

The Lyerly Town Council met for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at Lyerly Town Hall. Those in attendance were:

Jim Ferguson, Mayor  
Phil Brooks  
Juanita Baker  
Shirley Davis  
Jim Gilliland

October 13, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ferguson at 7:00 pm.

**New Business:**

Minutes - Mayor Ferguson asked if anyone had any questions about the minutes. Phil Brooks made a motion to approve the July 7<sup>th</sup> work session, August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting & September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Juanita Baker seconded. All in favor.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant – Mayor Ferguson said that everyone has a resolution that allows him to proceed with the application for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant. He said that he left out a couple of things in the meeting last week. He didn't say that we are going to resurface the parking lot. We want to resurface the parking lot and also make a sidewalk into the playground. It won't be long, just enough so someone in a wheelchair can get into the playground. That area is so wet, that you can't get from the parking lot into the playground. Shirley Davis asked if he is talking about the new parking lot. Mayor Ferguson said no, he is talking about the old parking lot. He said that it is all chewed up and the garbage truck has done a number on it. So, in the resolution, the total amount is \$89,740. That includes \$12,760 for dirt work and chert for the back trail, \$49,000 to put concrete over the paved portion of the walking track and \$27,980 to repave the parking lot. We are asking for a grant for half. Jim Gilliland asked if we have several bids on that. Mayor Ferguson said that we haven't taken bids yet, we got some estimates from local contractor so that we could come up with an amount to use to apply for the grant. Juanita Baker asked if it's 50/50. Mayor Ferguson said yes. Shirley Davis said that we would have to come up with about \$45,000. Mayor Ferguson said yes and that would come from SPLOST. Shirley Davis asked if that will be our main project for 2021. Mayor Ferguson said yes. Phil Brooks made a motion to give Mayor Ferguson the go ahead with the LWCFG. Shirley Davis seconded. All in favor.

Rental Rate for Community Center - Mayor Ferguson said that he and Sally Kerce have been talking and believe that it is time to raise the rental rate for the Community Center from \$50 to \$75. Shirley Davis said that if we have to go in and sanitize it every time that it's used, she thinks it is worth that. Mayor Ferguson said that the added expense of cleaning has it where we don't make any money, we just break even. Phil Brooks asked if that would give enough to help. Mayor Ferguson said that it would give us a small profit. Juanita Baker asked if that still includes the renters cleaning up after they use it and they

get their deposit back. Mayor Ferguson said yes. They will still pay a \$50 deposit which they will get back. Shirley Davis said that we would get \$75 and they get back the refundable deposit. Mayor Ferguson said that they would pay \$75 to rent it plus a \$50 deposit and they get the \$50 back. Juanita Baker said that sounds reasonable. She made a motion to raise the Community Center rental rate from \$50 to \$75. Phil Brooks seconded. All in favor. Sally Kerce then asked the council if they are ok with it staying the way it is through the end of the year and making this effective as of January 1, 2021. Everyone was ok with that.

