

The Mayor and Council met for their regular meeting.

Those Present:	John Howard	Mayor
	Lee Malcom	Vice-Mayor
	Myoshia Crawford	Council Member
	Charles Boyce	Council Member
	Julie Sams	Council Member
	Adriane Brown	Council Member
	Tyler Gregory	Council Member
	David Dickinson	Council Member
	Logan Propes	City Administrator
	Beverly Harrison	Interim City Clerk
	Paul Rosenthal	City Attorney
	Russell Preston	City Attorney

Absent:	Greg Thompson	Council Member
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Staff Present:	Danny Smith, Jeremiah Still, R.V. Watts, Andrew Dykes, Beth Thompson, Rodney Middlebrooks, Mike McGuire, Brad Callender, Chris Croy, Les Russell, Kaitlyn Stubbs, Sandy Daniels, Brian Wilson, Amylee Hammond
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Visitors:	Parker Lee Peters, Jayne Sinclair, Brody Bell, Lidia Garrett, Will Derzis, Brenda Garner, Jose Lemus, Sally Conislio, Jaylin Battle, Jim Wilson, Mal Locketa, Caffrey Russell
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I. CALL TO ORDER – JOHN HOWARD

1. Invocation

Mr. Lee Peters, with Connection Church, gave the invocation.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Howard noted that all Council Members were present, except for Council Member Greg Thompson. There was a quorum.

3. Approval of Agenda

To approve the agenda as presented.

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

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. May 14, 2024 Council Minutes
- b. March 19, 2024 Planning Commission Minutes
- c. April 23, 2024 Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
- d. April 11, 2024 Downtown Development Authority Minutes
- e. April 11, 2024 Conventions and Visitors Bureau Minutes

To approve the consent agenda as presented.

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

II. PUBLIC FORUM

1. Public Presentations

- a. Walton Teen Advocacy Board Presentation

Ms. Savannah Cowart spoke on behalf of the Walton Youth Project. She discussed their recent upcoming newspaper, projects, events, and initiatives. She introduced Jaylin Battle and his Coach Sally Coniglio.

Council Member David Dickinson read a letter from Pastor Pinkerton commending Jaylin Battle.

No Action.

b. Waste and Recycling Workers Week Proclamation

Mayor John Howard presented the Proclamation for Waste and Recycling Workers Week, June 17 – 21, 2024.

Mr. Danny Smith recognized employee Caffrey Russell for being present.

No Action.

2. Public Comments

Ms. Lidia Garrett, of 1244 South Madison Avenue, discussed cancer awareness, supporting an organization that wants to use the Town Green for a Cancer Event, and the possibility of making it a City Event.

III. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. City Administrator Update

City Administrator Logan Propes stated substantial progress is being made on the 2020 Bond Projects. There are two to three more easements needed for the TAP Grant Streetscape Project. Refurbishments plans for Hammock Park, which include the new MONROE sign, are in progress. The application that was submitted for the Blaine Station Redevelopment Project is being reviewed now. A full asset inventory and Master Plan is being done for Stormwater Management.

2. Assistant City Administrator Update

Included with the City Administrator Update.

3. Department Reports

- a. Monthly Central Services Report
- b. Monthly Code Report
- c. Monthly Economic Development Report
- d. Monthly Finance Report
- e. Monthly Fire Report
- f. Monthly Police Report
- g. Monthly Solid Waste Report
- h. Monthly Streets & Transportation Report
- i. Monthly Telecom Report
- j. Monthly Water, Sewer, Gas & Electric Report

There was a general discussion on the above items. There was no action taken.

4. Department Requests

a. Airport: Land Lease / Hangar Construction Agreement (Site B)

Mr. Chris Croy recommended approval of the Land Lease Agreement with Mitchell Moon for the construction of a single 60 x 60 box hangar on Site B.

To approve the Ground Lease Agreement with Mitchell Moon for Site B.

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

b. Airport: Land Lease / Hangar Construction Agreement (Site C)

Mr. Chris Croy recommended approval of the Land Lease Agreement with JEG Holdings, LLC for the construction of a single 60 x 60 box hangar on Site C.

To approve the Ground Lease Agreement with JEG Holdings, LLC for Site C.

