

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
RINCON CITY COUNCILMEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015  
COUNCILCHAMBERS  
107 W. 17<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
7:00 PM**

Councilmembers Present:

Councilman Browher  
Councilwoman Ricker  
Councilman Dasher  
Councilman Morgan  
Councilman Wendelken

Also In Attendance:

Ken Lee, Mayor  
Raymond Dickey, City Attorney  
Wesley Corbitt, City Manager  
Ashley Zoller, Minutes  
LaMeisha Kelly, Building & Zoning  
Tim Bowles, Public Works  
Corey Rahn, Fire Department

Absent:

Councilman Scott

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 PM by Mayor Lee. Councilman Wendelken gave the invocation and the pledge to the flag was recited.

**Approval of the agenda:**

Motion to approve: Councilwoman Ricker  
Second: Councilman Dasher  
Vote: Unanimous

**Approval of the minutes of March 23, 2015:**

Motion to approve: Councilman Browher  
Second: Councilman Dasher  
Vote: Unanimous

Accurate record by Mayor Lee.

**Recognition**

We would like to recognize Boy Scout, Christian Mason, with Troup 165, attempting to obtain his leadership badge who will be sitting in during this meeting and taking notes.

**Old Business:**

**1. Second Reading of an ordinance to amend the noise ordinance. (This item was tabled at the 3/23/15 meeting.)**

Motion to Remove from Table: Councilman Morgan  
Second: Councilwoman Ricker  
Vote: Unanimous

Councilman Morgan stated that the only thing he saw was something on landscape equipment wants to make sure that the cut off afternoon time is 8:00 pm. It was confirmed that the time was from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Motion to Approve: Councilman Morgan  
Second: Councilwoman Ricker  
Vote: Unanimous

**New Business:**

**1. Request to refinance GEFA loans with Ameris Bank.**

Motion to approve: Councilman Dasher  
Second: Councilman Browher  
Vote: Unanimous

Elise Eason, Finance, noted that monthly and annual payments will stay the same. However, we will save almost \$500,000.00 as a reduced interest for the term of the loan. The term will also be reduced to 13 years.

Councilman Browher asks if we had allowed others an opportunity to quote the City of Rincon for these loans. Councilman Morgan asked if there are any prepayment penalties and Mr. Corbitt, stated there are not.

Councilman Dasher, if it came up, can this be paid off early. Per City Attorney Raymond Dickey, there would more than likely be penalties. Mr. Corbitt will verify.

**2. Request to amend budget to include \$20,000 for Siren installation.**

Motion to approve: Councilwoman Ricker  
Second: Councilman Wendelken  
Vote: Unanimous

Mayor Lee stated he thought there was money from 2014 that did not get used or rolled over. Elise Eason stated this was correct.

Councilman Browher discussed notifying citizens about a monthly testing. Mr. Corbitt stated that would be something that would have to be organized.

Councilman Wendelken stated that they could notify citizens that “weather permitting” a test would be conducted and the city will test at a set time each month.

It was recommended that management notify citizens of exactly where the sirens are located.

**3. Request to enter Property & Liability Insurance Contract with J. Smith Lanier in the amount of \$118,947.**

Motion to Table: Councilwoman Ricker  
Second: Councilman Wendelken  
Vote: Unanimous

This would be “our” insurance and not shared with anyone else. “Our” meaning the City of Rincon only. Councilman Wendelken asked if this is something that we would need to bid out. The policy renews on May 1, 2015 per Mr. Corbitt.

Per Mr. Corbitt, through his research, general liability and everything is the same from GIRMA to J. Smith Lanier except for the aggregate amounts of portions of the insurance. Per City Attorney, Raymond Dickey, he stated that most insurance companies coverage are provided through smaller and/or private insurance companies; however, we know that GIRMA only provides coverage to municipalities and stands behind their coverage. Per Mr. Corbitt, this company represents the Cities of Sylvania, Macon, Thunderbolt, and many other cities in the State of Georgia.

Councilman Browher stated that the city should go with what they know and how they have been treated. He noted that GIRMA has always taken care of us, no matter what. Granted, that \$37,000 is a lot of money, but all it takes is one liability issue to use that difference.

Per Councilman Wendelken, there should be a minimum of \$5,000.00 deductible. Per Mayor Lee, maybe we should get with other local cities to see how their coverage is.

Mr. Corbitt asked Councilman Wendelken and others on the Council to help organize questions, so that we can obtain answers to Council’s concerns.

**4. Pay Request #5 from Eagle Excavation, Inc. for work completed on Macomber Park Expansion, Phase 3 (parking expansion). Line Item# 10.4650.4413.**

Motion to approve: Councilman Wendelken  
Second: Councilman Dasher  
Vote: Unanimous

Pay request in the amount of \$136,701.81.

**5. Resolution of the City of Rincon for the adoption of the Effingham County Joint Comprehensive Plan, 2015-2019.**

Motion to approve: Councilman Browher  
Second: Councilwoman Ricker  
Vote: Unanimous

Per LaMeisha Kelly, this is the final resolution. Councilman Morgan asked why this was not a normal 10 year policy. Mrs. Kelly stated this is a short-term policy.

**6. Change order #1 for the Macomber Park Expansion PH 3 (parking expansion) in the amount of \$11,578.30. Line Item# 10.4650.4413.**

Motion to approve: Councilman Dasher  
Second: Councilman Wendelken  
Vote: Unanimous

This fence will match the current fence that is out there. Councilman Morgan asked if there is going to be signage once completed. Mr. Corbitt stated that there should and will communicate with Recreation Department.

Councilman Morgan stepped out at 8:24 pm.

