



**OFFICIAL MINUTES
RINCON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
107 W. 17TH STREET
7:00 PM**

Councilmember Present:

Reese Browher
Levi Scott, Jr.
Patrick Kirkland
Jesse Blackwell, Jr.
Michelle Taylor
Damon Rahn – present by phone

Present:

Ken Lee, Mayor
Jonathan Lynn, City Manager
Raymond Dickey, City Attorney
Dulcia King, City Clerk
Jonathon Murrell, Police Chief
Lou Reed, Interim Fire Chief
Terri Lewis, Planning and Development Director
Mike Osborne, Recreation Director
Tm Bowles, Public Works Director

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM. The Invocation was given by Mayor Lee and Pledge to the Flag was recited. A moment of silence was observed in honor of former Councilmember and Mayor George Saraf.

Approval of the agenda with the following:

New business items 2 and 3 approval to pay should be to Hardy Chevrolet not West Chatham Devices, Inc.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Kirkland
Vote by Council: Unanimous

Approval of the February 13, 2023 minutes with the following corrections:

Councilmember Scott approved the agenda and Council member Rahn seconded. under old business item 1 Rita Elliot was referred to as Ms. Green.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Taylor
Second: Councilmember Blackwell
Vote by Council: Unanimous

New Business:

1. Second reading of an amendment to the City of Rincon Code of Ordinance Article V Purchasing, Section 2-205 Competitive Bidding Required.

Mr. Lynn said this request is to increase the threshold for competitive bidding. The increase will go from \$5,000.00 to \$20,000.00 for bids only. Items over \$5,000.00 will still have to be approved by Council.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Browher
Second: Councilmember Scott

Matthew Spaccerali, 306 Centerwood Court said he thinks competitive bidding would be a good thing to have at a lower level than a higher level. Competitive bidding is a good thing to have for checks and balances. Mayor Lee said the fact is that this has not been addressed or change in a number of years. It is just simple math and inflation and addressing what the current financial situation is. Attorney Dickey said he wanted to make sure Mr. Spaccarelli was aware that we are not getting rid of competitive bidding.

Vote by Council: Unanimous

Chief Murrell introduced new hires Christopher Buckner, he will graduate on March 24 from the Police Academy and Nelson Guggino, who started Feb 1, he is already certified and worked 4 ½ years with Effingham County Jail.

2. Request approval to pay Hardy Chevrolet \$59,083.60 to outfit two Chevrolet Tahoe's. LI #320.3200.542213

Chief Murrell said he submitted this request for West Chatham but Hardy Chevrolet is subbing out the work to West Chatham. Item 3 is for the two School Resource Officers vehicles to be outfitted at a cost of \$54,772.26 and we will get a 75% reimbursement from the school board. That is why it is broken down like that. Councilmember Kirkland asked how long it would take, Chief Murrell said he is hoping by April. The total for all five vehicles for stripeing is \$5,355.84 and window tint is \$1,000.00 for all five vehicles.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Kirkland
Second: Councilmember Blackwell
Vote by Council:

3. Request approval to pay Hardy Chevrolet \$92,521.15 to outfit three Chevrolet Tahoe's. LI #320.3200.542213

Motion to approve: Councilmember Browher

Second: Councilmember Scott

Vote by Council: Unanimous

4. Request approval to contract with All American Petting Zoo for the 2023 Rincon Spring Fair (Petting Zoo and Pig Races) in the amount of \$12,000.00. LI #100.6100.531520

Mr. Osborne said this is the same petting zoo that we have used since we started the Fair and the same price.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Taylor

Second: Councilmember Blackwell

Vote by Council: Unanimous

5. Request approval to contract with All American Petting Zoo Pig Races for the 2023 Rincon Spring Fair in the amount of \$9,000.00. LI #100.6100.531520

Mr. Osborne said this is also the same price as last year.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Kirkland

Second: Councilmember Taylor

Vote by Council: Unanimous

6. Sikes Brothers, Inc request approval of Pay Request #3 in the amount of \$18,776.42 for 2022 LMIG - 6th Street. LI #320.4100.541246

Doug Morgan with EMC Engineering said this is for final stripeing and retainage for last year's LMIG. We were holding the retainage because there was a pile of debris. This will close the project out.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott