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

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Public Hearings

a. De-Annexation – 0 Highway 78

Mr. Brad Callender presented the application for de-annexation of this property from the City to Walton County. The undeveloped property contains 8.919 acres. He explained the history of the property. The Walton County Board of Commissioners approved a Resolution consenting to the de-annexation on April 2, 2024. The Planning Commission and Code Office recommend approval of the de-annexation request as submitted without conditions.

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

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

No Action.

b. Variance – 802 North Broad Street

Mr. Brad Callender presented the variance request to allow the subdivision of an existing commercial property without the minimum required lot frontage on a public street. The property is Zoned B-3, which requires a minimum of 100-foot frontage on a public street. He explained the history of the property. They propose to subdivide the property into two lots, which will separate the existing hotel building from the commercial building. The property is currently accessed from North Broad Street via a private access drive on the adjacent property. The private access drive connects to the intersection at North Broad Street and Monroe Pavilion. The proposed lots will front upon the private access drive. The Planning Commission and Code Office recommend approval of the variance request as submitted without conditions.

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

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

No Action.

2. New Business

a. De-Annexation – 0 Highway 78

Council questioned whether sewer and water were available to the property. Mr. Callender clarified that there is not any water or sewer access to the property.

To grant the de-annexation.

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

b. Variance – 802 North Broad Street

City Administrator Logan Propes discussed the condition of the private drive. While the private drive may not have to be brought up to public street standards, there are some concerns that the applicant would need to resolve via their easement. It will need to be at a level of operational standard for fire trucks, police vehicles, and sanitation trucks to service the addresses.

Mayor, Council, and staff further discussed the matter.

City Attorney Paul Rosenthal clarified the condition to alleviate concerns for City services; prior to plat approval the private drive needs to be inspected and brought up to sufficient standard to allow for City service vehicles to traverse the private drive.

To approve the variance, subject to the condition that prior to plat approval the applicant shall improve and repave the private drive, which will be inspected by staff to ensure that it is brought up to a sufficient condition so City law enforcement, fire, and sanitation vehicles can service the parcels.

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

c. FY2023 Audited Financial Statements (ACFR)

Finance Director Beth Thompson introduced Mr. Will Derzis with Mauldin & Jenkins to present the 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), with the final audit numbers; and the request to approve the FY2023 Audited Financial Statements.

Mr. Will Derzis presented highlights from the FY2023 Audit. He discussed the Auditor’s Discussion & Analysis, which is a summary of the audit results, stating the audit went smoothly. He explained that they rendered an unmodified audit report, meaning a clean opinion of the audit for the year ending December 31, 2023. He commended the City of Monroe for going above and beyond what is required by State Law in preparing and reporting the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. The City should be proud for receiving an award each year from the Government Finance Officers Association for the ACFR. He stated that Ms. Thompson and the finance staff were very cooperative and transparent getting them everything they needed so the audit could be completed in an official, effective, and timely manner. There was one audit finding, which was related to a material adjustment.

To approve the FY2023 Audited Financial Statements.

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

d. Appointments (2) – Library Board

To appoint Sally Short for a six (6) year term to expire June 30, 2030.

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

To appoint Marc Hammes for a six (6) year term to expire June 30, 2030.

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

e. Approval – Telecommunications & Right of Way Management Program Agreement and Resolution

City Administrator Logan Propes discussed the Telecommunications and Right of Way Management Agreement with the Georgia Municipal Association, which includes cell tower leases. He requested approval of the agreement and subsequent resolution. The cost will be \$5,119.87 for 2024 and \$8,776.88 for 2025.

To approve the Resolution and Agreement.

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

V. DISTRICT ITEMS

1. District Items

Council Member Lee Malcom stated the concert at the Town Green went great. The DDA Board needs to discuss getting some more upscale restrooms.

Council Member Myoshia Crawford thanked Jeremiah Still for the work done on Marable.


Council Member Tyler Gregory seconded Ms. Malcom’s request for getting some more upscale bathrooms at the Town Green.

2. Mayoral Update

Mayor John Howard reminded Council that the Financial Disclosure Statements are due before July 1. He discussed citizens commending the City workers for doing such a great job with the Sewer Project on Glen Iris. There are over 200 vendors signed up for the Blooms Flower Festival.

VI. ADJOURN

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


MAYOR


INTERIM CITY CLERK