

The Mayor and Council met for a called meeting.

Those Present:	John Howard	Mayor
	Larry Bradley	Vice-Mayor
	Lee Malcom	Council Member
	Myoshia Crawford (via phone)	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
	Paul Rosenthal	City Attorney
	Donnie Wright	City Attorney

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

Visitors: Eli Connell, William McDaniel, Jason Sams, Tara Polson, Mark Polson, Mike Mirolli, Michelle Mirolli, Shauna Mathias, Clayton Mathias, Julie Sams, Kim Jolly, Jim Wilson

## **I. CALL TO ORDER – JOHN HOWARD**

### **1. Roll Call**

Mayor Howard noted that all Council Members were present, Council Member Myoshia Crawford was present via telephone. There was a quorum.

### **2. City Administrator Update**

City Administrator Logan Propes stated the City has funding on the way from the American Recovery Act. Projects in stormwater, water, sewer, and broadband will be eligible for the funding. He explained they will be evaluating projects to apply the funding to over the next few years. The City is preparing to be shovel ready for future Federal Funding Infrastructure Packages in case any become available. He stated they are continuing to work with the City Engineers to address all of the comments received concerning Traffic Calming Measures; functionality, placement, and aesthetics are all being discussed.

### **3. Central Services Update**

Mr. Chris Bailey stated there were a little over 100 volunteers for the City Cleanup Day on May 8, and there was approximately 1,320 pounds of trash picked up in about four hours. He discussed making it twice a year by having another Cleanup Day this fall. Between the facilities and grounds crews and the event, there was over 5,800 pounds of trash picked up in May. The attorneys are working on the easements for the 2020 CDBG. The City Newsletter went out today, and there will be a Proclamation for the Waste and Recycling Workers next week.

## **II. COMMITTEE INFORMATION**

### **1. Finance**

#### **a. Monthly Finance Report**

Ms. Beth Thompson presented the monthly Finance Report. All of the expenses are trending below budget, while revenues continue to trend upwards. The Sales Tax Revenues are about 16% more than last year. She discussed the SPLOST Budget information that she included in her report. The City of Monroe will receive about \$5.1 million from the Department of Treasury for the American Rescue Plan Funding; the funds are allocated through the State of Georgia. She explained the City will receive 50% this year and 50% twelve months later. Adam Fraley, with Mauldin and Jenkins will be at the meeting next week to present the final audited Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for 2020.

**2. Airport****a. Monthly Airport Report**

Mr. Chris Bailey presented the monthly Airport Report. The paving project at the Airport has been completed; the final striping was done on May 28, and everything looks great. He stated the area around the 12-unit T-hangar has been paved, and the other site has been graded, compacted, and is ready for paving. Atlanta Paving & Concrete Construction will be back 28 days from the opening date when everything is cured to add the final striping.

**3. Public Works****a. Monthly Solid Waste Report**

Mr. Danny Smith presented the monthly Solid Waste Report. The tipping floor at the Transfer Station was completed on May 15. The tonnage at the Transfer Station increased 738 tons from this time last year. He discussed the statistics from the Great American Cleanup; there were 6,900 pounds and 49 scrap tires collected from Monday to Friday. The third phase of the recycling cart upgrade will be starting with the carts being delivered on June 7. The glass collection services are now up to 292 customers. He explained they are tracking the recycling cart contamination. A three-strike system has been developed, but they will continue to educate the customers. Mr. Smith went over the holiday schedule.

**b. Monthly Streets & Transportation Report**

Mr. Jeremiah Still presented the monthly Streets & Transportation Report. The crews are picking up trash and cutting the right-of-ways. They are doing a ton of asphalt work and catching up on utility cuts. The crews are preparing for the deep patching portion of the LMIG Project on Washington, Bryant Road, and Pine Crest. He will be coordinating with the County and the contractor to get the streets milled for the County to pave. He stated the paving will take place mid to late summer. The striping is being done on South Madison Avenue today. He will have quotes for the Police Department parking lot rehab next month. There are also a couple of sidewalk projects that will be done prior to paving.

**4. Utilities****a. Monthly Electric & Telecom Report**

Mr. Brian Thompson presented the monthly Electric & Telecom Report. The electric usage is up 7.65% from last year. The first transformers were set for Publix last week, and the underground will be starting after the project on Etten Drive. They are working on four commercial buildings on Etten Drive. He explained the Wellington Project has run into rock, so they are going to try using a switch bore instead of a bore. They are working on the installation for a subdivision off of Pannell Road. Three of the downtown lights have been installed at the back of the courthouse; they will start the downtown area next week. They will put the centennial banners up at the same time.

**b. Monthly Water, Sewer, & Gas Report**

Mr. Rodney Middlebrooks presented the monthly Water, Sewer, & Gas Report. The Highway 186 Project is at about the half way point; they are going to stop temporarily and move over to Southview Drive. The Alcovy River and Highway 138 Sewer Extension is moving along; the contractor is building their roads. Wiedeman and Singleton have completed the design for the 30-inch raw water line, and it has been sent to EPD for approval. MAB has installed the 18-inch line on Mayfield and are now working their way back towards the plant. He explained the Loganville Water Line Extension has been completed, and the line has been chlorinated. They are waiting on some control work that has to be done at the pump station.

**c. Engineering Services – Water Treatment Plant Clearwell**

Mr. Rodney Middlebrooks requested approval for Wiedeman and Singleton to begin engineering the design for the new clear well at the Water Treatment Plant. It will be a one-million-gallon clear well. He explained this was included in the future water plans for the City several years ago and is a Bond Project. The total amount is \$207,490.00 for the design, bid, and construction.

