The Lyerly Town Council met for their agenda planning meeting on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at Lyerly Town Hall. Those in attendance were:

Jim Ferguson, Mayor

Juanita Baker

Phil Brooks

Shirley Davis

November 5, 2019

Mayor Ferguson began the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

 Mayor Ferguson said that everyone should have minutes to approve next week. And there are also three budgets in front of everyone, SPLOST, General and Water. Mayor Ferguson said that we will go over the SPLOST first. What is represented coming out of SPLOST is cost for paving that we will put in for LMIG. He doesn’t remember the streets but he will get a list for everyone. He added that our part for that probably won’t equal $24,000 but he wanted to air on the side of caution. Recreation equipment will be $40,000 assuming that we get the Tillotson grant for playground equipment. He said that total cost will probably be around $70,000. The equipment itself should be around $60,000 and we will have to pay for installation. Shirley Davis asked if it will go in the same area where it is now. Mayor Ferguson said that the dome thing that the kids climb on will be removed and the new one will go into its place. The new piece should tie into what is already there. He added that we may to replace the metal slide if we can because it is “dangerous”. Juanita Baker said that it has always been dangerous because it is so tall.

 Mayor Ferguson asked that if everyone will look at the water budget. All of the grant funds are represented in water for the pumps, liners and the pole barn. That is why it looks like our total income is $843,000, which is significantly more than normal. The high points in water are replacing the lawn mower, replacing the work truck that has turned out to be a problem, repairing or replacing the Lick Skillet Pump, we need a 6” butterfly valve and we also need to replace or rebuild about $6,000 worth of fire hydrants. He said that he has the fire department going around and testing the pressure on all of the hydrants right now and they should be done by the end of the month. This hasn’t been done since 2010. That will have to be done every year from now on. There is also a booster pump on Chisolm Trail that needs to be replaced for around $1,500. The generator for the lift station that is supposed to kick on when the power goes out has not been working well for a while. We keep working on it but it needs to be rebuilt. That will cost about $5,000. Mayor Ferguson said that all of that is represented under Infrastructure where it says $9,000 and Repairs & Maintenance has $6,000 for a total of $15,000. Clerk Sally Kerce said that the lawn mower is supposed to be from General. Mayor Ferguson said that he will move it to General. Shirley Davis asked if we are going to sale the old mower. Mayor Ferguson said yes and that we have had several people ask about it. He said that if everything goes as planned, Water should end up with about a $57,000 income. Mayor Ferguson asked if anyone had any questions so far about Water. Juanita Baker asked if they had started working at the ponds yet. Mayor Ferguson said that someone is working on the drawing for the pole barn and the last thing he heard was that they got the analysis back on the liner material so they are coming up with the material to use for the walking park of the liner because they have to match the material up so when they bond them together, it last. He said it involves a lot of chemistry. He said that the next thing will be to bid the work and order the pumps. Mayor Ferguson said that it has probably gotten to cold and the water is too high in the ponds to address the liner until early summer. The liner will probably be the last thing to get done. Juanita Baker asked about the people who were going to come and smoke test the sewer lines. Mayor Ferguson said that if she recalls, we purchased the flow monitoring system and they have been moving it from manhole to manhole every time it rains and we get an email from the company that we bought it from. It shows if the flow goes up due to rain. There shouldn’t be any rain water getting into the sewer. They have tracked down a part of the sewer that has infiltration. A while back, we had talked about getting a camera when we made it this far, to inspect the sewer lines. The camera that we were going to get was $2,500 and Michael Cabe found a really good one for $750. So the next time that it rains, they are going to go to that manhole and put up a tent and run the camera down the sewer lines and see where that rain water is coming in and then dig it up and fix it. He said that he is guessing that there is a broken pipe somewhere. Mayor Ferguson asked if anyone had anything else about Water. Shirley Davis asked if we are going to keep adding Fluoride. Mayor Ferguson said that we didn’t have to have an election this year so it wasn’t put up for a vote. There will be an election in two years and we will address it then but as for now, we’ll keep adding it.

 Mayor Ferguson said that we will move onto General. Juanita Baker asked if we only get $200 for a wine license. Sally Kerce said that the license is $100 each and only two store carry wine. Juanita Baker said that the man that owns the liquor store is a very nice man. Phil Brooks and Mayor Ferguson agreed. Mayor Ferguson said that he doesn’t have anything significantly different in General. There aren’t any big changes from the last couple of years. He said that the revenue from alcohol sales is down which was to be expected. Sally Kerce asked if it hurt since the county passed Sunday sales. Mayor Ferguson said that it did a little. Phil Brooks asked how much it knocked us down. Mayor Ferguson said that it was only a couple thousand for the year. If nothing happens, we should come out about $32,000 ahead on General. Mayor Ferguson said that he may do a separate budget for the Fire Department next year. Phil Brooks said that we don’t want them to get too far out. Mayor Ferguson said that they still wouldn’t be able to spend any money without coming to him, they could just see what they have available. He said that the playground equipment is on here under recreation. Shirley Davis asked if we are over spending on the events we have been having. Mayor Ferguson said that it is all represented in the budget. He said that it is budgeted for $18,500 and he highly doubts that we will ever spend that much but he would rather air on the side of high. He added that when he does the budget, he tries to paint the bleakest outcome possible so that there aren’t any surprises. He tries to add 10% to what he thinks it will be. Shirley Davis asked if there is any money next year to paint the old Ragland building, just paint it. Mayor Ferguson said that he is still planning on activating the downtown development authority. If we do that, the property will become theirs. Juanita Baker said that the building would look a lot better if it was just washed down.

 Mayor Ferguson asked if anyone has anything else. Shirley Davis said that she sent a thank you to her church for coming and handing out candy at the trunk or treat. Everyone talked about how good it turned out. Mayor Ferguson said that it is definitely worth it to have them. Shirley Davis said that next year, maybe instead of just inviting the churches to set up and give out candy, we can ask some of the individuals. Juanita Baker said that we can just ask everyone that wants to. Mayor Ferguson said that the only problem with October is the weather. He said that Kasia is hoping for more help with the events; like in the couple of weeks leading up to the events.

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting ended at 7:28 p.m.

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 Mayor Town Clerk