

The Mayor and Council met for their regular meeting.

Those Present:	John Howard	Mayor
	Larry Bradley	Vice-Mayor
	Lee Malcom	Council Member
	Myoshia Crawford	Council Member
	Ross Bradley	Council Member
	Norman Garrett	Council Member
	Tyler Gregory	Council Member
	Nathan Little	Council Member
	David Dickinson	Council Member
	Logan Propes	City Administrator
	Debbie Kirk	City Clerk
	Russell Preston	City Attorney
	Paul Rosenthal	City Attorney

Staff Present: Danny Smith, Jeremiah Still, R.V. Watts, Andrew Dykes, Beth Thompson, Brian Thompson, Rodney Middlebrooks, Patrick Kelley, Chris Bailey, Sadie Krawczyk, Beverly Harrison, Les Russell, Brad Callender, Leigh Ann Walker

Visitors: Sharon Swanepoel, Denise Etheridge, Tara Bradshaw, Lauren Gregory, Jon Hill, Michelle Plaster, Whit Holder, Charles Sanders, Veronica Sanders, Travis Pegram, Lisa Anderson

## **I. CALL TO ORDER – JOHN HOWARD**

### **1. Invocation**

Council Member Ross Bradley gave the invocation.

### **2. Roll Call**

Mayor Howard noted that all Council Members were present. There was a quorum.

### **3. Approval of Agenda**

To approve the agenda as presented.

*Motion by Little, seconded by Malcom.  
Passed Unanimously*

### **4. Approval of Consent Agenda**

- a. March 2, 2021 Council Minutes
- b. March 9, 2021 Council Minutes
- c. March 2, 2021 Executive Session Minutes
- d. March 9, 2021 Executive Session Minutes
- e. March 16, 2021 Planning Commission Minutes
- f. March 18, 2021 Planning Commission Minutes
- g. February 23, 2021 Revised Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
- h. March 23, 2021 Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
- i. February 11, 2021 Downtown Development Authority Minutes
- j. February 11, 2021 Conventions and Visitors Bureau Minutes
- k. Emergency Purchase – John Deere Loader Boom – To purchase from Flint Equipment Co. for \$19,714.11. (Recommended for Council approval by Public Works Committee April 6, 2021)
- l. REBC Grant Landscaping Installation – To contract with Black Oak, Inc. for \$35,000.00. (Recommended for Council approval by Public Works Committee April 6, 2021)
- m. Belle Meade Primary Electric Project – To approve the primary electric cable replacement at a total cost of \$74,686.00 as presented. (Recommended for Council approval by Utilities Committee April 6, 2021)
- n. IPT Reserve Sale Update – To approve updated IPT as presented. (Recommended for Council approval by Utilities Committee April 6, 2021)

To approve the consent agenda as presented.

*Motion by Dickinson, seconded by Gregory.  
Passed Unanimously*



**II. PUBLIC PRESENTATION****1. Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation**

Mayor John Howard presented the Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Ms. Lauren Gregory, with A Child's Voice, accepted the proclamation and thanked Council. She explained a lot of their cases do not see an arrest or prosecution. There is very rarely any physical evidence of abuse, but they do forensic medical exams to look for evidence and delayed disclosure. They see about 230 kids per year, some of which are witnesses to violent crimes.

*No Action.*

**2. Georgia Exceptional Main Street Presentation**

Ms. Tara Bradshaw stated she works with the State Office of Downtown Development with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. They manage the Georgia Main Street Program and work with 104 Cities across the State. Those Cities are committed to the growth of their historic commercial districts. She explained the Main Street approach is a balanced path toward revitalization, with a strong focus on economic development and the context of historic preservation. She discussed the ten standards that participating Cities must meet to be designated as an accredited Main Street America City. The communities that have gone above and beyond to consistently excel at all ten standards are known as the Georgia Exceptional Main Street (GEMS) Communities. The City of Monroe has been designated as a 2021 GEMS Community due to their commitment to excellence, stable leadership, and successful application of the Main Street approach by the Monroe Downtown Development Authority. Ms. Bradshaw stated over the last three years Downtown Monroe has seen \$18.4 million in private and public investment, creating 47 new businesses and netting 133 new jobs. Monroe's Main Street Program has attracted over 130,000 people through civic events. The Department of Community Affairs will be gifting the City of Monroe a gateway sign to recognize the new designation.

