

The Mayor and Council met for their regular meeting.

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| 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, R.V. Watts, Bill Owens, Beth Thompson, Rodney Middlebrooks, Darrell Stone, Sadie Krawczyk, Chris Bailey, Patrick Kelley, Beverly Harrison

Visitors: Andrew Kenneson, Les Russell, Marsha Blackmon, Marcia Young, Christie Johnson, Gail Dobbs, Donnalisa Sharkey, Teresa Tanner, Carole Queen, David Thompson, Helen Hardy, Shirley Carson, Andy Carson, Shelley Peters, Wes Sorrells, Liam Willis, Krista Willis, Jenni Yeater, Eli Yeator, Susan Walden, Rachel Lewis, Rukaia Sohely, Brittany Hayes, Renee Hutchison, Beata Jastrzebski, Robert Post, Alan McDaniel, Tara Clark, Angel Clark, Michael Chambers, Benny Parker, Bill Roberts, Jillian Worthy, Jerel Worthy, Julian Jastrzebski, Mackenzie Olden, Mansoor Badshah, Nuruddin Madhani, Sally Mansour

I. CALL TO ORDER – JOHN HOWARD

1. Invocation

Pastor Wes Sorrells of First United Methodist Church 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 R. Bradley, seconded by Malcom.
Passed Unanimously*

Move Item 1 under Public Presentation – Ending the Cycle to Item 9 under New Business. To approve the agenda as amended.

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

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. December 3, 2019 Council Minutes
- b. December 10, 2019 Council Minutes
- c. November 14, 2019 Downtown Development Authority Minutes
- d. December 12, 2019 Downtown Development Authority Minutes
- e. November 14, 2019 Conventions and Visitors Bureau Minutes
- f. December 12, 2019 Conventions and Visitors Bureau Minutes

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 14, 2020 6:00 P.M.

- g.** GMEBS Restated Defined Benefit Retirement Plan Amendments and Updates – Approval of amendments as presented. (Recommended for Council approval by Finance Committee January 7, 2020)
- h.** Runway Rehabilitation Design – Approval of services by GMC Networks. (Recommended for Council approval by Airport Committee January 7, 2020)
- i.** Approval – GEMA Generator Grant Application – To proceed with application to purchase four emergency power generators. (Recommended for Council approval by Utilities Committee January 7, 2020)
- j.** 2020 NextSite Funding – Approval of contract funding for retail marketing services. (Recommended for Council approval by Downtown Development Authority January 7, 2020)
- k.** Request for Termination of Portions of 2003 IGA of Park Properties with Walton County – To approve the termination request. (Recommended for Council approval by Parks Committee January 7, 2020)

To approve the consent agenda as presented.

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

II. PUBLIC PRESENTATION**1. Ending the Cycle**

Moved to Section IV. New Business – Item 9.

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

Mr. Jerel Worthy stated his family has been Walton County residents for about two years. They lost one of their two dogs before Christmas and started fostering dogs. He discussed fostering a husky named Diesel, who had laceration scars from an embedded collar. Diesel was left outside and chained constantly. He stated that fostering gives them an opportunity to get to know the dogs. He discussed their malnourishment and lack of care. Fostering gives the dogs a chance to be adopted and a chance for a second life.

Ms. Donnalisa Sharkey stated she has been living in Georgia for the last 12 years. She was an Animal Control Officer in New Jersey and has never seen so many strays and neglect in her life. Ending the Cycle has supplied hay, dog food, dog houses, medication, fencing, and collars for animals. They contact Animal Control when needed, but nothing gets done. She discussed the lack of care for the dogs and puppies located at 207 Sorrells and 205 Sorrells. Officers have been there multiple times, but nothing has changed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS**1. Application – Spirituous Liquors and Beer & Wine On-Premise Consumption – Lindsey-Garrett Post No. 64 of the American Legion**

To approve the application.

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

2. Application – Beer & Wine On-Premise Consumption – Addison's Wonderland

To approve the application.

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

3. Application – Beer & Wine Package Sales – The Market

To approve the application.

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

4. Application – Beer & Wine Package Sales – Quic Pic Food Mart

To approve the application.

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

5. Resolution – Open Records Officer

To approve the resolution as presented.

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

6. 2nd Reading – Fire Protection and Prevention Ordinance Amendment

City Attorney Paul Rosenthal gave the second reading of the ordinance to amend Chapter 46 – Fire Protection and Prevention.

To adopt the ordinance.

