



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 5, 2022
6:30PM, Municipal Court Room in the Gym
MINUTES

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Mayor Michael Johnson.
Council Members present: Richard Bracknell, Hiley Miller, Casey Russom, Tom Wallace, Howard Walden

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: led by Mayor Michael Johnson

Approve the published agenda of this date's City Council meeting, as presented:

City Administrator Bill Osborne asked that the agenda be amended with one additional item. He stated that Finance Director Ken Abidde has given the Council information on the current CD situation and how to reinvest those funds. He would like an agenda item to "authorize the reinvestment of Synovus Bank CD restricted fund 5048 and of Synovus Bank CD restricted fund 722". There was a motion by Council Member Miller to amend the agenda to add an item to authorize the reinvestment of the maturing CD accounts, and for this to be item #20, there was a second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0.

Approval of Minutes:

September 26, 2022 Special Called Meeting: There as a motion to approve the September 26, 2022 minutes by Council Member Walden, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 4-0. Council Member Miller abstained.

November 1, 2022 Special Called Meeting: There was a motion to approve the November 1, 2022 minutes, by Council Member Wallace, second by Council Member Russom. Vote 3-0. Council Members Miller and Bracknell abstained.

November 7, 2022 Council Meeting: There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the November 7, 2022 minutes, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

November 14, 2022 Special Called Meeting: There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the November 14, 2022 minutes, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0.

Public Comments:

City Clerk Kristin Etheredge: Explained that afternoon she received an email from a citizen, Penny Ransom (922 Creek Run Place), who wanted to be at the meeting to make a public comment, but was unable to attend. The citizen asked that her email be given out prior to the meeting to everyone at the table (elected officials, city attorney, city administrator). The City Clerk wanted to make sure everyone got the email copy and that it was on record as being given out.

Announcements: N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Johnson gave the Council the opportunity to remove any items from the consent agenda. There were no requests; Mayor Johnson read the consent agenda items that are listed below.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the consent agenda, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0.

1. Amend the City of Temple's proposed 2023 Fiscal Year General Fund Operating Budget by increasing the Computer Services line item of the Administration Department's budget by \$11,300, to a new total of \$40,300 in this line item.
2. Adopt a new Job Classification/Pay Scale for the City of Temple, to be effective on Monday, January 2, 2023.
3. Authorize M & N Millwork, Inc., to proceed with the manufacture of three City Council Chambers desk tables at a total cost of \$7,350.
4. Approve the contract with VC3 for Cyber Insurance Protect Shield service coverage, at an annual cost of \$10,700.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Special recognition of the City of Temple Recreation Department employees for their service to this local government, to the citizens of this community, and to everyone who visits our City Park and its facilities.

Recreation Department Director Ingrid McKinley, read a statement expressing her gratitude and appreciation for all of the Temple Recreation Department employees and their hard work and dedication.

2. Consecutive staff reports on the proposed City of Temple 2023 Fiscal Year General Fund Operating Budget and Water Fund Operating Budget, including the proposed changes in these annual operating budgets since the first public hearing on each of these operating budgets was held in November.

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that he has given the Council a memo regarding the budgets. He said we are currently dealing with our annual budget approval for next year. He stated that the City has to have two public hearings tonight, these are required public hearings on the general fund, water fund, and capital budget.

3. Hold the second public hearings on the proposed 2023 Fiscal Year City of Temple General Fund Operating Budget and Water Fund Operating Budget, with questions and comments from Temple residents.

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that everyone had documents that the Finance Director has prepared; he said they should focus tonight on the budget numbers. Mr. Osborne said when we had the first public hearing there were only a few comments and that we have listened to what the Council has told us. Finance Director Ken Abidde stated that the summary page for Code Enforcement and the Recreation Department are highlighted because they are different from the last time we met. Mr. Abidde said that revenues keep coming in and he has to update those changes. He said we will have to

pay for cleaning services in Code Enforcement when dealing with abandoned properties and the Recreation Department's proposed expenditure was increased by \$2,000, these are the only changes. Regarding the water fund, the only change was the YTD actual for 2022, aside from that, there were no changes, it is the same as was presented at the last meeting.

Mayor Johnson opened the hearing up for public comment.

Dawn Adkins asked how do you have a first hearing on something you haven't discussed yet or figured out what you are doing? Finance Director Ken Abidde explained that is on the summary page, there are two summary pages. That is showing Council if it is approved, how it will affect the budget. You will see a difference of \$138,000, if Council approves that we will apply the increases to the budget itself.

Ms. Adkins asked how you can have a second hearing if you don't know what you have yet. City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that the first hearing is what you are looking at at that time, likely there are changes that will be made before you get to the second hearing. It's not a duplication. Ms. Adkins said these were both in the first hearing, so it's not like it's changed, it just hasn't been decided yet. Mr. Osborne said that none of it has been decided on yet, until they vote on it. He stated they tried to do some refining based on comments at the first meeting. Since they approved what was presented earlier, we included what they asked to put in there. Ms. Adkins asked if they can have multiple options as long as it is defined at the second hearing. Mr. Osborne stated when you get through the second hearing, you hope they are ready to act on it. She asked if the option with \$138,000 is the one they will use and Mr. Osborne confirmed that it would be the one used. There were no further public comments.

