

Council Meeting
October 16, 2023

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, City Attorney Tim Tanner, members of staff and citizens.

Invocation was given by Councilman McClain.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Paige made a motion to approve the minutes of October 2, 2023 as presented. Councilman Cowart seconded with no opposing votes.

Executive Session: Councilman Paige made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss real estate. Councilman McClain seconded. All were in favor.

Following executive session, the meeting was reopened to the public.

Real Estate Acquisition: Mayor Duke advised that the subject property is located at 101 S. Maple Street and the purchase of this parcel has been discussed for several months. Additionally, the Mayor and Council have completed site visits of the property. Councilman Cowart made a motion to approve the purchase of the property located at 101 S. Maple Street at a price of \$3.3M for a new city hall for the City of Adel and to authorize the city attorney to proceed with closing on the property. Councilman Greene seconded. The decision was unanimous.

Emergency Lift Station Repairs: The council was advised that two lift station pumps were damaged from the recent hurricane. In an effort for the lift station to remain operational, one pump from the South Cook Street lift station was pulled and utilized at the tennis court location. Normal procurement procedures were waived as the situation warranted an emergency purchase. The city will be requesting reimbursement from FEMA for these pumps. The cost was \$16,170.00. Councilman McClain made a motion to approve the emergency purchase. Councilman Greene seconded. All were in favor.

Public Comments:

Marvin Broadwater – Mr. Broadwater, a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. came before the council stating that their state organization has partnered with the Georgia Dept. of Human Services to bring a program to the City of Adel and the surrounding area on November 14, 2023 at 6:00 pm (virtually). The program assists non-custodial parents, especially fathers, struggling to maintain employment. It also provides tools needed to become more sustainable parents in the lives of their children. They would like to blanket the city with benefits and this city has been identified as needing the program. Councilman McClain asked how someone qualified to participate in the program? Mr.

Broadwater replied they must have an open child support case. City Manager Mark Barber stated the program worked in Valdosta and it was tremendously supported. Councilman Greene asked if we would get more participation if we set up in the DDA building so that maybe we could have screens for better viewing of the presentation? Mr. Barber stated we could talk with Mr. Broadwater about what may be the best location.

Mayor Comments:

Buddy Duke - Thanked the council for their thoughts and prayers that went into the motion that was made tonight that acquired real estate for a new city hall. This was monumental. This is a good group to work with and he thanked the staff as well as the city attorney for their work that went into this.

Other Comments:

Fairy Gear – Asked why she was receiving two light bills this month? Mr. Barber advised that the city clerk would get with her tomorrow.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Rhonda P. Rowe, City Clerk

Luther L. Duke III, Mayor
