

City of Bremen Council Meeting

April 17, 2017

Bremen Public Safety Complex

191 Georgia Avenue North

Bremen, Georgia 30110

City Officials in Attendance: Mayor Sewell and Council Members: Dobby Harris, Salli Thomason, Jai Otwell and Terry Crawford

Administration in Attendance: City Manager Perry Hicks, City Attorney Sam Price, Operations Manager Mike Thompson, City Clerk Amy Ridley, Codes Enforcement Officer Steve Muse, Recreation Director Matt Cody, Police Chief Keith Pesnell, Fire Chief Jay Hurley, Librarian Lisa Walton-Cagle

6:00 P.M.
Work Session
Mayor & City Council
Informal Discussions Session

The Work Session is an informal discussion among Mayor Sewell, City Council Members, City Manager, Department Heads and the City Attorney. There is no action taken during the work session.

Mayor Sewell called the workshop to order at 6:00 pm and the following items were the topics of discussion.

Department Head Updates
Cross Street Mobile Homes
Golf Carts / Engineer Study for Crossing State Highways
Agenda Items

Mayor Sewell adjourned the work session at 6:55 pm.

7:00 P.M.
City Council Meeting
Mayor & Council Members
Regular Scheduled Session

Agenda

1. *Call to Order*
2. *Pledge of Allegiance*
3. *Invocation*
4. *Review and Modification of the Agenda*
5. *Approval of Minutes: March 20, 2017 Regular Council Meeting*
6. *Housing Authority Appointment*
7. *Re-Appoint Amy Ridley as Elections Superintendent*
8. *Downtown Development Authority Appointments*
9. *Open to the Public*
10. *Adjourn*

Call to Order

Mayor Sewell called the council meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance and invocation.

Review & Modification of the Agenda

Mayor Sewell added item # 8a to the agenda for the approval to move forward with lighting at the soccer field and baseball field.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on March 20, 2017.

Council Member Crawford made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on March 20, 2017. Council Member Otwell seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Housing Authority Appointment

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to reappoint Robert League to the Housing Authority for a 5-year term retroactive to February 2, 2017.

A motion was made by Council Member Crawford and seconded by Council Member Harris to reappoint Robert League to the Housing Authority for a 5-year term retroactive to February 2, 2017. The motion carried.

Elections Superintendent

Perry Hicks stated that we need to re-appoint Amy Ridley as our Elections Superintendent because she is currently completing her re-certification.

Council Member Otwell made a motion seconded by Council Member Thomason to reappoint Amy Ridley as Elections Superintendent. The motion carried unanimously.

Downtown Development Authority Appointments

Mayor Sewell stated that the Downtown Development Authority has been an inactive board for a while now and we need to begin appointing some people to those seats. She stated that she has spoken to two people who have both said they will serve and we want to appoint those tonight. We will appoint other seats later after we have time to speak to some others to see if they are willing to serve on the board.

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to appoint Gelan Wasdin to the Downtown Development Authority.

A motion was made by Council Member Thomason seconded by Council Member Crawford to appoint Gelan Wasdin to the Downtown Development Authority. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to appoint Matthew McClure to the Downtown Development Authority.

A motion was made by Council Member Crawford seconded by Council Member Otwell to appoint Matthew McClure to the Downtown Development Authority. The motion carried unanimously.

Recreation / Lighting

Mayor Sewell stated that a portion of the current SPLOST includes lighting for the soccer field. She stated that the original bid amount approved for the lighting of the soccer field is now being done for half the amount of the original bid. Therefore, we can now light the soccer field and also light a baseball field for the price that was originally approved for only the soccer field. She asked for a motion to approve the City Manager and the Recreation Director to move forward with lighting both fields.

Council Member Crawford made a motion seconded by Council Member Otwell to approve the City Manager and the Recreation Director to move forward with lighting the soccer field and a baseball field for the cost of the original bid amount. The motion carried unanimously.

Open to the Public

John Sammon was present and spoke regarding the possibility of bringing a winery and distillery to the site of the Lion Golf Course.

John Cartwright was present and spoke to the Mayor and Council about the possibility of turning the Lion Golf Course into a wedding venue to include the winery. He stated that he would also like to build a 900 square foot cabin on the property at the lake area and asked if that would be a possibility. Mr. Cartwright then stated that his last concern is that the sign located at Murphy Industrial Blvd and US Hwy 27 Bypass now has other businesses shown on the sign and he would like to request that the other business names be removed.

Mr. Sammon then stated that as a compromise, he would like to spend his own money to put another frame at the location and then move the businesses over to another sign so that the current sign can be for the winery and wedding venue.

Mayor Sewell and Council Members told Mr. Sammon that we should be able to work something out with the sign issue.

Council Member Harris stated that the idea is very intriguing and we will need to get with our legal counsel to discuss the possibility and make sure that it is something that can be approved.

Adjourn

Council Member Otwell made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:35 p.m. and the meeting adjourned.