4. Discussion among the City of Temple's elected officials pertaining to the General Fund and the Water Fund proposed operating budgets for the 2023 fiscal year.

There was no further discussion.

5. Hold the second public hearing on the proposed 2023 Fiscal Year City of Temple Capital Improvements Fund Budget, with questions and comments from Temple residents.

Mayor Johnson asked if there were any comments from staff. Finance Director Ken Abidde explained that there hasn't been any change in the capital improvement budget; it is the same as the last time that we met. Mayor Johnson asked if anyone from the public would like to make a comment. There were no public comments.

6. Discussion among the City of Temple's elected officials pertaining to the proposed Capital Improvements Fund Budget for the 2023 fiscal year.

Council Member Miller asked if under the police department vehicle, do we need to change the funding from 2021 SPLOST to Blue Line, purchasing one vehicle from each line? Council Member Bracknell said that yes, that was discussed at a previous meeting. Mr. Abidde said that one vehicle would come from Blue Line. It was stated that \$47,000 would come out of the Blue Line account. Council Member Bracknell asked if this cost would cover the outfitting for the vehicles; Chief Lee explained that we may have to amend that later when we get it figured out.

7. Approve an Ordinance to adopt the City of Temple's 2023 Fiscal Year Capital Improvements Fund Budget.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve an ordinance to adopt the City of Temple's 2023 Fiscal Year, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

8. Establish the new position of Administrative Assistant in the Temple Senior Center and place it at Pay Grade 7 in the City's personnel compensation plan.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to establish the new position of Administrative Assistant in the Temple Senior Center, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0.

9. Staff report concerning the requests from three other City departments for additional personnel or to reclassify a position, being the request from the Police Department for two additional police officer positions, the request from the Public Works Department for two additional technician positions, and the request from the Recreation Department to reclassify one current position.

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that we had three departments that requested either additional personnel or a job reclassification. He explained that we have not included funds in the proposed budget for these requests, but if they decide to approve the requests, we would have sufficient funds in the operating budget to handle this for all of next year. The Police Department is requesting two additional positions with the justification being population growth. The Public Works Department is requesting two additional positions because they do not have the detail crew. The Recreation Department is requesting reclassification of an existing position, Athletic Coordinator/Field Maintenance Assistant.

There was a brief discussion about these requests. It was questioned why the rush to hire two more officers when one position is still vacant. Chief Lee explained it takes time to hire people and it would be beneficial to have the authorization for the other two positions ready so that they could move forward when they do find candidates to fill these positions. Council Member Bracknell asked if this was something they could go ahead and approve tonight. He stated that there is a need for all of these requests and it makes sense to go ahead and approve everything since these are positions that we already have the job classifications for. When Chief Lee explained that other agencies are increasing their pay and he asked about bumping the salaries up at the Police Department, Council Member Bracknell said that could be discussed at the next meeting. There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve two additional police officer positions, two additional public works positions and to reclassify one position at the Recreation Department, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0.

10. Brief staff report on the City of Temple's current Ordinance on "general inflationary fee increases" in water and sewer rates, adopted by the City Council on September 4, 2018.

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that a copy of the 2018 ordinance is in the book for everyone to take a look at. This will be addressed in the next item.

11. Adopt a resolution to prevent the automatic 1.50 percent annual increase in water tap fees and sewer tap fees from occurring in February 2023.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that the Council wanted to make sure that there was no increase in the tap fees next year. He has given them a proposed resolution which states there is to be no increase in water or sewer tap fees in 2023. There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to adopt a resolution to prevent the automatic 1.5 percent annual increase in water tap fees and sewer tap fees from occurring in February 2023, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

12. Approve an Ordinance to adopt the City of Temple's 2023 Fiscal Year General Fund Operating Budget.

There was a motion by Council Member Miller to approve an ordinance to adopt the City of Temple's 2023 Fiscal Year General Fund Operating Budget, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

There was a request by Council Member Miller that the Finance Director sends the elected officials a copy of the approved budgets with salary adjustments and to make sure that it says adopted budget, as well as the capital budget with all of the changes made.

13. Approve an Ordinance to adopt the City of Temple's 2023 Fiscal Year Water Fund Operating Budget. There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve an ordinance to adopt the City's 2023 Fiscal Year Water Fund Operating Budget, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 5-0.

14. For the City of Temple's Water Meter Replacement Project: (a) approve a specific scope of field investigation to be carried out by RTS Water Solutions as part of the installation and activation of each new Neptune water meter; and (b) approve a change order in the current agreement with RTS Water Solutions in order to require certain field investigation work to accompany each meter installation in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reporting requirements for lead and copper pipes, at a total additional cost not to exceed \$29,300.

