

Dublin City Hall
January 18, 2024

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held at Dublin City Hall, on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 5:30 P.M.

Mayor Joshua Kight called the meeting to order. Council members Bill Brown, Bennie Jones, Tess Godfrey, Sara Kolbie, Paul Griggs, Chris Smith, and Rich Mascaro were present. The invocation was given by Ms. Sonya May Calvin, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 4, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

A motion was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Councilman Brown to approve the minutes. The motion carried 7/0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS OVER \$15,000

A motion was made by Councilman Smith and was seconded by Councilman Mascaro to approve the following bills. The motion carried 7/0.

CHECK#	DATE	PAYMENT TO	PURCHASE	AMOUNT
38870	1/05/24	Dublin-Laurens Co. Recreation	Appropriations	54,145.00
38868	1/05/24	Downtown Development Authority	DDA Funds FY2024	60,000.00
38864	1/05/24	C.E. Garbutt Construction Company	City Hall Interior Upgrade	82,840.59
38877	1/05/24	Laurens County Library	Appropriations	18,580.06
38890	1/05/24	T. Lake Environmental Design	FY 24 Landscaping Charges	18,274.43
38891	1/05/24	Ten-8 Fire & Safety Equipment	Fire Trucks	314,532.83
DFT0001879	1/09/24	Department of Revenue	Payroll Taxes	22,107.20
DFT0001880	1/09/24	Internal Revenue Service	Payroll Taxes	135,365.75
38903	1/09/24	Dublin Board of Education	December 2023 Property Taxes	6,295,935.30
38904	1/09/24	Dublin-Laurens Co. Recreation	Hotel/Motel Tax	31,368.06
38902	1/09/24	Downtown Development Authority	Hotel/Motel Tax	15,684.06
38905	1/09/24	Dublin-Laurens Tourism	Hotel/Motel Tax	31,368.06
AFLACDec23	1/11/24	AFLAC	December Premiums	18,354.90
Retirement	1/11/24	GMEBS-Retirement Trust Fund	December Retirement Admin Fees	155,537.67
			Total:	\$7,254,093.91

APPROVAL OF PURCHASES OVER \$15,000

There were no purchases for council consideration.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #24-01 TO ANNEX 331 ACRES OF LAND LOCATED ON HIGHWAY 257.

City Manager Powell read ordinance #24-01 to annex 331 acres, more or less, of land located at Parcel 100 067, 1 and 2 as M2 zone. The second reading and public hearing will be at our February 1st council meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON A CONTRACT TO THOMAS & HUTTON
ENGINEERING FOR DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE CHURCH STREET/RICE
AVENUE SEWER REPAIR PROJECT.

City Manager Powell explained that in order to address the sewer issue on North Church Street, I've requested Thomas and Hutton to submit to us a proposal for their services to engineer the replacement and upgrade of the portion of the sewer line that staff believes to be the problem. In discussing the project with them, there is a general concern that this project wouldn't be substantial enough to incentivize a contractor to bid on it. Therefore, staff propose to add the Rice Avenue project, another maintenance issue, to this in order to make it large enough to attract bidders. The proposal from T&H includes the general engineering consultation services, surveys, easement plats, design, permitting, bidding, construction administration, and they will bill for any additional services needed on a time and expense-based budget. The total for engineering services on both projects is \$97,200, plus the time and expense that is exceeded on those items as quoted in the proposal. Staff recommended using SPLOST 2018 funds for the project. Councilman Mascaro made a motion to approve the contract and seconded by Councilman Smith. The motion carried 7/0 to approve.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON TRAFFIC CALMING FOR EARLWOOD DRIVE.

Staff evaluated and considered the closure of both ends of Earlwood Drive and received feedback from the residents about each. City Manager Powell explained that if council votes to close the Veteran's Blvd side of Earlwood, staff will work with the neighborhood to see if they want to participate in a functioning gate. If they do not, staff will recommend one that will work for the city's purposes and provide access to emergency responders; sanitation; school busses, etc. Additionally, staff will need to make improvements to the Walke Dairy entrance/exit to accommodate the larger vehicles going in and out from there. Councilman Griggs made a motion to close Earlwood at the Veterans Blvd entrance and seconded by Councilwoman Kolbie. The motion carried 7/0 to close.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Kight recommended to council the reappointment of Laura Irwin to the Library Board. Councilman Jones made a motion to reappoint and seconded by Councilwoman Kolbie. The motion carried 7/0 to approve.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Artiffany Stanley, with GMA, congratulated Councilman Bennie Jones on being nominated as the district 9 Third-Vice President for the Georgia Municipal Association.

Ben Hall thanked council for listening and responding to the community on the closure of Earlwood Drive.