

7:00 – PM – CALL MEETING TO ORDER ROLL CALL

- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- READING OF MINUTES/APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
- COMMENTS/PUBLIC ISSUES
  - FINANCIAL REPORT (Hand out)

### **1. COUNCIL AGENDA /ISSUES/WORK UPDATES:**

**GARDEN** - Brenda Sells - Updates? TLake?

**PARK** - Monte Powell - Updates? Any update on the squirrel issue?

**COMMUNITY CENTER** - Renee Wright - Update? Vince & Tony Meadows were nice enough to move tables to the maintenance storage building. Sam's is currently out of the tables we agreed to purchase for the tree lighting, etc. I will continue to watch for their availability ....

**ROADS AND APPEARANCE** - David Evans - Update?

### **2. OLD BUSINESS:**

- Still need to review the amount paid every year to Lyons due to Lyons Sewer prices increasing. Is what we are collecting covering all the cost increases? Or do we need to charge more for sewage? Currently LOST funds do help us pay for emergencies but is this going to be sufficient for future usage? Finally try to determine what is causing the drastic increase and see what needs to be done to fix.
- Received email concerning the Safety Grant. Need to look into further but noticed it appears that the items have to have been purchased or will be purchased within 2023. Also I'm not sure if this is a one time grant or can be submitted annually.
- Need a vote on whether we should have our attorney (Tina Maddox) proceed with issuing a lien on the property where the Dollar General store is located. This should include the fine for not having met the time deadline to resolve the maintenance portion of maintaining the retention ditches and pressure washing the fence. Also to include the fee for us having to have those services performed.
- Update on the number of residents still needing to have their house numbers posted? I still need to install the ones for the community center and the pavilion.
- I got in touch with Brenda Williams (tax commissioner) concerning our millage rates... as to whether we may need to consider adjusting. She informed me that she doesn't have anything to do with setting them, that I should probably get in touch with maybe John Jones. So I contacted Helen Harris for some guidance. She verified that what I was thinking was correct - as the value of the property is increased, the taxes will also increase if we leave the millage rate the same. She also noted that they (Toombs County) haven't ever rescinded the rates. They have recently started doing audits of property so therefore .... anticipate property tax increase. Do we want to continue with the 4% millage rate that we currently have? decrease? increase? May consider increasing at a later date so as to not overwhelm residents.....

### **3. NEW BUSINESS:**

- I've purchased the Extended Long Range WiFi Receiver System for the Gift Shop. Vince Meadows has been so kind as to volunteer to help us install it. Should be delivered this week.
- I'm going to try and straighten up the items within the fenced in area between the storage buildings. Afterwards we can get Luis to cut the weeds and spray the area to hopefully keep it controlled.
- I'm not sure whether everyone knows but we recently had to replace the small fence on December Drive by the store. Apparently, someone hit and broke it. Luis was kind enough to go ahead and replace\repair it for us.
- I've been asked to do a Live TV News broadcast next Tuesday, July 25th for Scripps News. The topic is the 10 places to visit to celebrate Christmas in July from North Pole, NY to Santa Claus, Indiana.
- We have received a notice that all CWS and NTNC water systems must complete and submit a service line inventory to GA EPD on or before October 16, 2024. I've contacted Trey Pearson with Tindall concerning this matter. He stated that he's finished their first Inventory and is getting ready to start on ours. In preparation I need to provide a list of all addresses on our water system. Also he needs me to contact the tax assessor's office and request an excel file of all properties with year built inside our water system? Everything else he/they will be able to get.
- I'm going to look into an article I noticed concerning "The Power of Community Beauty: Transforming Small Cities for Success" by CGI Digital. (NLC Weekly Newsletter June 24th) **A major hurdle smaller cities, in particular, face while trying to keep their communities beautiful is finding the time, money, and extra resources needed to accomplish their goals. So, how can municipal leaders of smaller cities achieve their beautification goals without all the strain? At CGI Digital, we provide a cost-free decorative street banner program that can be the answer. With the help of CGI Digital's Community Showcase Banner Program, your city can take advantage of a free and sustainable way to create a sense of community pride and engagement.** May be dependent on purchasing their services...
- I mentioned last month some suggestions for the park. It was brought to my attention about maybe adding a swing for small children\toddlers so they won't fall out of the swing. Should we proceed with this? Other suggestions... 2 seat seesaw\teeter totter \$967.00 or 4 seat \$1995.00; (Great Outdoors Play - Price is supposed to reflect standard delivery & installation .. Merry Go-Round \$6738; Monkey Bars \$2999; Bumble Bee Spring Bouncer dual seats \$1,275
- Just a little information I ran across in case anyone is interested. There is a one-time Property Tax Relief Grant budget proposal by Governor Brian Kemp to refund \$950 million in property taxes back to homestead owners in the Amended Fiscal Year 2023 budget. The proposal became law when Governor Kemp signed HB 18 on March 13, 2023. The Property Tax Relief Grant may also be known as the Homestead Tax Relief Grant. From my understanding it will be automatically

issued for you but I can provide you with the virtual training session information that deals with it in more detail, if you would like. (GMA Quick Reminders, June 20th)