

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 6, 2023
6:30PM, Temple Senior Center
MINUTES**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Mayor Michael Johnson
Council Members Present: Richard Bracknell, Casey Russom, Tom Wallace, Howard Walden
***Council Member Hiley Miller** arrived at approximately 7:15PM and was not present to vote during items 1-13.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: led by Mayor Michael Johnson

Approve the published agenda of this date's City Council meeting, as presented: There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the published agenda, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 4-0.

Approval of Minutes:

November 28, 2022 Special Called Meeting: There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the November 28, 2022 minutes with a minor typo that was corrected, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 4-0.

January 9, 2023 Council Meeting: There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the January 9, 2023 minutes, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 4-0.

Public Comments: N/A

Announcements: City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that he had a list of announcements but he did not bring them with him to the meeting. He stated that he would email them to the elected officials.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Recognition of seven City of Temple police officers for special and exceptional services to the public.
Mayor Michael Johnson and Chief Creig Lee recognized the following police officers for special and exceptional service to the public: Corporal Charles Thompson, Officer Marc Lattanzio, Officer Joseph Alexander, Lt. James Hollowood, Officer Andrew Mitchell, Officer David Yates, and Officer Sheralee Foughty.

2. Hold a public hearing and then consider taking action on the request from the Carroll County Board of Education for the rezoning from R-2 (Single-Family Detached Residential District) to G (Government) of the 0.41-acre property at 156 Highway 78 East, being Parcel T04 0030046 Land Lot 172 District 6 for the purpose of expanding the campus of the Temple High School.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. There was no one present to speak for or against this request. The public hearing was closed.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the request from the Carroll County Board of Education for the rezoning from R-2 (Single-Family Detached Residential District) to G (Government) of the 0.41-acre property at 156 Highway 78 East, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 4-0.

3. Hold a public hearing and then consider taking action on the request from the City of Temple for the rezoning from CG (General Commercial) to G (Government) of the 8.18-acre property on Highway 78 East adjacent to the current site of the Temple City Hall, being Parcel T04 0060443 Land Lot 172 District 6, which was donated to this municipal government by Roush Properties, LLC.

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the request from the City of Temple for the rezoning from CG (General Commercial) to G (Government) of the 8.18-acre property on Highway 78 East adjacent to the current site of the Temple City Hall, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 4-0.

4. Announce that the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has initiated the first phase of the City of Temple's Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) by awarding a grant of \$344,000 in Federal funds to cover 80 percent of the preliminary engineering costs for the proposed sidewalk project to connect downtown Temple to the City Park on Rome Street and the two public schools on Rainey Road. This announcement was made.

5. Authorize the Mayor to execute the Project Framework Agreement (PFA) for the GDOT FY2023 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant for the sidewalk project extending from Temple's downtown business district to the City Park on Rome Street and the two public schools on Rainey Road, upon the review and approval by the City Attorney.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to authorize the Mayor to execute the Project Framework Agreement (PFA) for the GDOT FY2023 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant for the sidewalk project, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 4-0.

6. Brief status report on the start of implementation of the City of Temple's comprehensive Water Meter Replacement Project.

Public Works Director Hal Burch explained that so far 190 meters have been installed. A second crew has come in so there is more staff to help install the meters. They have one crew to clean out the meter boxes so that the crew that comes behind them can move at a more rapid pace. We should start seeing 80-100 meters installed per day. The Montgomery Road water tower so far seems to be covering the entire City and the advantage of the Villa Rosa tower is there will be over lap and very little chance of miscommunication. The coverage is better than anticipated. It is a slow start but everything is going really well.

7. As part of the City's Water Meter Replacement Project, direct the City Public Works Department and contractor Envocore – RTS Water Solutions, LLC, to install the new water meters for the residential lots on Marie Street adjacent to the City's street right of way instead of continuing to have the water meters on this street to be located adjacent or close to the housing on these lots, with the property owner having the responsibility of connecting these residential housing structures to the new water meters.

Public Works Director Hal Burch stated that the anticipated start date for this project is on the 13th. He doesn't think this will be a complicated project because the two inch main runs on both sides of the road and should be easy to access. He said they should be able to do this in house without any trouble.