Camera System Bids- Mayor Ferguson said that the council had questions last week which we asked the two people who had bid. They answered in the form of emails which he has printed and everyone should have a copy. The main question from Jim Gilliland was the manufacture and specs of the cameras which is listed so he will give them a minute to look over that. Jim Gilliland said that the 1080 is the main thing. Mayor Ferguson said that Harold from Sweet Water Security is here tonight. Harold passed around a tablet that showed a live view of the cameras at a Honda Dealership in Birmingham. Jim Gilliland asked if these will be the same cameras that we will get. Harold said yes. These are 5 megapixels. He said that he thinks that the specs called for 1080 but all of these cameras are double 1080. Jim Gilliland said that we had asked for a minimum of 1080. Harold then said that they will give us a minimum of 30 day recording time. Jim Gilliland asked about the warranty on the cameras. Harold said that it would be a 48 month lease on the equipment and they warranty the equipment for the entire 48 months. No exclusions. If we have a problem with them, he will come fix it. Shirley Davis asked what if someone steals a camera. Harold said that no, they wouldn't replace it for free. He said that he says no but that never happens. Mayor Ferguson said that it would be a little much to ask for them to replace it if it was stolen. Harold said that if it was stolen, we would have them on video. Because of that reason, people usually don't steal cameras. Jim Gilliland asked how many people will be able to logon at one time. Harold said that it is unlimited. It is all in the app using any Smartphone and its password protected. The only people who can get on there are the people that you give access to. Mayor Ferguson said that the other question from last week was that the other bid was for 33 cameras and the one from Harold was only for 15 and there was some question about the coverage area. Harold said that he has looked at all of the sights and the only question that he has is, do we want to see anything inside the control building or just watch the door. Mayor Ferguson turned to Michael Cabe. Michael said to just watch the door. The main thing at the sewer pond will be watching the gate. Harold said that he also proposes put one at the pole barn to watch the equipment, three at the park, two at the playground and one at the concession stand, four at the community center, one inside and then one in each walkway and one for the parking lot, and seven over here. Jim Gilliland said that we need cameras on the aerators at the sewer ponds. You would be able to know when they are running and when they aren't. Harold said that until we get internet over there, it won't be live. He said that he has looked and everything will be live except the ponds. Jim Gilliland said that if the aerators went down, the cameras would still help. Michael Cabe said that there are three aerators and usually no more than 10 or so hours that one would be off before we found it. Sally Kerce then asked Juanita Baker didn't she want a camera covering the pavilion. Juanita Baker said that he covered that. Sally Kerce said that he said two at the playground and one at the concession stand. Juanita Baker said that someone stole the copper wiring out of the pavilion one time is why she was asking about that. Harold then asked for the one at the concession stand, do we want it under the canopy looking at the customers when they walk up, inside the concession stand watching the money or where. Mayor Ferguson said that we need one

covering the doors. One for the concession stand door itself and then one on the rollup door and regular door for the equipment room. Shirley Davis asked how many he said for the community center. Mayor Ferguson said four, one inside and three outside. Shirley Davis then asked if we really need four there. We already have some inside. Mayor Ferguson said that we do but it's not going to tie up with his equipment. If the council wants to just keep recording the inside, we can just use what we have. Jim Gilliland said that if we are going to do this, do it all. Mayor Ferguson said that was his thought too. Shirley Davis was just thinking that we didn't need four at the community center. We may be able to do without the one for the parking lot. Sally Kerce said that we can tweak it as we go. Phil Brooks said that he thinks the parking lot should be covered. Juanita Baker said that it is on Main Street and you never know who is going to be outside. Shirley Davis agreed. It will watch the vehicles of the people using it. Mayor Ferguson said that we had said two for the fire hall as well. Harold said that the quote is good for those too. Mayor Ferguson said so that's \$390 per month. Harold said yes. Phil Brooks asked about the restrooms at the park. Mayor Ferguson said that we have had trouble with those restrooms. Michael Cabe said that we also have that storage room. But with cameras at the door, you don't know who did the damage. He said that they did see one run out the other day and he left his meth pipe behind but if they hadn't seen him run out, they wouldn't have known who it belonged to. Shirley Davis asked if we could just keep those restrooms locked except for when people rent the park. Juanita Baker said that we can't do that because people are up there walking all the time. Shirley Davis said that we could lock them at night. Juanita Baker said that people do go up there if they get off late to walk. Mayor Ferguson said that our employees go home around 3 but we could have the security guards lock it but they don't come in until late. He said that when you have public restrooms in a public park that is just something you have to deal with. Mayor Ferguson said just to recap the cost; \$390 per month at 48 months is \$18,720. The bid from Jeremy Elrod was twice the number of cameras and it was for \$24,000 which was a straight purchase and the warranty period only for the equipment being the warranty from the manufacturer. If we were to reduce the number of cameras that Jeremy Elrod quoted to the number of cameras that Sweet water quoted, it would come down to \$18,683. Both quotes for the same number of cameras are near identical. Phil Brooks said that with Sweet water, we won't have to do anything. Shirley Davis said that all we will have to do is send him a check once a month. Mayor Ferguson said, yes, for four years. Harold with Sweet Water said that his does include full warranty for parts and labor. Shirley Davis said that we were talking about a little more so we could add a few more cameras if needed. Phil Brooks said that we will probably have to go back and add a few. Shirley Davis said that it will be the same money either way that we go and with Sweet water, we don't have to be responsible for it. Jim Gilliland made a motion that we accept the bid from Sweet Water Security. Shirley Davis seconded. All in favor. Mayor Ferguson said that Sweet Water Security gets the contract for the surveillance system. Shirley Davis said, that's for four year. Mayor Ferguson said yes.

