

October 4, 2019

The Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the City of Madison was held Friday, October 4, 2019, at 8:30 AM at the City of Madison Public Safety Building Meeting Hall, located at 160 N Main Street, Suite 400. Present were the following: Mayor Perriman; Mayor Pro Tem Blanton; Council Member DiLetto, Hodges, Peters-Reid, and Joyce; City Manager Nunn; Clerk Hawk; Planning Director Callahan; Planner Bogle, and Finance Officer Stapp. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Perriman and he welcomed those in attendance. Opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance were led by members of council.

Topics for Discussion

Recycling – Council Member Hodges

Hodges asserted that the recycling process could improve and asked if the current recycling contract could be reviewed. She inquired about the potential to switch recycling providers so that services could be more thorough. Nunn said he spoke with Rick Jarvis, a representative with the current recycling provider, about the status and future of recycling. Jarvis asserted that problems recyclable products, and other issues of concern, are problems across the board. Nunn said the current recycling provider is very responsive. Hodges suggested taking small steps and implementing a policy that would lessen waste within city hall and promote the internal change via social media.

Hodges also suggested composting. Nunn said the city currently composts and recycles 100% of brush collected around the city. Joyce suggested changes be made in small pieces. As an example, he suggested replacing water fountains with dispensers that could fill/re-fill water bottles.

Blanton asked how much recycling is picked up per month. Nunn estimated the city recycling rate is 25%.

Solar Energy for City Facilities and Building – Council Member Joyce

Joyce said his basic interest with solar panels is to save the taxpayers money and, as a bonus, would fit into a socially progressive city outlook. He said the Meeting Hall building would be an ideal building for solar panels as the slope of the roof is idyllic, and it would be visible to the public. Joyce said Nunn estimated financing at approximately \$75,000 which would be financed through the city, potentially through SPLOST money. Nunn said there is a possibility it could be financed through the current SPLOST.

Joyce estimates solar panels would provide an eleven (11) year return on investment. Joyce said the Meeting Hall power bill is currently \$3,000 per month and other facilities run \$6,000 per month. He asserted that GEFA (Georgia Environmental Finance Administration) could potentially provide low interest rate funds for water/sewer facilities. Joyce said an engineering study would need to take place in order to determine which city building would benefit the most from panels.

Committee Appointments for City Attorney, Municipal Court Judge, and City Solicitor

Mayor Perriman appointed the following individuals to committees for review of the City Attorney, Municipal Court Judge, and City Solicitor.

City Solicitor – DiLetto, Hodges, City Manager David Nunn, Chief Bill Ashburn, and Municipal Court Clerk Christie Campbell.

City Attorney – Peters-Reid, Blanton, and Nunn

Municipal Court Judge – Joyce, Hodges, Nunn, Campbell, and Ashburn

Meeting Live Streaming – Ken Kocher

Kocher said two options have been considered for live streaming. The first option, Granicus, is a company that offers online agenda management as well as video streaming, and the cost to live stream is approximately \$9000. Kocher said option two is Box Cast, currently used by Rockdale County, and the cost is \$99 per month for the basic package. Kocher said a camera and tripod have been budgeted for in the current fiscal year.

DiLetto expressed concern about live streaming meetings, and Mayor and Council discussed the pros which included; transparency, firsthand information, and potential for use during commissions/committees' meetings. DiLetto asserted live streaming could encourage attendance and actions that might not normally take place at meetings.

Joyce asked if there were other counties who used Box Cast and Kocher said he would research the matter and report back at the next work session.

Food Truck Update – Mollie Bogle/Ashley Hawk

Hawk provided examples of food truck ordinances from the City of Springfield and Norcross and asserted that there is not an abundance of ordinances to use as example. Hawk discovered that ordinances that do allow food trucks typically permit them in a specific area, have distance requirements, and are required to meet local, state, and other health code requirements. She also spoke to an employee of the City of Monroe which hosts a food truck event and she learned that the event is planned by the Downtown Development Authority of Monroe.

Hodges asked about Crowes BBQ request for a change in the ordinance. Hawk said the business is interested in parking on public property and selling food. Mayor and council discussed the pros and cons of opening the ordinance to allow food trucks. Bogle said food trucks are currently allowed but only during designated event. It was determined that Main Street and Downtown Development Authority get together and brainstorm a designated food truck event.

Construction Agreement – Mid-State Striping, Inc.

Nunn said the agreement is for striping of all streets that are currently striped, excluding speed tables. The item was added to the consent agenda for the regular meeting on October 14, 2019.

Tree Ordinance Update – Mollie Bogle

Bogle said the Greenspace Commission has been working on an update to the tree ordinance and she reviewed a summary of the changes. She specifically addressed items 8, 12, and 18 from the out-line which state the following: item 8 “ Provides consideration for protection of root zones of certain trees on contiguous property if proposed new construction might harm”; item 12 “Proposes density requirement of four overstory and four understory trees per acre, adjusted up or down proportionately based on number of acres or portion of an acre”; and item 18 “Provides

for review by city official designated by manager with right to appeal to Greenspace Commission and city council”.

Bogle expressed concern regarding item eight (8) as it could potentially lead to involvement in civil disputes. She also expressed concern regarding item eighteen (18) as it would require an additional review board (Greenspace) and she asserted that Mayor & Council should be the only review body. She said item twelve (12) is actually eight overstory and eight understory as opposed to four overstory and four understory.

Nunn said currently residents call and inquire about cutting down trees on residential property and asked if that would be regulated under the new ordinance. Callahan said that is debatable. He asked if it is a good idea to implement regulations. Callahan and Bogle both asserted it is a good idea. Bogle clarified that the regulation would only apply to houses that are expanding lot coverage by 50% or more. After further discussion it was determined that the ordinance will be placed on the regular meeting agenda on October 14, 2019 for further discussion regarding staff concerns with some proposed changes to the tree ordinance.

City Manager Report

Nunn reported the following: Lambert Park & Martin Tot Lot bids have been received and hopes to have contracts on the next agenda; quotes for the Smith building were out of range; no bids have been received for Hill Park restrooms; sidewalks on Vine Street and Jefferson street are back out to bid; resurfacing, which is part of LMIG 2019, will be complete when the county, who is the contractor, finishes a large project; and there will be a Town Hall regarding filming around town.

Adjournment

With no further business, Mayor Perriman adjourned the work session.

Approved: _____
Fred Perriman, Mayor

Attest: _____
Ashley Hawk, City Clerk

Date: _____