Council Member Walden asked about the cost of \$40,000 that is mentioned in item eight. He asked if no boring is being done, why would this project be that expensive? City Administrator Osborne stated that will be explained.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to direct the City Public Works Department and contractor Envocore – RTS Water Solutions, LLC, to install the new water meters for the residential lots on Marie Street adjacent to the City's street right of way, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 4-0.

8. Direct the City Administrator and Finance Director to present to the City Council not later than its regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 6, a proposed amendment to the FY2023 Capital Fund Budget for Public Works in order to provide for the relocation of the City's water meters line adjacent to Marie Street, with the cost not to exceed \$40,000.00.

City Administrator Bill Osborne said that in reference to what Council Member Walden questioned in item number seven, the work could be around \$24,000, but depending on what work might need to be done in the street, it could go up to \$40,000. The \$40,000 estimate would be the worst case scenario. Public Works Director Hal Burch said he will have a better idea what needs to be done once they get down there and dig things up. City Administrator Bill Osborne explained either way, the budget has to be amended and we will not spend any more than we have to.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to direct the City Administrator and Finance Director to present to the Council not later than its regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 6, a proposed amendment to the FY2023 Capital Fund Budget for Public Works in order to provide for the relocation of the City's water meters line adjacent to Marie Street, with the cost not to exceed \$40,000.00, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 4-0.

9. Authorize the City of Temple to advertise for sealed bids for the installation of the new 10-inch water line adjacent to Sage Street from College Street to the Temple High School, as the first capital project in the City's approved plan for the expansion of the capacity and scope of the its water system and with funding for this project being a combination of the 2021 SPLOST program and ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds from the Federal government.

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained this is a top priority project and Turnipseed Engineers estimated the cost to be \$725,000. When the capital fund budget was adopted, money for this project was included with it coming from a combination of 2021 SPLOST and ARPA funds. There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to authorize the advertisement for sealed bids for the installation of the new 10-inch water line adjacent to Sage Street from College Street to the Temple High School, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 4-0.

Council Member Walden expressed concern that the engineer is recommending 5,000 linear feet of water line from College Street to the school, but then in the map of water system improvements, they are only taking it to Montgomery St and it's only calling for 2,600 feet. Public Works Director Hal Burch stated that is something we definitely need to clarify with the engineer if that was an oversight on the map, his recommendation was that the line needed to be replaced essentially down to Sonoco.

10. Authorize the City of Temple to advertise for sealed bids for the expansion and improvement of the Villa Rosa Pump Station as the top priority for improving the City's sewer system, and with funding for this project being from the City's Water Sewer Fund and from 2021 SPLOST funds.

City Administrator Bill Osborne said there was six specific projects included in the report and they were divided into short term and long term. The top priority for the short term was the Villa Rosa pump station with the cost of 1.2 million. You could go ahead and take action on advertising sealed bids, and determine how to fund it later if you would like.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to authorize the City of Temple to advertise for sealed bids for the expansion and improvement of the Villa Rosa Pump Station as the top priority for improving the City's sewer system, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 4-0.

11. Approve the purchase of 12 fire hydrants from one of the three companies who submitted a proposal to the City of Temple.

There was a motion by Council Member Wallace to approve the purchase of 12 fire hydrants from Ferguson Water Works in the amount of \$34,763.04 with the funding source being from the capital fund budget, second from Council Member Walden. Vote 4-0

12. Approve the purchase of two zero-turn mowers from one of the three companies who submitted a proposal to the City of Temple.

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the purchase of two zero-turn mowers from Atlas Equipment in Roopville at a cost of \$31,120.00 for two Ferris mowers to be paid for with the capital budget, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 4-0.

13. Direct the City Administrator and Finance Director to present to the City Council not later than its regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 6, a proposed amendment to the FY2023 Capital Fund Budget for a third annual payment of \$10,000.00 to the Carroll County Mental Health Advocates Program for the CCCRT mobile crisis response unit.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to direct the City Administrator and Finance Director to present to the Council no later than its regular meeting on March 6th, a proposed amendment to the FY2023 Capital Fund Budget for a third annual payment of \$10,000 to the Carroll County Mental Health Advocates Program for the CCRT mobile crisis response unit, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 4-0.