The committee recommends to Council approval of the engineering services by Wiedeman and Singleton, Inc. for the amount of \$207,490.00.

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

**d. Approval – Jacks Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation**

Mr. Rodney Middlebrooks stated the bid opening was last Thursday, with five bidders. He stated the recommendation for the Jack's Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation is for Heavy Constructors for the amount of \$5,521,591.00, which is a Bond Project.

The committee recommends to award the bid to Heavy Constructors, Inc. for \$5,521,591.00 to Council.

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

**5. Public Safety**

**a. Monthly Fire Report**

Fire Chief Andrew Dykes presented the monthly Fire Report. The department responded to 174 incidents in April. He stated there were three motor vehicles versus pedestrian incidents over a five-day period, with a total of five patients. The most significant fire loss was estimated at \$7,500. He commended Chief Watts' personnel for their help. A patrol officer was in the area and was able to use his fire extinguisher to keep the fire in check until the engine arrived. He stated EMA closed the vaccination pod, which gave approximately 1,600 COVID vaccines. The Fire Department was able to provide 137 and a half man hours assisting with the vaccinations.

**b. Monthly Police Report**

Police Chief R.V. Watts presented the monthly Police Report. The calls for service increased 733 from this time last year; the area checks continue to be around 8,000. He stated the court cases are up, Part 1 Crimes are up, and Part II Crimes are down a little bit. There were 67 adult arrests and 7 juvenile arrests. They had three major incidents, and the officers did a good job of working them. Chief Watts explained they have implemented a system of designating one officer specifically to traffic. He requested for everyone to keep Captain Michael Matthews in their prayers.

**c. Approval – Surplus and Sale of Seized Vehicles**

Police Chief R.V. Watts requested approval to surplus a list of seized vehicles and motorcycles on GovDeals. He explained there are approximately 15 seized vehicles and five vehicles that have been obtained by the excess property program.

The committee recommends to Council approval to surplus the vehicles on GovDeals.

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

**6. Planning & Code**

**a. Monthly Code Report**

Mr. Patrick Kelley presented the monthly Code Report. The Code office had 206 inspections and 48 total permits. He stated 9 new businesses acquired licenses and 10 businesses closed. The ongoing major projects were The Roe and Grace Monroe Church at 203 Bold Springs Avenue. The City Marshal removed 74 signs from the roadway and issued 152 repair / cleanup notices. He explained the Planning and Zoning Commission had three COA requests; two were granted and one was withdrawn. There were also a variance and rezone request, which were both subsequently granted by Council.

**7. Economic Development**

**a. Monthly Economic Development Report**

Ms. Sadie Krawczyk presented the monthly Economic Development Report. She included pictures of some COAs that have been granted by the Historic Preservation Commission and the

Planning and Zoning Commission over the last few months, which are examples of renovations and exterior improvements happening downtown. The DDA still administers the Façade Grant Program; the matching reimbursable grant assists downtown businesses with exterior improvements. She stated the previous concert was the largest May Concert that the City has ever had, and the June Concert will be held on the Downtown Green this Friday. Audrey Fuller has been hired as the new Market Manager for the Farmers Market; she has a farm in Walton County and has been involved with Walton County Food Alliance. Ms. Krawczyk stated the Citizen Steering Committee for the City Branding Effort had their follow up meeting with public engagement, and the Carl Vincent Institute gave them some branding direction options. The new brand will be revealed in late fall around the bicentennial. The first meeting on the Blaine Station Master Plan and the Planned Commercial District Zoning will be held this week with Lord Aeck Sargent. The Monroe Blooms Flower Festival will be on June 19, from 8:30 to 4:00 all through town.

### 8. Parks

#### a. Monthly Parks Report

Mr. Chris Bailey presented the monthly Parks Report. Pilot Park remains busy. He and Ms. Crawford met onsite at Mathews Park to walk the area about two weeks ago. They discussed roadside landscaping and locations for the additional bathroom and pavilions. Keck & Wood is going to look at the dam, because the stand pipe is not draining. He and Mr. Still are meeting with contractors to get paving bids. Mr. Bailey stated the cost for the additional restroom will be between \$60,000 and \$70,000. He hopes to bring an actual project budget back to Council next month.

Council and staff discussed WiFi in the parks, paving, the nature walk, and placement for the restroom and pavilion. They also discussed the original concept for Mathews Park and the budget that was previously proposed.

### III. ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

1. Public Hearing – Ordinance to Amend Official Zoning Map
2. Public Hearing – Zoning Ordinance Code Text Amendment #10
3. Preliminary Plat Review – 1301 Alcovy Street Subdivision
4. Application – Spirituous Liquors and Beer & Wine On-Premise Consumption – The Brown Fig
5. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Ordinance to Amend Official Zoning Map
6. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Zoning Ordinance Code Text Amendment #10


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

### IV. MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor John Howard stated the GMA Annual Conference will be in person from August 6 to August 10, and registration will be next Tuesday. He, Logan, and David Thompson have been working on the Countywide Comprehensive Transportation Plan with DOT and other area officials. Over the next 30 years, Walton County is looking at a 43% increase in population and 10,000 additional jobs. Mayor Howard discussed how successful the mass vaccination sites have been in Monroe; the closer the population gets to the 80% level of vaccination the better.

### V. ADJOURN

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

  
MAYOR

  
CITY CLERK