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

7. Plaza Renovation Bid Proposal – Police / Municipal Court Complex

Mr. Chris Bailey explained Sizemore has finished the review and verification process of the bid proposals. He stated Place Services, Inc. had the lowest base bid amount of \$2,270,000 and the alternate bid total is \$275,500, for a grand total of \$2,535,900. He is requesting approval of Alternates 1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 for \$61,400, making the total request \$2,331,400 to Place Services, Inc. for the renovation. He stated Sizemore will be acting as the on-site general contractor. The project will have an eight-month time line, after about 30 days of negotiations.

To approve contracting with Place Services, Inc. for the total amount of \$2,331,400.00 for the base and alternate bids as presented.

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

8. Approval – Out of State Travel for Police

Police Chief R.V. Watts requested approval to send Officer Brandon Studdard to the Alabama Canine Law Enforcement Training Center for his K-9 Certification. The training will be February 3, 2020 through May 3, 2020 in Northport, Alabama. Officer Studdard will travel in a City issued vehicle. The cost will be \$18,594.00 for training and \$4,950.00 for per diem.

To allow Officer Brandon Studdard to attend the Alabama Canine Law Enforcement Training Center in Northport, Alabama, February 3, 2020 to May 3, 2020.

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

9. Ending the Cycle Presentation

Ms. Jillian Worthy stated she has a big heart towards animals; it is caring about living things. She discussed handing out \$10,000 worth of Frontline that was donated. People with pets should take care of them or they should not have pets. She discussed backyard breeding being out of control.

Ms. Mona Stephens and Ms. Sally Mansour shared a prepared video and binder of information containing interviews, statistics, and pictures. Ms. Stephens stated they get calls about chained dogs and backyard breeding weekly. She stated Ending the Cycle offers free spaying and neutering; all of the uncontrolled breeding fills the shelters up.

Ms. Mansour discussed the information in the binder, which contains a lot of solutions. She stated that the City could bring the tether ban back; tethering is the root of the problem. Backyard breeding and tethering are directly correlated to dog fighting and drug sales. They are working on grants to get money to have a low cost spay and neuter program in Monroe and

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 14, 2020 6:00 P.M.

Walton County. They have a discount fence builder that will help build kennels to get dogs off chains. She hopes that the City of Monroe will work with them to reap the benefits.

Police Chief R.V. Watts stated he believes in what they are trying to do, but since the City adopted the County Ordinance, it is more of a County issue. He recommended that they contact the City Police Department to get a report when they see incidents in the City limits. The documentation can then be used as evidence in building a case.

Ms. Stephens discussed Animal Control getting called for incidents but no one getting cited.

Council Member Larry Bradley questioned the problems associated with backyard breeding and their recommendation for addressing the problem.

Ms. Stephens stated backyard breeding to be a huge problem in Monroe. Most of the dogs are pit bulls which are being bred for money, fighting, and bait. Animal Control ends up getting the brunt of all the puppies.

Ms. Mansour stated there are several solutions in the binder; Code Enforcement has a lot to do with the solution. She explained some Cities and Counties have started requiring breeding permits, which can be regulated.

Ms. Carol Queen stated that she doesn't understand. She feels negligence and abuse would be a Police related issue, but all she keeps hearing is that it is a County issue.

Mayor John Howard explained the City is inline with the County Ordinance, which is enforced by Animal Control. Negligence and abuse would be a Police Department issue and getting a report will give backup.

Mayor, Council, Ms. Queen, Ms. Mansour, Ms. Stephens, and Ms. Worthy discussed the process for getting the Ordinance reversed to give the City control, getting the tethering ban reinstated, and other Cities and Counties. They also discussed the Zoning Ordinance, commercial breeding, and the quantity of pets allowed in a residential area.

City Administrator Logan Propes stated the City is at the mercy of Walton County concerning taking animals and housing animals.

Mr. Andy Carson reminded everyone there will be an election in November. He will be pushing everyone to vote against candidates voting against the tethering ban.

Council Member David Dickinson stated the City of Monroe needs to look at changing the ordinances. He understands the Service Delivery Strategy. He understands that the City relies on the County for the enforcement, but it is an illustration of failure in the Service Delivery Strategy. This should not prevent the City from adopting a stronger ordinance, which includes the anti-tethering provision and regulates backyard breeding. Mr. Dickinson feels the City needs to step-up and start the process; he would like to see this addressed at the Planning Retreat next month.

No Action.

V. ADJOURN

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



MAYOR



CITY CLERK