Penny stated this COVID- 19 situation has been a challenge. We are looking at best practices for our employees. A group of staff is putting together this information and will get something to me later this week. We will be having someone to deep clean City Hall. Cleaning will also be done at our other buildings where public has access. Currently we are at a level 2 for our operations.

Councilmember Shari Barr stated would like us to have a press release to include all the local agencies that are available for support and help during this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 pm