Second: Councilmember Blackwell

Vote by Council: Unanimous

7. Griffin Contracting, Inc request approval of Pay Request #7 (final retainage) in the amount of \$91,911.35 for 2021 TSPLOST - Middleground Road. LI #335.4100.549104

Mr. Morgan said this has been completed but there was a concrete driveway issue. They have gone back and forth with the contractor. Mr. Bowles has fixed the issue and the resident is satisfied. The payment has been delayed because we were holding their

retainage. Mr. Lynn said we are going ask that this be paid at \$81,911.35, essentially we are paying ourselves back for doing the work that the contractor would not do.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Taylor

Second: Councilmember Scott

Vote by Council: Unanimous

8. Request approval to award the bid for the Sanitary Pump Station Improvements to Pinholster Construction, LLC, d/b/a PINCO in the amount of \$201,680.00.

Mr. Bowles said this has been bid out on several different occasions. This is the third time it has been bid out. Councilmember Browher asked was this a line item in the budget, Mr. Bowles said yes. Councilmember Scott said the question is, is this a reasonable cost. Councilmember Rahn asked is it possible for us to do an invitation to vendors, Mr. Morgan said we do this for every bid. Mr. Lynn said what we will start doing is putting these on the State Procurement website. Mr. Lynn said if Council could approve to award it at a not to exceed amount, maybe Mr. Bowles could do something to save some money.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Browher

Second: Councilmember Scott

Vote by Council: Unanimous

Councilmember Browher asked can we track how much we save to see how it played out.

9. Request approval of a Resolution to become a Certified City of Civility through the Georgia Municipal Association.

Mr. Lynn said this is a new program from GMA, asking Cities to adopt a resolution to be civil. You are not always going to agree, but to do it in a civil way.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott

Second: Councilmember Kirkland

Vote by Council: Unanimous

10. Administrative Reports:

City Manager – Mr. Lynn reminded Council of the joint meeting tomorrow night; The dot gov migration is progressing; we will soon have agenda management software; and he will be attending the Georgia City/County Manager Conference next week.

City Engineer - Mr. Morgan said they have two projects ready to bid after this week; the Highway 21 sidewalk project is on hold, there is not enough right of way in front of McDonalds. We will need to get permission from McDonalds; the 9th Street sidewalks are ready to bid but easements are needed.

Chief of Police – Chief Murrell one of the officers got bit when apprehending a suspect; Detective Vance received a request to put on a gang class by staff at the school; Councilmember Kirkland asked about Blue Line, Chief Murrell said they are waiting on the radar permit.

Building/Zoning Dept. - Mayor Lee asked has Sewon gone thorough us for land clearing, Mr. Lynn said yes the IDA pulled the permits. Councilmember Browher said he has been getting questions about Kroger and the strip mall; Ms. Lewis said she is having a pre construction meeting coming up with Parkers; Councilmember Browher asked about the benches on Highway 21. They need to be replaced maybe staff could work with Parker’s on donating to the City to replace the three benches.

Recreation Dept. – Mr. Osborne said the playground is still on schedule; Councilmember Taylor said the area where the memorial is needs to be cleaned up; Mr. Osborne also said the tennis courts will have pickle ball.

Water/Sewer/Public Works – Mr. Bowles was thanked for stripeing in Lost Plantation.

Mayor and Council – Councilmember Browher said he has gotten a complaint about a large pothole going across the road in Governor’s Ridge. It is private road but could be a public safety hazard.

11. Executive session to discuss personnel, pending litigation, attorney client privilege, and real estate.

Motion: Councilmember Blackwell
Second: Councilmember Scott
Vote by Council: Unanimous

Motion to return to meeting: Councilmember Taylor
Second: Councilmember Blackwell
Vote by Council: Unanimous

12. Follow the statutes of executive session, to put on file an executive session affidavit and resolution.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Browher
Second: Councilmember Kirkland
Vote by Council: Unanimous

13. Take any action that is needed on the items from executive session.

No action taken.

Adjourn:

Motion: Councilmember Taylor

Second: Councilmember Scott

Vote by Council: Unanimous