

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
	Donnie Wright	City Attorney

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

Visitors: Sharon Swanepoel, Julie Sams, Carolyn Ledford, Kim Jolly, Wayne Jolly, Shauna Mathias, Clayton Mathias, Tara Polson, Mark Polson, Mike Mirolli, Michelle Mirolli, Victoria Adams, Laurie Hester, Mark Hayes, Jason Sams, Tora Sanders Lucas, Eli Connell, Tommy Fountain, Sr., Adam Fraley, Jennifer Hines, Jasper Greer

I. CALL TO ORDER – JOHN HOWARD

1. Invocation

Vice-Mayor Larry Bradley gave the invocation.

Mayor Howard requested a moment of silence for Captain Mike Matthews.

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 Malcom, seconded by R. Bradley.
Passed Unanimously*

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. May 4, 2021 Council Minutes
- b. May 11, 2021 Council Minutes
- c. May 18, 2021 Planning Commission Minutes
- d. May 25, 2021 Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
- e. April 8, 2021 Downtown Development Authority Minutes
- f. May 13, 2021 Downtown Development Authority Minutes
- g. April 8, 2021 Conventions and Visitors Bureau Minutes
- h. May 13, 2021 Conventions and Visitors Bureau Minutes
- i. Engineering Services – Water Treatment Plant Clearwell – Approval of Wiedeman & Singleton for \$207,490.00. (Recommended for Council approval by Utilities Committee June 1, 2021)

- j. Approval – Jacks Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation – To contract with Heavy Constructors, Inc. for \$5,521,591.00. (Recommended for Council approval by Utilities Committee June 1, 2021)
- k. Approval – Surplus and Sale of Seized Vehicles – To surplus on GovDeals. (Recommended for Council approval by Public Safety Committee June 1, 2021)

To approve the consent agenda as presented.

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

II. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

1. Proclamation – Captain Hubert Hawkins

Mayor John Howard explained the family requested the proclamation to be moved to the August Council Meeting, due to them being unable to attend tonight.

No Action.

2. 44th Annual Nursing Assistants' Week Proclamation

Mayor John Howard presented the Proclamation for the 44th Annual Nursing Assistants' Week, June 17 – 24, 2021 and Career Nursing Assistants' Day, June 17, 2021.

Ms. Jennifer Hines thanked the Mayor. She stated the Nursing Assistants of Georgia are trying to be recognized as long-term workers; the front-line workers are the front line to long-term care. They wrote to 61 Cities in the State of Georgia and have received 21 Proclamations so far. She invited everyone to Covington for their celebration, which will be held on June 17 in the Pavilion on Clark Street.

No Action.

3. Waste and Recycling Workers Week Proclamation

Mayor John Howard presented the Proclamation for Waste and Recycling Workers Week, June 14 – 18, 2021.

Mr. Danny Smith stated the crews worked throughout the entire year during the pandemic. There were only three employees, including himself, that were impacted by COVID.

No Action.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

1. Public Comments

Mr. Jason Sams, of 615 East Washington Street, stated his appreciation for the growth in Monroe and commended the City. There have been disturbances and issues in the community ranging from crime, loitering, and lack of code enforcement. They want to work with the City to create solutions to these problems. He challenged the City to do more, because there are definitely some issues. Intervention is needed from the City Government to curb these issues. He thinks the additional Marshal is great, but questioned the decrease in the Code Department Budget.

Mr. Mike Mirolli, of 208 Felker Street, stated his son, daughter-in-law, and grandson live on Church Street. He explained their house was struck by a car, after the second to last shooting that occurred in another district. There has been an increase in gun violence, cars being broken into, porch pirates, and burglary in their area. He questioned whether Monroe has a properly funded Police Department; he is a former Police Officer and Detective from Gwinnett County. The police are doing an excellent job, but they cannot proactively patrol the City if they are too busy mopping up behind messes. Mr. Mirolli questioned what immediate action is being taken to curb the rise in violent crimes, whether there needs to be an increase in police positions, whether salaries need to be increased, or whether a sign-on bonus needs to be implemented. He suggested implementing a 1% tax increase for civil servants or requesting assistance from Georgia State Patrol. He discussed speeders taking the path of least resistance by using other streets, due to traffic measures on Davis and Church Street. The City needs speed tables to slow the traffic on Felker, Washington, and North Madison. He questioned what measures are being taken to ensure that the reckless driving is being addressed; Felker Street does not even have

sidewalks. He questioned whether Monroe has the highest amount of people on government subsidy and if so why. Mr. Mirolli stated some districts are not being held accountable and questioned why this behavior has been allowed to continue. They spend their time and money in town, but they are having second thoughts about their move to Monroe.

