

The Mayor and Council met for their regular meeting.

Those Present:	John Howard	Mayor
	Wayne Adcock	Vice-Mayor
	Lee Malcom	Council Member
	Myoshia Crawford	Council Member
	Ross Bradley	Council Member
	Larry Bradley	Council Member
	Norman Garrett	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
	Jesse Couch	City Attorney

Staff Present: Danny Smith, Jeremiah Still, R.V. Watts, Bill Owens, Beth Thompson, Rodney Middlebrooks, Brian Thompson, Darrell Stone, Patrick Kelley, Chris Bailey, Sadie Krawczyk

Visitors: Andrew Kenneson, Sharon Swanepoel, Les Russell, Perry Sorrells, Edith Cooper, Sidney Cooper, Carol Holbrook, Don Jackson, Roger Rowell, Diane Rowell, Wes Sorrells, Lynne Horton, Rusty Horton, Susan Bruden, Jane Jones, Sally Mansour, Mona Stephens, Rick Holder, Gloria Briscoe, Susan Walden, Doug Geiger, Lee Preston, Bruce Williamson, Billy Casey, Connie Casey, Lawrence Quammen, Marty Wagner, Karin King, Dane Wagner, Rich Baumann, Greg Hartzog, Jenny Hartzog, Chris Weber, Stephanie Swain, Donnalisa Sharkey, Amanda Patterson, Travis Patterson, Jim Kwater, Janet Kwater, Chip Ferguson, Ellin Casperson, Chris Atkinson, Beth Brown, Gail Huie Smith, Lucia Eckles

I. CALL TO ORDER – JOHN HOWARD

1. Invocation

Youth Pastor Gloria Briscoe with First Baptist Church gave the invocation.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Howard noted that all Council Members were present; Council Member Larry Bradley was present via teleconference. There was a quorum.

Council Member Larry Bradley is participating via phone call, due to illness.

3. Approval of Agenda

To approve the agenda as presented.

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

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. April 2, 2019 Council Minutes
- b. April 9, 2019 Council Minutes
- c. April 16, 2019 Planning Commission Minutes
- d. April 23, 2019 Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
- e. March 14, 2019 Downtown Development Authority Minutes
- f. April 11, 2019 Downtown Development Authority Minutes
- g. March 14, 2019 Conventions and Visitors Bureau Minutes
- h. April 11, 2019 Conventions and Visitors Bureau Minutes
- i. Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Design, Engineering, and Construction Administration Services – Approval of Keck & Wood. (Recommended for Council approval by Public Works Committee May 7, 2019)
- j. Purchase – Water Materials for Stone Creek Subdivision – To purchase from Delta Municipal and Consolidated Pipe for a total of \$67,432.50. (Recommended for Council approval by Utilities Committee May 7, 2019)

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- k. Approval – Full-Cost Connection Fee & Rate Study – To contract with Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood with the amount not to exceed \$17,500.00. (Recommended for Council approval by Utilities Committee May 7, 2019)
- l. Approval – Out of State Training for Police – To allow Officer Ryan Gee and K-9 Ciro to attend the Alabama Canine Law Enforcement Training Center in Northport, Alabama, June 9 – 14, 2019, for a total cost of \$740.00. (Recommended for Council approval by Public Safety Committee May 7, 2019)

To approve the consent agenda as presented.

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

II. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

1. Ending the Cycle

Ms. Lucia Eckles, Sally Mansour, and Mona Stephens presented their mission to end the cycle of backyard breeding and animal cruelty. Ms. Eckles defined backyard breeding as an unethical amateur form of breeding dogs, with the person having limited skill or training. She discussed dogs not being spayed or neutered, the quantity of puppies they have, and the possibility of those puppies being euthanized. She presented information concerning puppy mills and discussed their prevalence in and around Monroe. Ms. Eckles discussed tethering, overbred mothers, and dog fighting. She discussed the benefits to the animals which get spayed and neutered.

No Action.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

1. Public Comments

No one signed up for public comments.

