

Council Meeting
October 7, 2024

Members Present: Mayor Buddy Duke, members Terry McClain, Greg Paige, Walter Cowart and Celestine Hayes. Councilman Jody Greene was in attendance by telephone.

Others Present: City Manager Mark Barber, City Clerk Rhonda Rowe, members of staff and the public.

Invocation was given by Councilman McClain.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Paige made a motion to approve the minutes of September 16, 2024 and September 23, 2024 as presented. Councilman McClain seconded with all in favor.

Utility Pole Quotes (Electric Dept): Two quotes were received for utility poles needed for inventory replacement and were as follows:

	(8) 40' Wood Poles	(15) 45' Wood Poles
Irby	\$1,904.00	\$5,430.00
Beach Timber Company	\$2,032.00	\$5,310.00 plus freight \$370

The purchase approval was originally planned for the October 7, 2024 agenda; however, given the impending weather conditions with the arrival of Hurricane Helene, staff procured the poles from Irby in the total amount of \$7,334 and the poles were delivered on Wednesday before the storm hit on Thursday. Councilman McClain made a motion to ratify the purchase of the poles from Irby. Councilman Paige seconded with all in favor.

Transformer Quotes (Electric Dept): Three quotes were received for transformers needed for inventory replacement and were as follows:

	(10) 25 KVA	(10) 37.5 KVA	(10) 50 KVA
Irby	\$12,500	\$14,340	\$16,200
Gresco	\$15,170	\$17,010	\$23,510
Tri-State	\$36,250	\$46,600	\$56,550

This purchase approval was also originally planned for the October 7, 2024 agenda; however, given the impending weather conditions with the arrival of Hurricane Helene, staff procured the transformers from Gresco in the total amount of \$55,690. The transformers were delivered on Wednesday before the storm on Thursday. It was noted that although Irby was the low bidder, they did not have the transformers available to ship, so they were ordered from Gresco as an emergency

purchase. Councilman McClain made a motion to ratify the approval of the purchase. Councilman Paige seconded. The decision was unanimous.

Dept of Natural Resources LWCF Agreement (Park Improvements): City Manager Mark Barber advised that the city has received official notification from the Interior-National Park Service that the grant for improvements at Jim Battle Park and City Park has been approved. The total cost of the project is \$348,000 with the grant funding \$174,000 of the project. To fully execute the grant, the council has to approve the agreement. Councilman Cowart made a motion to approve the agreement. Councilwoman Hayes seconded with all in favor.

Debris Removal Contract: The council was advised that with the clean up efforts following the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, it will require manpower and equipment that the City does not have. To move forward with debris removal, city staff is recommending to contract with Herzog Solutions, LLC. Herzog specializes in large debris removal and is familiar with the billing and procedures required by FEMA to assist with the City's reimbursement process. They have a consultant that monitors and will have everything in order for submittal to FEMA. Cook County will also be utilizing Herzog for debris removal. Mr. Barber stated this was the quickest and best option available. Councilman McClain asked how quick they would get started? Mr. Barber stated that our city attorney has reviewed the contract and made a few changes, which Herzog has accepted. Once the contract is executed, we will get into the conversation as to exactly when they will start. Mr. Barber further clarified with the council concerning a post that had been made reminding citizens that private contractors would be required to haul off debris. While the city has taken some criticism, we had a resident to pay an out-of-town person a large amount of cash, who then threw the debris in the ditch and left without hauling away the debris. It was to level the playing field. When this happened on Saturday, the City did not know at that time we would be eligible for reimbursement. He encouraged residents to know what they're signing. We received the presidential declaration later the following week. Councilman Cowart asked if Herzog was local? He was advised they are headquartered in Missouri; however, they have offices located in Georgia. If they need additional help, they will contact our local companies to sub out. Councilman McClain made a motion to approve the contract. Councilman Paige seconded. The decision was unanimous.

Staff Comments:

Mark Barber – Expressed how blessed the City of Adel was following Hurricane Helene. While we had issues, central Adel was some of the 1st folks to get power restored. Our prayers are with all the other communities that were heavily affected. He also complimented all of the city departments who were out in the storm working as a team and for the outside electrical guys who came in to help get power restored. Our city crews did an awesome job and he wanted to publicly thank all city employees.

Buddy Duke – He also complimented city employees stating they came in early, stayed late, and were back at it again the next morning.

Recognized Ashley Williams, Jr. Chamber Board Member, who was in attendance for tonight's meeting.

Rhonda P. Rowe, City Clerk

Luther L. Duke III, Mayor