14. Staff reports concerning the recent traffic safety problems at the two inadequate railroad grade-level crossings in the City of Temple and concerning ongoing discussions and actions between this local government and Norfolk Southern regarding immediate temporary solutions and more comprehensive long-term solutions.

City Administrator explained that recently there was a blockage on the tracks, and almost immediately after that, there was another one. Last Thursday he and Chief Lee met with Will Miller, the Public Safety Director for Norfolk Southern. At one point, Conner Poe of Norfolk Southern said they were going to close that crossing; there would need to be a public hearing for that to be done. Chief Lee explained that after meeting with Mr. Miller, he proposed a plan for eliminating the trucks being stopped on the tracks, by using signs, etc. Mr. Miller advised Chief Lee to get specs on the poles and signs for his plan, submit the proposal to him, and the railroad will let us know if we can proceed with that option. If this works, this could deter Norfolk Southern from closing one of the crossings.

City Administrator Bill Osborne stated that Norfolk Southern has presented a resolution which they are asking the City to sign. The resolution is basically saying that the City will receive \$50,000 from Norfolk Southern and \$50,000 from GDOT to address this issue. Mr. Osborne is asking the elected officials to reject the proposal that was sent to them by Norfolk Southern. They are proposing to give the City some money and then be done with it. We need to make sure that we end up with two good grade level crossings. Council Member Howard Walden suggested that Sage Street be extended past Sonoco and have a grade level crossing at Rainey Road. Mr. Osborne stated that could be a good option, he also mentioned the possibility of a crossing between Sage St and the downtown area. Mayor Johnson thanked Chief Lee for coordinating the meeting with Norfolk Southern's safety officer.

15. Consider adoption of a proposed resolution submitted to the City of Temple by Norfolk Southern regarding the grade-level crossing at the north end of Sage Street.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to reject the resolution offered by Norfolk Southern, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0.

16. Consider adoption of a proposed resolution identifying possible long-term improvements for railroad crossings in the City of Temple and requesting the Georgia Department of Transportation and Norfolk Southern to work with this local government to plan and construct these improvements.

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that he has given the elected officials a proposed resolution; he is not expecting them to take action on this tonight. He stated that we could come back in a couple of weeks with some refinement on it. The proposed resolution points out that two of our railroad crossings are unsafe and that Sage Street is a particularly dangerous situation which Norfolk Southern has notified us that they plan to close. We believe that closing it would just put more traffic on the other two crossings. Mayor Johnson proposed that everyone review the resolution and offer any feedback to Mr. Osborne and it could be included at a committees meeting or upcoming Special Called meeting.

17. Select the traffic engineering firm of Lumin8 Transportation Technologies to conduct traffic impact studies and then to prepare analyses and recommendations for the City of Temple pertaining to eight current or planned developments at a cost of \$100,000 and to generate a separate traffic and safety analysis, report, and recommendations at an additional cost of \$30,000 pertaining to the Center Point Road / Billings Road / Venable Road intersections, with 2021 SPLOST funds for these studies included in the City's FY2023 Capital Improvements Plan budget.

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to select the traffic engineering firm of Lumin8 to conduct traffic impact studies with the funds coming from 2021 SPLOST, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

18. Approve an amendment to the City of Temple's agreement with Turnipseed Engineers to include in the company's current scope of services the addition of inspection of infrastructure work being done in residentially-zoned areas by developers and the construction companies providing services to these developers, with an hourly rate charged for delivery of these inspection services.

There was a motion by Council Member Russom to approve an amendment to the City's agreement with Turnipseed Engineers to include in the company's current scope of services the addition of inspection of infrastructure work being done in residentially-zoned areas, using option one, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

19. Consider making appointments to the new Steering Committee to be responsible in 2023 for preparing a proposed update of the City of Temple's Comprehensive Plan, with all appointments to be made not later than the City Council's regular monthly voting meeting on March 6.