Ms. Shauna Mathias, of 302 North Madison Avenue, stated there is a huge problem with housing in the City Limits. It is obvious that 75% of the rentals in the downtown area are riddled with code violations, which can physically be seen from the road. She questioned the current process for prompting landlords to keep their properties up to Code and free from junk and debris. She questioned why the Code Department has not been to Lacy Street. According to City Code, all properties should have grass and none of the properties on Lacy Street have grass. They also have eight-foot chain link fences with barbed wire surrounding their properties, when she had to go through steps to get her front fence put up. She discussed the deplorable conditions of the low-income houses and the City allowing people to live in those conditions. The tenants need to know that they can report their living conditions, and they need better options for housing. She discussed the crime and drugs on Lacy Street and Davis Street. The lower income citizens should not have to live next to drug lords and gang bangers. She questioned what the City plans on doing to fix this situation.

Mayor, Council, Police Chief Watts, Mr. Propes, Mr. Sams, Mr. Mirolli, and Ms. Mathias discussed the concerns, statistics, traffic, Code Enforcement Budget, slum lords, Police Department staffing, available resources, and affordable housing. They also discussed the landlord and tenant situation during various circumstances and limitations for intervening.

2. Public Hearing

a. Ordinance to Amend Official Zoning Map

Mr. Patrick Kelley presented the proposed zoning map, which has been updated to reflect all of the current zoning.

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. Zoning Ordinance Code Text Amendment #10

Mr. Patrick Kelley explained the text amendment has been reflected in the Zoning Ordinance. The amendment changes the boundary of the CBD and includes the Infill Overlay District. The CBD is being removed as Zoning Category and made an Overlay.

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

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

No Action.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Preliminary Plat Review – 1301 Alcovy Subdivision

Code Enforcement Officer Patrick Kelley presented the Preliminary Plat Review for 1301 Alcovy Street Subdivision for 56 lots. The recommendation is that corrections be made to the Plat, and the Code Office will make sure the corrections are accomplished prior to signing approval of the Plat. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval based on the corrections being made. Mr. Kelley stated those corrections plus any anomalies that occur due to the corrections will be made so the Plat will be in compliance prior to it being signed.

To approve the Preliminary Plat, with the requirement that the corrections listed on the Preliminary Plat Review Summary be completed and the Plat be redesigned to incorporate all these changes as presented plus any other anomalies, prior to signing the Plat for approval.

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

2. Application – Spirituous Liquors and Beer & Wine On-Premise Consumption – The Brown Fig

To approve the application.

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

3. FY2020 Audited Financial Statements (CAFR)

Ms. Beth Thompson introduced Mr. Adam Fraley, with Mauldin & Jenkins, to present the 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, with the final audit numbers.

Mr. Adam Fraley stated that he is the partner in charge of the external audit for the City of Monroe. He explained the City was required to have a Single Audit this year to audit Federal Expenditures, which included the Corona Virus Relief Fund and the Community Development Block Grant. He presented highlights from the FY2020 Audit. He discussed the Auditor's Discussion & Analysis, which is a summary of the audit results, stating the audit went smoothly. Mr. Fraley explained that they rendered an unmodified audit report, meaning a clean opinion of the audit for the year ending December 31, 2020. He commended the City of Monroe for going above and beyond what is required by State Law in preparing and reporting the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The City should be proud for receiving an award from the Government Finance Officers Association for the CAFR each year. 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. He explained there were some audit adjustments, which have been discussed with management, and have been reflected in the Financial Statements. He explained there were no finding this year. Mr. Fraley discussed the Management Point Recommendations and the new Accounting Standards that will be coming out.

To approve the FY2020 Audited Financial Statements.

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

4. 1st Reading – Ordinance to Amend Official Zoning Map

City Attorney Donnie Wright presented the first reading of the ordinance.

5. 1st Reading – Zoning Ordinance Code Text Amendment #10

City Attorney Donnie Wright presented the first reading of the ordinance.

V. MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor John Howard had no update tonight.

VI. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

VII. ADJOURN

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


MAYOR


CITY CLERK

The Mayor and Council met for an Executive Session.

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 (via phone)
	Tyler Gregory	Council Member
	Nathan Little	Council Member
	David Dickinson	Council Member
	Logan Propes	City Administrator
	Debbie Kirk	City Clerk
	Russell Preston	City Attorney
	Donnie Wright	City Attorney

Staff Present: Brad Callender, Sadie Krawczyk

I. Call to Order – John Howard

1. Roll Call

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

II. Personnel Issue (s)

1. Personnel Matter

Personnel matters were discussed, including attorney-client discussions.

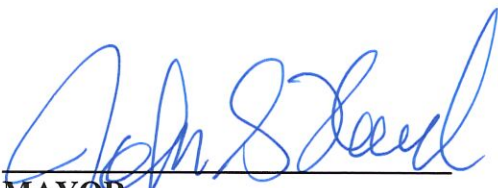
III. Real Estate Issue (s)

1. Real Estate Matter

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

IV. Adjourn to Regular Session

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



MAYOR



CITY CLERK