

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
	Greg Thompson	Council Member
	David Dickinson	Council Member
	Logan Propes	City Administrator
	Beverly Harrison	Interim City Clerk
	Paul Rosenthal	City Attorney
	Russell Preston	City Attorney

Staff Present: Danny Smith, Jeremiah Still, R.V. Watts, Andrew Dykes, Beth Thompson, Rodney Middlebrooks, Mike McGuire, Chris Bailey, Kaitlyn Stubbs, Les Russell, Sandy Daniels, Brian Wilson

Visitors: George Whitlock, Hallie Whitlock, Stephen Milligan, Chuck Bradley, Heather Bradley, Chris Hall, Gloria Reese

**I. CALL TO ORDER – JOHN HOWARD**

**1. Invocation**

Mr. Larry Bradley gave the invocation.

**2. Roll Call**

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

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Mayor Howard stated the Walton Teen Advocacy Board Presentation at the meeting next month.

To approve the agenda.

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

**4. Approval of Consent Agenda**

- a. April 9, 2024 Council Minutes
- b. April 9, 2024 Executive Session Minutes
- c. January 23, 2024 Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
- d. March 14, 2024 Downtown Development Authority Minutes
- e. March 14, 2024 Conventions and Visitors Bureau Minutes

To approve the consent agenda as presented.

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

**II. PUBLIC FORUM**

**1. Public Presentations**

- a. Mental Health Awareness Proclamation

Mayor John Howard presented the Proclamation for Mental Health Awareness.

Ms. Emily Emmons sang the National Anthem.

*No Action.*

b. Walton Teen Advocacy Board Presentation  
Presentation moved to next month's meeting.

## 2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

### III. BUSINESS ITEMS

#### 1. City Administrator Update

City Administrator Logan Propes discussed Downtown being transformative over the last few weeks. Several new businesses, the Town Green, and the Splash Pad have opened. He recognized Mr. Middlebrooks and the Gas Department for being awarded the 2023 National Gas Enterprise Growth and Development Award at the Gas Authority Conference.

#### 2. Assistant City Administrator Update

Assistant City Administrator Chris Bailey discussed Community Cleanup Day, the opening of the Town Green and Splash Pad, and the Blooms Flower Festival. The Stormwater Masterplan is about half way done. There is a possibility that the State might fund building more hangars at the Airport; construction for the Taxiway Rehab will be starting by July. A 42-foot Christmas Tree has been acquired for the Town Green.

#### 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. **Public Works:** Approval – 2024 Local Road Assistance Administration Funds (LRA)

Mr. Jeremiah Still explained the City is eligible to receive \$248,794.50 in Local Road Assistance Administration Funds from the Georgia Department of Transportation. The LRA Funds do not require a match from the City. McDaniel Street is in need of more repairs than were approved in the 2024 LMIG. He recommended approval of an additional 1.7 lane miles for McDaniel Street for various aspects of work from milling, overlay, and striping.

To approve the 2024 Local Road Assistance Administration Funds.

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

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### 1. New Business

- a. Natural Gas Delivery Service Intergovernmental Agreement

City Administrator Logan Propes recommended approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement with Walton County for upgrades to the Natural Gas distribution system pertaining to the Walton County Public Safety Complex. This will give the complex higher gas pressures and volumes. The City will share a portion of the cost for the pipeline installation. The expected cost is \$2,477,342, and Walton County will contribute \$1,500,000 towards the construction of the new high-pressure gas line.



To approve the IGA with Walton County for upgrades to the Natural Gas Distribution System.

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

**b. MONROE Sign**

City Administrator Logan Propes recommended approval of the funding for a replica of the M-O-N-R-O-E sign to be placed next to the Old City Hall and current Hammock Park. There is an offer from local business IMMEC and brokered by the Downtown Development Authority for a monument to be built paying tribute to the historic lighted MONROE sign that stood atop the Wayne Street water tower until the downburst storm in 1993. IMMEC would contribute all labor and the City would fund the materials at a maximum cost of \$75,000, which will be paid from SPLOST Park Funds.

To approve funding for the MONROE sign.

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

**c. Appointment – Historic Preservation Commission**

City Administrator Logan Propes explained there are several qualified applicants, so all of the applications have been included for Council to review.

To appoint Charles Bradley for a three-year term, to expire May 1, 2027.

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

**d. Resolution – 2023 Budget Amendments**

Ms. Beth Thompson explained the year end budget amendments are required to be in compliance with criteria from the State of Georgia and Federal Government. The amendments are to finalize the Financial Statements and the Annual Comprehensive Financial Statements for the auditors. She stated the amendments will increase revenues and offset an increase in expenses, due to the way Capital Leases and Finance purchases are recorded under GASB 87.

To approve the Resolution.

*Motion by Thompson, seconded by Brown.  
Passed Unanimously*

**e. Resolution – 2024 National Opioid Fund Budget**

Ms. Beth Thompson explained a special revenue fund has been set aside for the receipt and expenditures of funds, due to new guidelines under the National Opioid Settlement. The City is required to adopt a budget for the special revenue fund. This Resolution is to adopt the FY2024 Budget for the National Opioid Fund of \$57,500.

To approve the Resolution.

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

**V. DISTRICT ITEMS**

**1. District Items**

Council Member Lee Malcom thanked Lisa Reynolds, her mom, Chris, and Dwain for all their work on the plants throughout town.

Council Member Julie Sams discussed being excited to see all of the kids and families out at the Splash Pad and Town Green.

Council Member Adriane Brown thanked the citizens that helped with Cleanup Day and Community Impact Day.

Council Member Tyler Gregory discussed the two homes built by Habitat for Humanity.

Council Member Greg Thompson discussed the meeting between Mayor Howard and Patrick Graham, with the Walton Tribune. He requested Mayor Howard to get advice next time before such an event.

Council Member David Dickinson discussed the meeting and requested the Mayor to never do anything like that again.

**2. Mayoral Update**


Mayor John Howard discussed the Walton County Municipal Association dinner; Mr. Chip Underwood will be the speaker. Students from the University of Liverpool will be in Monroe on June 18. Fireworks have been confirmed for July 4.

**VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor John Howard stated there is no need to go into an Executive Session.

**VII. ADJOURN**

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

  
MAYOR

  
INTERIM CITY CLERK