

THE LAKE CITY COUNCIL

Minutes

August 10, 2015

5:00 PM Work Shop

Fire Services Discussion

Participants: Lake City: Mayor and Members of the City Council; City Manager, City Attorney, Director Community Services; Chief of Police, City Clerk, Sgt Toby Phillips

Clayton County: Greg Porter, Director 9-11 Department; Brett Lavender, Director of Information Technology, Christie Barnes Chief Staff Attorney, Fire Chief Merkison, County CFO NAME?, Several Battalion Fire Operations Chiefs, and Detrick Stanford, Chief Operating Officer

A wide range of issues were discussed embracing:

- County response times from existing fire stations
- Selection of city owned sites upon which to build the fire station
- Methods of financing using a bond issue
- Time lines associated with financing and construction both of which approximates one year
- Communications and radio procurement considerations and timing

Consensus: The County Chief Operating Officer, Lake City City Manager, Lake City City Attorney and Clayton County Attorney will meet in short order to draft a letter of intent to the County Commission as a means to provide for a proactive engagement since time is of the essence together with drafting a Memorandum of Understanding between the parties together with an Intergovernmental Agreement.

In addition it was concluded that the property upon which the City's Public Works Facility resides is best suited for the building of a fire station consisting of approximately 6,000 square feet and costing about \$200 per square. These estimates are subject to further clarification. It was estimated that the cost of which would be approximately \$1,200,000 and the time frame would be about 6 months depending on weather conditions. In addition the County CFO explained the selling of bonds using the full faith and credit of Lake City for which the County would make payments of same during a time before the fire tax became operative in January 2016 as the permanent source of the bond payments.

It was estimated that the time necessary for bond financing would take about 4 months. Therefore the best guess is a one year time frame for the financing and construction of the fire station. It was concluded to use the County Contractor under its present RFP for the construction as a means to save critical time in beginning the project.

The technical aspects of the radio purchase was discussed with the idea that it would take 60 to 90 days for Lake City to be converted to the County Communications Center and for the City to begin its final negotiations to purchase the needed radios as soon as possible. As such the City will advise Morrow of the foregoing at its earliest convenience which will enable Morrow to proceed ahead with its own procurement plans for their radios and related equipment.

7:00 PM City Council Session

Participants: Mayor and City Council, City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk, Director, Community Services, Police Chief, City Treasurer.

Call to Order

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes – Motion made by Councilman Ginn, seconded by Councilman Williams and the matter passed unanimously.

New Business – FIRE STATION

A motion was made by Councilman Sowell, seconded by Councilman Ginn to designate the Public Works Facility Property as the site upon which to construct a fire station and to notify the County of this consideration. The motion passed unanimously.

The sentiment of the Council was expressed unanimously in terms of the professional way in which the County Staff made its presentation during the Work Session and it looks forward to a meaningful relationship in going forward with the county providing dispatching, 9-11, EMS and Fire Services for Lake City in an expeditious manner.

It was recognized that a transition arrangement needs to be put in place with Morrow for remainder of this calendar year.

Old Business

Police Report – Presentation of the activities for the month of July was provided by Chief David Colwell.

Adjournment – Motion made by Councilman Sowell to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Williams and the matter passed unanimously.