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that by a month from today we need to have these appointments approved. We have a schedule and deadline for the Comprehensive Plan which the state has set. This time next month, we need to have a full slate. Mayor Johnson asked if anyone had any candidates they would like to have approved. Council Member Walden suggested that it would be a good idea to have a police officer involved. He requested to appoint both Chief Lee and Lt. Hollowood so that hopefully one or the other would be available to be at the meetings.

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve both Chief Lee and Lt. Hollowood to the Steering Committee, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

Council Member Bracknell suggested Matt Rhoden be on the committee. Deidra Walker said that she had a meeting with him the next day and would ask him if he is willing to serve on the steering committee.

Howard Walden suggested that the Chair of the Planning Commission, Gary Thomas be on the committee if he has time.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to appoint Assistant City Administrator, Lisa Jacobson, to the committee, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to appoint Council Member Walden to the committee, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0.

There was a motion by Council Member Wallace to appoint Council Member Bracknell to the committee, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 4-0. (Council Member Bracknell abstained)

Council Member Bracknell stated that he would like to get some of the newer residents in the community involved in this project and we need to have diversity.

20. Review the bid information from Chief Creig Lee pertaining to the re-roofing of the City Police Station, and then consider selecting one of the bidders to replace the current roofing on this building, with 2021 SPLOST revenues for this project included in the City's current Capital Fund Budget. Chief Lee presented four different bids for the roofing project. There was a motion by Council Member Russom to approve the bid from KRG in the amount of \$16,764.15 with the funding to come from the 2021 SPLOST, second from Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

21. From the two proposals submitted to the City Council at its January 30 Budget and Finance Committee meeting, select the company to provide cleaning services during the next 12 months in the current City Hall building and also in City Hall's new addition, once it has been completed. Council Member Bracknell stated that he would like to keep the work local. There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to accept the proposal from "Take a Break", second by Council Member Miller. Vote 5-0.

22. Reports from staff and the City Attorney's office pertaining to the Villa Rosa Community Park, with the City Council subsequently considering the park renovation proposals in response to these reports. City Attorney Carey Pilgrim stated it would not be a conflict of interest to go with the proposal from Commissioner Tommy Lee's company, DCW. There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the proposal from DCW in the amount of \$36,355 coming from the 2021 SPLOST, second from Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

23. Authorize the placement of an advertisement in the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce's new Carroll County Community Guide for 2023 and 2024, identifying whether it is to be a full-page or a half-page ad.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to purchase a full page advertisement in the Carroll County Community Guide, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 5-0.

24. Receive a report concerning replacements and possible additions to the City of Temple's Christmas decorations, discuss this report, and possibly decide what new decorations the City would purchase before a special sale ends on March 31.

There was a motion by Council Member Miller to alternate the two designs: the tree and snowflake, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

There was a motion by Council Member Russom to order 30 units of each design(tree and snowflake), coming from the Capital Fund Budget, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

25. Status report concerning changes to the City Council Ward boundaries in the City of Temple, including a review of action taken by the City Council and the recent response from the State of Georgia office that is responsible for reviewing local redistricting decisions.

City Administrator Bill Osborne explained that the Georgia State legislature has a state office that reviews the redistricting and they did not approve the changes that the City suggested which was moving the Bedrock Townhomes to Council Member Bracknell's Ward. The changes have to be done by census blocks. The State sent back a new proposed map and Mr. Osborne said he will get it to everyone the next time we meet. No action needs to be taken tonight; this will be discussed further in the next couple of weeks.

25. Executive Session on Personnel Items

Mayor Michael Johnson stated that the Executive session was for personnel items and legal and it is possible that there could be action after the session.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to go into Executive Session, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0. The Executive Session began at 8:25PM

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to come out of Executive Session, second by Council Member Wallace. Vote 5-0.

Closing Comments

Mayor Johnson- He wanted to congratulate Council Member Bracknell and his debate team for winning the state.

Adjournment: There was a motion to adjourn by Council Member Bracknell, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:02PM.

Adjournment: There was a motion to adjourn by Council Member Bracknell, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:02PM.


Mayor Johnson


City Clerk