**7. Request that City Council accepts the following annexation petitions:**

1. Rincon Church of God, Inc. - 2 properties
2. Edward & Darnett Coleman - 1 property
3. Darnett Coleman - 1 property
4. Coastal Properties Unlimited, Inc. - 2 properties
5. W. Frederick Long - 2 properties
6. DTG Investments, LLC - 31 properties
7. Robert & Jessica Mazzarello, II - 1 property
8. Kates Cove Homeowners Association, Inc. - 2 properties
9. Long Builders, Inc. - 3 properties
10. Daniel & Julia O'Conner - 1 property
11. Qingmin Cheng & Cuiwei Zhang - 1 property
12. William & Becky Long - 1 property
13. John & Regina Roush - 2 properties
14. Robert & Krista Cannon - 1 property
15. Russell & Tiffany Tomberlin - 1 property
16. Joseph & Chelsea Rowe - 1 property
17. Robert & Marcie Mingledorff - 1 property

Motion to approve: Councilman Wendelken  
Second: Councilman Dasher  
Vote: Unanimous

This is only for Phase II & Phase III. The portion of Phase I had a Home Owner's Association has met and does not want to be annexed at this time.

**8. Discuss approval of financial support of the county library within the limits approved in the 2015 budget, per Councilman Dasher.**

Motion to approve: Councilwoman Ricker  
Second: Councilman Browher  
Vote: Unanimous

There is \$12,000 budget availability for the Rincon Library. This would be an additional amount above the county's support. We would like for this to be used for the Rincon Library since we would be funding this money. There would be a request of Board Member appointed to represent the City of Rincon.

Approved for disbursing, for Rincon Library, with the City of Rincon requesting a member on the Board and the funds be expended locally.

**9. Review and approval of changing the dental health provider from Guardian to MetLife.**

Motion to approve: Councilman Wendelken  
Second: Councilman Dasher  
Vote: Unanimous

Premiums would go down from what we currently have with Guardian.

The vision plan would be a plan and not a discount program. There will be more dental and vision providers here within a 25-30 mile radius.

Councilman Wendelken stated that ALL City Employees should be signed up for Life Insurance if the city is paying for this.

**10. Request approval to bid needed improvements to the MBR system at the WWTP to include Platforms, Piping and valves from blowers, install flow meter, and stabilize screen.**

Motion to approve: Councilwoman Ricker  
Second: Councilman Wendelken  
Vote: Unanimous

To date, we have spent \$663,000.00 in the membrane system.

Tracy Gunter, WWTP, stated that the original pipe was never updated. The air system flow needs to be updated. There will be designated blowers per tank. Air is the key to holding phosphorus in the solids and reducing chemical needs.

This needs to be bid out, due to having to spend approximately \$1,500.00 per week for chemicals to stay in compliance. Councilman Browner confirmed that if we fix these problems, then we do not have to purchase chemicals. From start to finish, there has been LakeShore Engineering installing it all, but was all designed by EMC Engineering.

Councilman Dasher stated we need to get an engineering company that is specializing in MBR Systems. Councilman Dasher stated that it was engineered to have \$400,000.00 and we have almost doubled that amount. Mr. Corbitt stated that EMC is doing the design specifications without charge and at this point it is best to continue with EMC. The flow meter has already been purchased, just needs to be installed. The rest of this project is not complicated, just needs to be completed.

Bid out for 15 days and begin project within 30 days.

Approved to put out for bid.

Councilman Morgan returned at 8:46 pm.

## **11. Administrative Reports:**

### **(a) City Manager**

- No additional reports, available for questioning
- April 20<sup>th</sup>, joint dinner with County, Springfield, and Guyton
- Lt. Ramirez – Railroad pallets on 9<sup>th</sup> Street need to be cleaned up; this is causing a visibility issue.

### **(b) City Engineer**

- Paving is completed at , waiting on GA Power to install lights
- Fence to be put up, grass to be fenced up as well, so the grass can grow thoroughly.

### **(c) Chief of Police**

- Not in attendance

### **(d) Fire Department**

- Report sent in, available for questioning
- Station 4, Blue Jay Station, waiting on ISO rating

### **(e) Building / Zoning Dept.**

- Law Enforcement Forum on April 23, Chief Scholl to be participating
- Kroger to be mobilizing for new site
- Mr. Johnson - Completed his porch, closed in, all set for court
- Response from Non-Profits, 1<sup>st</sup> paid advertisement last week at no cost
- Retail strategies survey – will email and would like to receive back by the end of the week, will send to chamber, IDA, county, and any other entities

### **(f) Recreation Dept.**

- Not in attendance
- (g) Water / Sewer / Public Works
  - Available for questioning
- (h) Wastewater
  - Pole barn was completed by GA Barn and Metal; they have done a great job.
- (i) Finance
  - Not in attendance
- (j) Lost Plantation
  - Available for questioning, will get report out soon
- (k) Mayor and Council
  - Regional commission meeting had a lot of discussion about new transportation options, a lot of questions, lining up meeting with DOT and regions with voting on T-SPLOST, region vs individual county?
  - Councilman Browher, City limit signs at 9<sup>th</sup> street, can these be updated?
  - Councilman Browher, Are we still working on sign at City Hall? Mr. Corbitt stated that Zebra Graphix is currently working on it.

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

Motion: Councilman Dasher  
 Second: Councilman Wendelken  
 Vote by Council: Unanimous

Motion to return to meeting: Councilman Morgan  
 Second: Councilwoman Ricker  
 Vote by Council: Unanimous

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

Motion to approve: Councilman Morgan  
 Second: Councilman Browher  
 Vote by Council: Unanimous

**Adjourn:**

Motion to adjourn: Councilwoman Ricker  
 Second: Councilman Dasher  
 Vote by Council: Unanimous

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Ken Lee, Mayor

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Wanda Hendrix Simmons, City Clerk