*No Action.*

**3. World Autism Month and World Autism Awareness Day Proclamation**

Mayor John Howard explained Breanne Robinson was unable to attend the meeting. He read the Proclamation and will get it to Ms. Robinson when she gets back into town.

*No Action.*

**III. PUBLIC FORUM****1. Public Comments**

No one signed up for public comments.

**2. Public Hearing****a. Variance – 211 Baker Street**

Code Enforcement Officer Patrick Kelley presented the application for a variance of Article V, Section 520 Table 3 of the Zoning Ordinance. The applicant CMH Real Estate, LLC is requesting additional parking above what the Zoning Ordinance will allow. He explained they are requesting to construct 69 parking spaces, which is 197% of the minimum number required. The Code Office and Planning Commission recommend the request be approved without conditions.

The Mayor declared the meeting open for the purpose of public input.

Dr. Michelle Plaster, with Our Family Health Center, spoke in favor of the variance. She explained their practice has grown from one physician to six primary care givers, with 45 employees. Currently, staff is parking at the 1025 Church and walking across Spring Street, because they have outgrown their space. She stated they are also using the back of their clinic as a testing center. They own the property back to Baker Street and want to add an entrance off of Baker Street, which will help with traffic flow. A building will also be added in the same area for an urgent care setting to separate potential infectious diseases away from the main building. She stated they need a lot of parking spaces, primarily for the 45 employees, but also for handicapped patients that need to be close to the building. The parking that extends back to

Baker Street will be used for the employees and allow more space toward the clinic for the patients.

There were no public comments; Mayor Howard declared that portion of the meeting closed.

*No Action.*

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Variance – 211 Baker Street**

To approve the variance.

*Motion by Dickinson, seconded by R. Bradley.  
Passed Unanimously.*

**2. Appointment – Historic Preservation Commission**

To reappoint Fay Brassie to a three (3) year term to expire May 1, 2024.

*Motion by Little, seconded by Dickinson.  
Passed Unanimously.*

**3. Appointment – Tree Board**

To appoint Hunter Blair to fill the unexpired term of Susan Brown to expire March 1, 2024.

*Motion by R. Bradley, seconded by Malcom.  
Passed Unanimously.*

**4. Nederman Diesel Exhaust Extraction System Repair**

Mayor John Howard explained this item was moved from the Committee to full Council, due to the absence of Committee Members at the April 6<sup>th</sup> Work Session and Called Meeting.

Battalion Chief Andrew Dykes explained the request for Industrial Air Purification, Inc., to repair the fire station’s existing Diesel Extraction Systems for \$27,861.75. He stated they have been awarded \$26,047.62 in Federal Grant Funds for the repair, which will make the local match be \$1,814.13 for the City.

Approval of the repair by Industrial Air Purification, Inc., for a total cost of \$27,861.75.

*Motion by L. Bradley, seconded by R. Bradley.  
Passed Unanimously.*

**V. MAYOR’S UPDATE**

Mayor John Howard stated most of last year has been taken off from the Walton County Municipal Association Meetings. The last meeting for 2020 was hosted by Social Circle; last month was the first meeting for this year. The City of Monroe will be hosting the meeting on May 20, and he hopes everyone will be able to attend. Mayor Howard stated Renee Sandoval in Customer Service gave birth to Amelia Hope this morning.

**VI. ADJOURN**

*Motion by Malcom, seconded by R. Bradley.  
Passed Unanimously.*

  
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MAYOR

  
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CITY CLERK