There was a motion by Council Member Wallace to approve a specific scope of field investigation to be carried out by RTS Water Solutions and to approve a change order in the current agreement with RTS Water Solutions at a cost not to exceed \$29,300, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

15. Review and approve the Request for Proposals to be issued pertaining to bushhogging and mulching at the City of Temple's groundwater wells, located on the City's Sewer Treatment Plant property, with the deadline for the City's receipt of proposals to be Thursday, December 29.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that we have been working on this. He said rather than us doing an RFP in terms of getting a totally separate party to do the bush hogging and mulching, he thinks we need to make the company, Geosystems, responsible for doing this, instead of bringing someone else in. That keeps the company we have handling the bigger project to also handle this smaller project so that we won't get caught in the middle. Mr. Osborne stated that we don't need a vote for this.

16. Authorize the City of Temple Public Works Department to move forward in the Lakeland Park residential subdivision with the outlet pipe leveling and related drainage elevation work, in accordance with the stormwater management recommendations made by the consulting firm of Turnipseed Engineers, using funds included in the department's FY2023 budget.

Public Works Director Hal Burch explained that this is a project that they can do in house. There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve this project, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0.

17. Authorize the City's Public Works Department to replace the existing "City Limits" signs on City streets as needed, at the entry into the incorporated City of Temple from unincorporated Carroll County or Haralson County.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to authorize the Public Works Department to replace the existing "City Limits" signs on the City Streets as needed, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0. It was confirmed that the signs should be replaced with the signs that say "City Limits".

18. Authorize the City of Temple to sign a contract for completion of the project to provide lighting for the new sign in front of the Temple Police Department building for an amount not to exceed \$3,800, with funds from the City's Blue Line revenues.

Mayor Johnson explained that we have the new sign, but this electrical work is needed so that the sign can be illuminated. There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to authorize the City to sign a

contract for completion of the project to provide lighting for the new sign at a cost not to exceed \$3,800, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

It was confirmed that the \$3,800 will be included in the current budget. Mayor Johnson thanked Chief Lee for negotiating the cost down from the original \$4,700.

19. Set the time and date for the first regular monthly meeting of the Temple City Council in calendar 2023, as well as the time and date for the series of committee meetings several days prior to this regular monthly meeting.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to move the January Council Meeting from the 2nd to the 9th and for the December Council Committees Meeting to be cancelled, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

20. This agenda item was added to discuss the certificates of deposits that are at, or near maturity, and to vote on how and where these funds should be reinvested.

Finance Director Kenneth Abidde explained that normally you have a ten day grace period from the maturity date to renew or reinvest. He let the Vice President of Synovus know that we are behind and that we would let them know something after the meeting tonight. If we don't get back to them tomorrow, it will automatically roll over. He provided the Council a spreadsheet with the different terms and rates for CDs. He explained that the rate at Regions Bank is a little bit higher, however, he thinks because we have a good working relationship with Synovus, he recommends that we should leave the funds there. He said he had contacted GMA regarding investing with companies like Raymond James and Edward Jones, since this was brought up at another meeting and he was asked to pursue that option. GMA advised that we don't invest in these higher risk places, that the maximum amount you can recoup from them is \$250,000, but with traditional banks it is collateralized, with the FDIC, you can recoup almost everything you put in.

Mayor Johnson stated that the City Attorney, Carey Pilgrim did some research in the GA code relating to investments and asked him to summarize what he found. The City Attorney stated that the GA code requires that cities invest in traditional deposit institutions, which is what you would think it would be: bank and savings & loans, and you can also invest in government bank securities. With investment firms like Raymond James and Edward Jones, he doesn't know how they hold the money, it is his understanding that they may offer products where they act as a broker and can get better rates. I don't know internally how those things are collateralized. He said that like Mr. Abidde said, the GA code requires that there be collateral there in the event of loss and with investment firms he does not know how that works with them.

Mr. Abidde said that Truist Bank contacted him late today and they are offering 3.0% for 12 months. Mayor Johnson asked what the penalty would be if we had to withdraw money prior to the CD reaching its full term; Mr. Abidde said he did not know, Council Member Walden stated he didn't think it would be very much. Council Member Bracknell suggested that we still shop around to other banks and to maybe look at Bank OZK, that the City's money should be shared around a little bit.

There was a motion by Council Member Miller that we roll the two restricted investment funds with Synovus, accounts #7222 & account #5048 for a 14 month maturity with Synovus at a rate of 3.25%, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

Mayor Johnson said next is the maturity date of 12/21/22, both of those CDS are currently with Truist Bank. Truist is offering a 12 month rate of 3.0% with new information expected on Wednesday, however we don't know what those rates will be.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell that we go with a 14 month CD at Truist at a rate of 3.0% or better for accounts unrestricted #3933 and restricted #3666 , if we can not get the 14 month CDs, then move these accounts to Synovus for 14 months at 3.25%, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 4-1. Council Member Walden, opposed.

Closing Comments

Howard Walden- wanted to let the Public Works Director know the Christmas lights look much better than last year.

Mayor Johnson- wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Executive Session, if needed- N/A

Adjournment: There was a motion to adjourn by Council Member Bracknell, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:03PM.



Mayor Michael Johnson



City Clerk