2. Public Hearing

a. Variance – 257 Boulevard

Mr. Darrell Stone presented the request for a zoning variance. He stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request, but the Code Office recommended denial based on the zoning perspective. The property is currently Zoned R-1 and nonconforming, because it does not meet the width or lot size requirements. Dividing the lots would further increase the nonconformity. He explained the property would not meet the 100 feet of road frontage required for perpendicular lots, the setback requirements, or the minimum square footage amount. Therefore, it would not meet the standards in the Zoning Ordinances.

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

Mr. Rick Holder, owner of the property, spoke in favor of the variance. He is requesting approval to put the historic home on the lot which he already owns. The house is located at 211 Boulevard currently, and he wants to move it to 257 Boulevard. He stated the ordinance has been explained to him, he understands it, has been given a thorough review, and has been treated well by the staff. Mr. Holder explained the ordinance allows for variances when it provides a necessary improvement for the welfare of the general public. The Methodist Church is going to have a playground for the community, when the house has been removed. He feels moving the historic structure intact is a good way to preserve the structure. He requested that Council grant him the ability to move the historic home to his lot.

Council Member Lee Malcom questioned what will be done with the historic home once it has been moved, and whether it will be brought up to code. She also questioned why the house would not be facing Barrett Street.

Mr. Holder answered he will move it down the street. He believes the structure should arrive safely in the same condition as it is currently. The house will be put on a brick foundation. He intends to sell to someone that wants a historic home. Mr. Holder says the house is already up to code. He explained there is not enough frontage for the house to face Barrett Street. The Felkers own the property next door, and they have declined his offer to purchase the property.

Mayor John Howard requested a spokesperson to speak for the group in favor of the variance.

Mr. Chip Ferguson stated he is the Chair of the Administrative Council at the Methodist Church. He spoke for the group in favor of the variance. He stated the leadership of the church supports what Mr. Holder is trying to do. They want to get the house into the hands of someone who can invest in renovating it, because the church is not in the business of renovation. He explained the house will only be moved down the street. The church would like to properly utilize its space.

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

No Action.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Variance – 257 Boulevard

Council Member David Dickinson stated the variance has no opposition from the neighborhood, a historic home will be preserved, it will add to Monroe's oldest subdivision, and also support the Methodist Church. Therefore, he is in favor of the variance.

To approve the variance.

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

2. Approval – Intersection Changes

City Administrator Logan Propes presented the request to implement stop sign and other signage changes at various intersection locations. He explained this is an effort to increase safety and slow the speed at some sections of road. He reviewed the six proposed changes: East Church Street and South Madison Avenue would change from signalized to a four-way stop sign; the intersection at Breedlove Drive, Alcovy Street, and Shamrock Drive would change from a two-way stop to a four-way stop; create a three-way stop intersection from a one-way stop at Williams Street and North Midland Avenue; create a four-way stop intersection from a two-way stop at Edwards Street and North Madison Avenue; Breedlove Drive at McDaniel Street would have no right turns on red when going from Breedlove Drive to McDaniel Street; and Davis Street at South Broad Street would have no left turns between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm from Davis Street. He explained the changes could be made in phases, with proper notifications to the public. The changes would not need to be done all at one time.

Council Member Lee Malcom requested rumble strips.

Council Member Ross Bradley requested seeing if traffic can be directed to Highway 11 South by alternate routes prior to Davis Street.

Mr. Propes advised that rumble strips should be added to all of the intersection changes. He stated alternate routes to the highway could be studied.

Council Member Norman Garrett expressed his concerns about South Madison Avenue having four stop signs within a half mile range. He stated it is a heavily traveled street, which is too congested for that many stops. He thinks South Madison should be studied first.

Mr. Propes stated he could try to get a cheap traffic study done for South Madison Avenue.

Mayor, Council, and staff further discussed South Madison Avenue, the red light, the current stop signs, the possibility of additional stops signs, the inability to make left turns, and the addition of rumble strips.

Mr. Garrett stated adding more stops will make the traffic and congestion even worse.

Mayor John Howard stated the stop signs are to help slow the traffic down. There are concerns for safety due to the additional pedestrian traffic with the downtown green area. He stated the inability to turn left due to traffic signalization is also a concern.

