



CITY OF STATESBORO
WORK SESSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2020

Mayor & Council Work Session

50 East Main Street

3:30 PM

A Work Session of the Statesboro City Council was held on October 20, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers, 50 East Main Street. Present was Mayor Jonathan McCollar; Council Members: Phil Boyum, Paulette Chavers, John Riggs 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. Absent was Councilmember Venus Mack.

Mayor Jonathan McCollar called the meeting to order.

1. First Quarter Financial Report

Director of Finance Cindy West presented the first quarter financial report, which included revenues and expenditures in the General Fund and compared SPLOST funds from 2019 to 2020. These funds are trending more than 2019. Hotel/Motel tax had decline earlier this year but is starting to rebound

Councilmember John Riggs joined the meeting.

2. Food Truck Ordinance

City Attorney Cain Smith presented the need for a food truck ordinance, as this is a growing business however, the city does not have any regulations or licensing for food truck vendors.

Fire Chief Tim Grams addressed the fire code regulations for food truck vendors. The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) does address mobile/temporary cooking i.e. food trucks. The state has not adopted it as part of their fire code, which creates the need for local jurisdictions to adopt local regulations for these types of businesses. The proposed ordinance is based on similar ordinances from other municipalities and is in line with NFPA standards.

Councilmember John Riggs stated the ordinance needs to include wording prohibiting food trucks from parking in front of a restaurant.

After some discussion this item will be brought back to Council at that next work session in November.

3. Health Insurance Recommendations

Director of Human Resources Demetrius Bynes presented recommendations for employee health insurance. He reviewed the annual medical/rx claims for the past four years. Claims were trending upward in 2018 however due to a change in coverage 2019 came in lower. This year we are proposing two different health insurance plans for employees to choose from based on their needs. We will also be changing our prescription drug carve-out to CVS this change will save the city over half a million dollars in prescription drugs. The other items to be considered are amending the spousal coverage restrictions, amending the new hire waiting period and amending retiree coverage at it relates to eligibility.

4. International Property Maintenance Code

Director of Planning and Development Kathy Fields presented a comparison of the City's nuisance code to the proposed International Property Maintenance code. The City's existing Chapter 38, Article II (Nuisances) does not provide significant detail on which to base property code violations. The lack of specificity limits the degree to which a case can be made to the court nor does it give adequate guidance to the violator for remediation. It is proposed to utilize the International Property Maintenance Code which provides greater specificity and will be less subjective than our current "Nuisance" code. This code has been accepted by the Department of Community Affairs and is used by other cities in the state. Our recommendation is to have this for consideration at the first council meeting in February 2021. Holding off until that time will allow for public outreach through public information meetings, press releases, website notifications, social media posts, educational videos and utility bill notifications. We will come back to January work session to update you on the educational progress.

5. Alcohol Licensing

City Attorney Cain Smith stated the state enacted House Bill 879. The bill established a statewide application-processing portal, allows Sunday package sales to begin at 11:00 am, allows for the delivery of alcoholic beverages, and amended certain proximity requirements. The two considerations to be addressed by Mayor and Council are to amend our ordinance to allow Sunday package sales to commence at 11:00 am; it currently is set at 12:30 pm. The second consideration is Council may enact an ordinance or resolution barring alcohol delivery. No action would be necessary to allow for delivery under state law.

After some discussion, direction was given to present at the November 17th work session an amendment to the ordinance to allow for Sunday package sales to begin at 11:00 am and to allow for delivery of alcoholic beverages.

6. One Boro Proposals

City Attorney Cain Smith explained the drafted ordinance revision. The revision includes the renaming of the Commission on Diversity and Inclusion to the One Boro Commission, One Boro would be responsible for convening meetings with shareholders to discuss anti-violence initiatives and report findings of such meetings to Mayor and Council. Under the proposed Chapter 80 Equity provision, One Boro would be responsible for monitoring the City's campaign for equity and giving input on diversity training for City employees. The proposal also includes dissolving the Statesboro Works Commission and transfer their scope of authority to One Boro.

After discussion, directions was given to move forward with the revisions to include an increase of membership to twelve.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:19 pm.