

Meeting Cancelled  
01/01/2024

Council Meeting  
January 16, 2024

Members Present: Mayor Buddy Duke, members Terry McClain, Greg Paige, Walter Cowart, Celestine Hayes and Jody Greene.

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

Invocation was given by Councilman McClain.

Pledge of Allegiance

Swearing-In of Elected Officials: Attorney Tim Tanner issued the oaths of office to the following incumbents who were successful in the November 2023 election and will continue to serve for another 4 years:

Luther L. Duke, III	-	Mayor
Gregory L. Paige	-	Council, District 1, Post 2
Terry G. McClain	-	Council, District 2, Post 2

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Paige made a motion to approve the minutes of December 18, 2023 as presented. Councilman McClain seconded. All were in favor.

Election of Mayor Pro-Tem: Following the rotation of chairs, Councilman McClain made a motion to appoint Councilman Cowart as Mayor Pro-Tem for 2024. Councilman Paige seconded. The decision was unanimous.

Georgia Association of Chief's of Police Contract: The council was presented with a copy of a contract from the GACP. City Manager Mark Barber stated that following Chief Castleberry's retirement a few months ago we have been doing some different things at the Police Department and getting a few things back together that needed to happen. Major Rowe has done a wonderful job with that. Mr. Barber didn't name anyone as an interim but it's time to start that search for a new chief. The GACP will first help with advertising and recruiting and will then provide an assessment team to narrow down that pool of candidates. The assessment team will be made up of Chief's from other cities with similar attributes of Adel. He will ask that at least 1 or 2 be from a larger community to get their perspective. The service is \$6800. They will be involved from the beginning to end. Mr. Barber stated he would not be involved until the field is narrowed down. He asked the council to approve the contract. Councilwoman Hayes asked if the council would have any involvement with the final analysis? Mr. Barber replied no, the elected officials do not have any

involvement. What Mr. Barber would like to do though is when the gentleman comes down to review Adel, if any of the elected officials would like to get with him at that time, they could share with him what their expectations are for the next police chief. However, elected officials will not be involved with the actual selection of a new police chief. Their voice will be heard in that way. Councilman McClain questioned if that meeting would be with the final candidate? Mr. Barber stated no, the elected officials will not meet with any candidate, it would be with one of the team members. It would be with the gentleman than runs this program. Councilman Greene made a motion to authorize the city manager to sign the contract with the GACP. Councilman Cowart seconded. All were in favor.

Alcohol License Renewals: The council was presented the following alcohol license holders that have completed the requirements for a 2024 renewal license and are as follows:

El Carrisal Mexican Restaurant, Inc.  
Sri Holiday Mart, LLC  
Bajrangbali 2037, LLC  
Family Dollar Stores of Ga., Inc.

Councilman Greene made a motion to approve the issuance of the renewal licenses. Councilwoman Hayes seconded with all in favor.

Fire Dept. Turnout Gear: Bids were received for six (6) sets of turnout gear with a bid deadline of January 8, 2024. The city manager, city clerk and fire chief attended the bid opening on January 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. The bids were as follows:

Pro Provisions	\$4156.89 per set	\$25,121.34 Total
Bennett Fire Products	\$4394.00 per set	\$26,364.00 Total

Following a review of the bids by the fire chief and other fire personnel, Bennett Fire Products Co. is the preferred vendor. It was noted that 1) the helmets included in Bennett's response come with gear that has a face mounted shield to the helmet. The mounted shield works better for extrication, salvage and overall clearer vision due to fogging. The Pro Provisions helmets include goggles rather than a face shield. 2) the boots included in Bennett's Fire Products bid include a one-piece sole that have presented no issues in the past. The boots included in the Pro Provisions bid have a two-piece sole that has had issues in the past with the soles separating. It was further noted that turnout gear was included in the fiscal year 2024 budget in the amount of \$29,413. In response to Councilwoman Hayes' question about the number of firefighters, City Clerk Rhonda Rowe advised we have 15 full time and 20 volunteers at full staff. Councilman Cowart made a motion to approve the bid provided by Bennett Fire Products. Councilman Greene seconded. The decision was unanimous.

Staff Comments:

Mark Barber – Introduced Bailey Dame, a member of the Jr. Chamber of Commerce Board

According to the engineer, the paving project on Lavind Way is supposed to begin this week.

Council Comments:

Celestine Hayes - Asked for the status of the 13 emergency warning sirens. Mr. Barber will get with the county manager for an update. Mayor Duke stated he had spoken with EMA Director Johnny West and he has stated he thought they would be in within the next month.

Terry McClain – Asked for an update on the moratorium ordinance. Attorney Tim Tanner advised he brought a rough draft tonight to provide to the council for their review. Mr. Tanner added that he also has some ideas for them to consider with a zoning amendment to put in some buffers between different zoning classifications.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

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Rhonda P. Rowe, City Clerk

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Luther L. Duke III, Mayor

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