Mr. Propes stated there have been at least 15 accidents and a couple of fatalities within the last two years at East Church Street and South Madison Avenue. During the same time frame, there

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were seven accidents at the Alcovy Street, Breedlove Drive, and Shamrock Drive intersection and 16 accidents at Breedlove Drive and McDaniel Street.

Council Member David Dickinson questioned why the East Church Street and South Madison Avenue intersection could not simply be changed back to a traffic light, if the four-way stop did not work.

Mr. Propes stated the signal could be left intact and flashing on red. Then, if the change did not work as intended it could easily be changed back.

To approve all of the intersection changes, with the understanding that the intersection at East Church Street and South Madison Avenue will be revisited if it does not work.

*Motion by Dickinson, seconded by R. Bradley.
Voting no Garrett.
Passed 7-1.*

3. Passive Park MOU – Athens Tech

City Administrator Logan Propes discussed the modified Memorandum of Understanding with Athens Technical College. The MOU has been changed into more of a lease agreement style format. It is essentially a one year renewable agreement that designates City use and park use for the Athens Tech facility around the track. It also designates some of the work which the City will be doing, such as tearing up buildings, removing old asphalt sections, and planting some trees. He explained this will help open up the property for general public use and create a more attractive environment.

To approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Athens Technical College.

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

V. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

I make a motion that we purchase the property commonly known as 1836 Highway 78, Monroe Georgia, Tax Parcel ID # C0750123, containing 1.18 acres more or less from Gruenmacher Financial Group, Inc. for use as a location for a water distribution line pump station according to the following terms:

1. The Cash Purchase Price shall be \$75,000.00, with \$500.00 paid as Earnest Money.
2. The Contract Purchase Price shall be for the Fair Market Value of the Property as determined solely by the Seller, the same being \$250,000.00.
3. The difference between the Cash Purchase Price and the Contract Purchase Price shall be notated as a donation from Seller to the City. Any tax issues relating to this transaction shall be the sole responsibility of the Seller. The City makes no representations whatsoever concerning the Contract Purchase Price or tax consequences related thereto.
4. Closing shall occur within 30 days from today's date.
5. Purchase Contract shall be approved by City Attorney's Office.
6. The City Administrator is authorized to do all things necessary and sign any and all documents necessary to complete this transaction.

Exhibit "A"

All that tract or parcel of land, together with all improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the State of Georgia, County of Walton, located in Land Lot 43 of the 4th Land District, being designated as Lot 1 of Tipperary Estates, Unit Two, containing 1.18 acres, more or less, according to a survey entitled "Final Plan Of: Tipperary Estates, Unit Two," dated August 31, 1979, prepared by W. T. Dunahoo and Associates, certified by W. T. Dunahoo, Georgia Registered Land Surveyor No. 1577, recorded in Plat Book 26, page 22, Clerk's Office, Walton

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County Superior Court. Reference to said survey is hereby made and the same is incorporated herein for a more complete description of the property conveyed.

This being the real property commonly known as 1863 Hwy. 78, Monroe, Georgia, according to the present system of numbering properties in Walton County, Georgia.

Tax Parcel ID No. C0750123

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

VI. ADJOURN

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



MAYOR



CITY CLERK

The Mayor and Council met for an Executive Session.

Those Present:

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| John Howard | Mayor |
| Wayne Adcock | Vice-Mayor |
| Lee Malcom | Council Member |
| Myoshia Crawford | Council Member |
| Ross Bradley | Council Member |
| Larry Bradley | Council Member |
| Norman Garrett | 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 |
| Jesse Couch | City Attorney |

I. Call to Order – John Howard

1. Roll Call

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

Mayor Howard noted that all Council Members were present; Council Member Larry Bradley was present via teleconference. There was a quorum.

Council Member Larry Bradley is participating via phone call, due to illness.

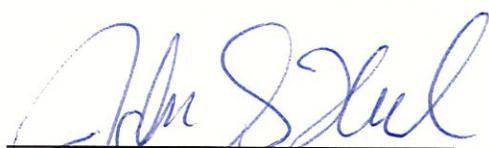
II. Real Estate Issue (s)

1. Real Estate Matter

Real estate matters were discussed, including attorney-client discussions.

III. Adjourn to Regular Session

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



MAYOR



CITY CLERK