

Council Meeting
May 1, 2023

Members Present: Mayor Buddy Duke, members Terry McClain, Greg Paige and Jody Greene. Walter Cowart was present by telephone. Celestine Hayes was not in attendance.

Others Present: City Manager Mark Barber, City Clerk/Asst. City Manager Rhonda Rowe, City Attorney Tim Tanner, Lt. Nick Masters and members of the public.

Invocation was given by Councilman McClain.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Greg Paige made a motion to approve the minutes of April 17, 2023 as presented. Councilman Terry McClain seconded with all in favor.

Alcohol License Renewal (Albertana Gonzalez): Albertan Gonzalez, owner of La Mexicana Gonzalez located at 128 S. Burwell Avenue, has filed an application requesting renewal of the 2023 license for the retail sale of beer. All documentation has been submitted along with the required payment. Councilman Greene made a motion to approve the license renewal. Councilman Paige seconded. There were no opposing votes.

Land and Conservation Fund Grant: The council was advised The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a federal program authorized by Congress for the purpose of acquiring federal lands and assisting states and local governments with funds to acquire land and develop and renovate outdoor recreation facilities. Eligible applicants are defined as qualified local governments as determined by the Department of Community Affairs and constituted recreation authorities/commissions. All eligible applicants must complete a pre-application online only. Following the competitive pre-application phase, successful applicants will be invited to a second level application. The LWCF requires a 50% match for all grant requests. The minimum request is \$25,000 (\$50,000 total project) with maximum grant request capped at \$500,000 (\$1,000,000 total project). To begin the process, a resolution must be approved by Mayor and Council to authorize staff to participate in the initial pre-application process, and secondly, that the NPS receives assurance that the governing body is aware of the match required if the City is successful in this funding pursuit. The funding will be utilized to renovate Jim Battle and City Park.

Res. #23-04: This resolution, approving submittal of a pre-application to obtain 2023-2024 Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Monies, was presented to the council. Councilman Greene made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Paige seconded. The decision was unanimous. Councilman McClain asked how much we would try to get in funding? The city manager advised that depends on the plans and the number of points the application scores. We will be having a public hearing at the next meeting to amend the comprehensive plan. If that is amended, we can obtain additional points. The amount of the grant will depend on the grading. After a call of the votes, all were in favor of approving the resolution.

Alabama Road Project Bids: Bids were received on the Alabama Road project, which is one of the TIA Projects approved for the City of Adel. Modifications and improvements to Alabama Road have been discussed for several years. Once complete, Alabama Road will connect Highway 37 to Highway 76 which will be more convenient for large truck transport as well as diverting large truck traffic from entering the city. A bid opening was held on April 14, 2023 at 11:00 am for the project. Bids were as follows:

The Scruggs Company	\$4,460,832.39
Reames & Son Construction Co., Inc.	\$4,532,000.97

The bids have been reviewed and it is recommended that the low bidder be awarded the project. It is noted that the original budget for this project is \$3,312,000. However, the DOT has agreed to increase the project budget to a maximum of \$4,460,000. The City has agreed to provide utility relocation for the project, so the goal is to keep these costs, along with engineering costs, within the maximum budget as well. Councilman Greene made a motion to accept the low bid of The Scruggs Company. Councilman Paige seconded. All were in favor. City attorney Tim Tanner noted that next month we will finalize the land swap. The title work is complete and advertising is on-going in the paper. The land swap will be brought before the council in June.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Rhonda P. Rowe, City Clerk

Luther L. Duke III, Mayor