Procurement Policy – Mayor Ferguson said that while he has been working on the grant application, he had a meeting today with NWGRC about the application and one thing that they brought up was a procurement policy. He said that he had started on one a while back but this one will be really basic. He wants to make the threshold for requiring bids \$5,000 for projects excluding construction. He wants to put something in there about giving preference to local contractors and vendors. Juanita Baker said that is a good idea. Mayor Ferguson asked if everyone is ok with the threshold for bids at \$5,000. Jim Gilliland asked if he is talking about threshold for bids on major stuff. Mayor Ferguson said it would be for projects like paving. He said that it is saying less than \$5,000 he doesn't have to bid it out. Phil Brooks

said that if something happens to the restrooms at the park and water is leaking in the floor, the mayor won't have to get the council together to approve it unless it exceeds \$5,000. Mayor Ferguson said that he will let them read over it once it is written up to see if they want to make any changes. He said that it would help to know the councils feelings about it before he gets started. He then asked Jim Gilliland what he thinks because he has brought this up before. Jim Gilliland said that is fair amount of money to spend without approval but it depends on what it is. He doesn't want to have to deal with nepotism. Phil Brooks said that he does like the idea of considering local contractors. Shirley Davis said as long as they do a good job and are fair to us. If they don't, we don't use them again. Phil Brooks said for the mayor to write it up.

Mayor Ferguson said that the next thing that he needs from the council is approval of a resolution giving him permission to sue Tony Patel over cleaning up the old Lucky's supermarket, front, back and side. He is going to file suit in Chattooga County Superior Court. He just needs a resolution allowing him to do it. Shirley Davis said that he isn't around here anymore, is he? Jim Gilliland said that he owns it and the old house beside the drive thru too. He hasn't made an effort on that either. Mayor Ferguson said that he hasn't and that will be next. Phil Brooks made a motion for Mayor Ferguson to go ahead with it. Juanita Baker seconded. All in favor. Shirley Davis said that our town deserves for him to do something with it. Mayor Ferguson said that we were going to burn the old house and haul it off but the owner of the Drive Thru, Daniel Driver, was adamantly opposed to that idea. He is afraid that we would damage his property. Jim Gilliland said that there is a house close to him over there that has been brought up before, has anyone talked with Charles Jones about it. Juanita Baker said that he is in the nursing home. Mayor Ferguson asked who is responsible for it. Sally Kerce said that it's him and his son. Mayor Ferguson asked if it is vacant. Jim Gilliland said yes. Sally Kerce said that it's on the list. Mayor Ferguson said that's all that he has.

Juanita Baker asked if they got the pole barn built at the sewer pond. Mayor Ferguson said yes. It is done with the exception of some details. They need to paint underneath, inside. Michael Cabe said that they have to do terminate prevention around the poles, they still have to spread the chert and the gravel and they still have to do all of the electrical. Mayor Ferguson asked where we are on the pumps. Michael Cabe said that all of the pumps are completed with the exception of the two that we have in storage and we will use them when the time comes. He said that the stuff for the liners has been delivered and to his knowledge both crews are supposed to be here Monday morning. Mayor Ferguson said that we are about finished.

Shirley Davis asked who is building the house on cemetery road. Sally Kerce said that it isn't going to be a house; it will be like a fellowship hall. Jim Gilliland said that he thinks they are going to try and put trailers on the other property that they bought. Sally Kerce said that she told them that they couldn't put a trailer there. She said that they told her they were going to build a small house.

Mayor Ferguson opened the floor to the public at 7:29pm.

Phil Brooks made the motion to adjourn. Shirley Davis seconded. All in favor.  
Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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Mayor

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Town Clerk