



**City of Flowery Branch
City Council Meeting
Thursday, April 4, 2024, 6:00 PM
City of Flowery Branch City Hall
5410 Pine Street, Flowery Branch, GA 30542**



CALL WORK SESSION TO ORDER:

Mayor Asbridge called the council meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Present: Mayor Asbridge and Council Members Joe Anglin, Oliver McClellan, Joseph Mezzanotte and Chris Mundy.

Also present were City Manager Tonya Parrish, City Clerk Shelia Cooper, Planning & Community Development Director Rich Atkinson, Human Resources Director Krystle Hightower, Public Works & Utilities Director Bill Whidden, Police Chief Hulsey, Director of Fun Renee Carden, and City Attorney Ted Baggett

Absent: Council Member William McDaniel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Asbridge led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

There was a motion made to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION: Chris Mundy

SECOND: Joe Anglin

AYES: Joe Anglin, Oliver McClellan, Joseph Mezzanotte, Chris Mundy

NAYS: None

Motion carried

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS: There were no awards or recognitions.

NEW BUSINESS -WORK SESSION:

Presentation of Potential Funding Source for WRF Expansion.

Trey Monroe from Stifel presented potential financing options for WRF Expansion. GEFA has changed their lending policies, and the city has a couple of options for funding. One option is to issue bonds and the other options would be acquiring another GEFA loan and issuing bonds.

Funding will need to be secured prior to issuing a notice to proceed on the new plant which is currently scheduled for June 2024.

Council held a discussion with Mr. Monroe.

Consideration of proposals by Georgia Safe Sidewalks to repair sidewalks in Sterling on the Lake.

City Manager Parrish led a presentation for a proposal from Georgia Safe Sidewalks to repair sidewalks in Sterling on the Lake. There are several sidewalks throughout the city, and as a part of our sidewalk repair program, quotes were requested for the next, oldest pods in Sterling on the Lake. The city has sought quotes from Georgia Safe Sidewalks as the preparation for the quotes is free although very detailed. The city has been pleased with the professional services provided by Georgia Safe Sidewalks. The quotes are for Pods B and C, Pods D and E, and Pod H.

Council held a discussion with City Manager Parrish and Director Whidden.

Consider the First Reading of Ordinance 710 GMEBS Restated Defined Benefit Retirement Plan Adoption Agreement

Director Hightower presented the first reading of Ordinance 710; City of Flowery Branch Restated Defined Benefit Retirement Plan Adoption Agreement. The City of Flowery Branch has previously adopted the GMEBS Defined Benefit Retirement Plan. The plan is considered a “qualified plan” under the Internal Revenue Code. This is important to ensure the tax-exempt status of the trust fund. To protect this status, GMEBS filed draft restated plan documents to reflect recent amendments and to comply with changes in the federal tax law. On August 31, 2023, the IRS issued a favorable opinion letter for the restated plan documents. To ensure continued tax-qualified status for all GMEBS-member retirement plans, all participating employers must readopt their plans using the most recent IRS-approved Adoption Agreement.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Department of Fun Report:

Director Carden noted upcoming events.

Police Department Report:

Investigator Newberry advised that April is National Autism Acceptance Month. The police officers are wearing blue badges during the month of April in support of Autism Acceptance Month. He explained that one in thirty-six children are diagnosed with autism. City staff will be wearing blue to show support of understanding and acceptance for people with autism on Fridays during the month of April.

Public Works & Utilities Report:

Director Whidden gave an update on railroad repairs.

Attorney Report:

Attorney Baggett noted in the proposed minutes in the voting section there are scrivener's errors that have been corrected in Ordinance 706 and 707 and those are going to be adopted as corrected as part of the minutes when they are approved on the voting session.

ADJOURNMENT WORK SESSION:

Mayor Asbridge adjourned the work session at 6:37p.m.

VOTING SESSION AGENDA

CALL VOTING SESSION TO ORDER:

Mayor Asbridge called the voting session to order at 6:37 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Consider March 21, 2024 City Council Meeting Minutes

Consider March 21, 2024 Executive Session Minutes

There was a motion made to approve the consent agenda as presented.

MOTION: Joe Anglin

SECOND: Oliver McClellan

AYES: Joe Anglin, Oliver McClellan, Joseph Mezzanotte, Chris Mundy

NAYS: None

Motion carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - VOTING SESSION:

Consider the Second Reading of Ordinance 709, Adoption of the City of Flowery Branch Zoning Map.

Clerk Cooper read the caption for Ordinance 709.

There was a motion made to approve the second reading of Ordinance 709, adoption of the City of Flowery Branch Zoning Map.

MOTION: Chris Mundy
SECOND: Oliver McClellan
AYES: Joe Anglin, Oliver McClellan, Joseph Mezzanotte, Chris Mundy
NAYS: None
Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS - VOTING SESSION:

Consideration of proposals by Georgia Safe Sidewalks to repair sidewalks in Sterling on the Lake.

There was a motion made to approve the quotes from Georgia Safe Sidewalks in an amount not to exceed \$94,235 and authorize the mayor or city manager to sign the documents accepting the quote.

MOTION: Oliver McClellan
SECOND: Chris Mundy
AYES: Joe Anglin, Oliver McClellan, Joseph Mezzanotte, Chris Mundy
NAYS: None
Motion carried

Consider the First Reading of Ordinance 710 GMEBS Restated Defined Benefit Retirement Plan Adoption Agreement

Clerk Cooper read the caption for Ordinance 710.

There was a motion made to approve the first reading of Ordinance 710 FOR GMEBS; City of Flowery Branch Restated Defined Benefit Retirement Plan Adoption Agreement as presented.

MOTION: Joe Anglin
SECOND: Chris Mundy
AYES: Joe Anglin, Oliver McClellan, Joseph Mezzanotte, Chris Mundy
NAYS: None
Motion carried

Consider the First Reading of Ordinance 711, an Annexation Request submitted by Mr. Carson Smith.

Clerk Cooper read the caption for Ordinance 711.

There was a motion made to deny the first reading of Ordinance 711, an annexation request submitted by Mr. Carson Smith.

MOTION: Chris Mundy
SECOND: Oliver McClellan
AYES: Joe Anglin, Oliver McClellan, Joseph Mezzanotte, Chris Mundy
NAYS: None
Motion carried

Consider the First Reading of Ordinance 712, a Rezoning Request submitted by Mr. Carson Smith.

Clerk Cooper read the caption for Ordinance 712.

There was a motion made to deny the first reading of Ordinance 712, a rezoning request submitted by Mr. Carson Smith.

MOTION: Oliver McClellan
SECOND: Joe Anglin
AYES: Joe Anglin, Oliver McClellan, Joseph Mezzanotte, Chris Mundy
NAYS: None
Motion carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION: There was no executive session.

ADJOURNMENT:

There was a motion made to adjourn at 6:42 p.m.

MOTION: Joe Anglin
SECOND: Oliver McClellan
AYES: Joe Anglin, Oliver McClellan, Joseph Mezzanotte, Chris Mundy
NAYS: None
Motion carried

Edward R. Asbridge, Mayor

Date

Shelia Cooper, City Clerk