

**MINUTES**  
**CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL**  
Wednesday, December 8, 2010, 7:00 PM

Officials Present

Mayor:	Howard Tygrett
Council:	Warren Hadlock, Dianne Leonetti, Dean Moore, Emanuel Ransom, Joan Swaney, (Adam White -Absent)
City Clerk:	Tracy Ashby
City Attorney:	Stephen Quinn

Mayor Tygrett called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of Council Minutes**

The minutes from the November 02, 2010 Council meeting were before Council for approval. Ms. Swaney moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Ransom seconded the motion. Mayor Tygrett opened the floor for discussion. No discussion followed. **A vote was called and the motion carried.** (5/0)

**CITIZENS COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

Graham Thomas, Market Street, suggested that speed bumps be put on Wagner to slow down traffic and signs stating no thru traffic. Mr. Thomas commented on whether to go to Dekalb County to have them put in the speed bumps.

Chris Busing, Mauck Street, who is a member of the NAACP which has an affiliate organization, "Underground Railroad". Underground Railroad exposes mortgage fraud. Mr. Busing suggested a law course available in Pine Lake (O.C.G.A.) which covers the official code of Georgia. Mr. Busing invited Councilman Hadlock to attend a free course to review. Mr. Busing mentioned that Shewitt's case was dismissed. Mr. Busing also addressed concern that family members are limited in attending court proceedings due to Fire Marshall safety number limitations.

Rosemarie Nelson stated that if a person wants a speed hump on their street they have to do a petition to Dekalb County.

Ms. Nelson, President of the Business Assoc., commented on the ordinance to amend the Business Licensing and Occupational Tax should not hold the professional licenses to a January 15<sup>th</sup> time frame. Our professional businesses need their licenses by January 1, 2011.

Ms. Nelson asked to consider not changing the parking lot striping. The Business Assoc. contacted the Federal Dept. of Transportation and one of the other reasons that parking lot striping's are white is because it is another language and consistent throughout our nation because people are use to this; so please don't add anymore hindrance.

Ms. Nelson was wondering on how we would really be able to enforce whether a machine was for played for amusement and not gambling practices. Having a higher fee on the amusement machines would make people more likely to patronize the businesses with these machines and to cover the cost for the policing of those machines.

Ms. Nelson said the budget hearing that was incorporated into the City Council Meeting was not publicized as such. We just saw the City Council Meeting and not the budget hearing which is normally on two different days or meetings.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Public Hearing: 2011 Proposed Budget – Public comment will be taken and time limits may be set to accommodate all speakers.**

Ms. Nelson had questions on the budget concerning certain line items and would like to know what the findings were on the audit, but Mayor Tygrett will have to review the audit (has been over a month) before making any comments.

Chris Busing commented on the price to repair the pool comparable to what we are paying out of city funds to do a new pool. Mr. Busing also suggested the city to use 50k from our reserve fund to purchase silver to get a better return.

Debbie Gaffman would like to see Clarkston be a “green city” and suggested that City Hall and Clarkston Women’s Club do rainwater collection to be a model to the rest of the city.

Closed Public Hearing

**Council Adopt 2011 Budget**

Mayor Tygrett did a power point presentation on the 2010 budget and the proposed 2011 budget. The Mayor also answered the question presented by Rosemarie Nelson concerning Safebuilt. Some of our revenue will be a wash from the expenses but we have gone from a negative balance to a “zero” maybe \$36,000 surplus revenue. We have moved capital projects along in this fiscal year. Mayor Tygrett also spoke about the Planning & Zoning Training.

The floor was opened for discussion by the City Council.

Dean Moore made the motion to adopt the budget as proposed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ransom. **A vote was called and the motion carried. (5/0)**

**Council to Appoint New Planning & Zoning Committee Member**

Regina Zabel has been recommended to serve on the Planning & Zoning Committee. Mr. Moore gave a brief description of Ms. Zabel’s skills and she has attended the Pond Co. training. Mr. Ransom made a motion to accept Mr. Moore’s recommendation for Planning & Zoning. Ms. Leonetti seconded the motion. **A vote was called and the motion carried. (5/0)**

**C-Beyond Internet & Service Systems Proposal**

Mayor Tygrett would like to do an audit of all our communication systems by looking at our vendors and what their expenses are and if we can lower our costs. Mr. Hadlock stated we would save some costs and to look at it more comprehensively. This was a saving on our phone service only. It is a tough job to do a complete audit because we have so many different areas of communication.

**City Property Maintenance Ordinance (1<sup>st</sup> Read)**

Mr. Quinn (City Attorney) stated that the purpose of this ordinance is to address properties not kept up for sake of appearance as well as for public health and safety issues that go along with the property not being maintained (structures and yards). Mr. Quinn did the 1<sup>st</sup> Read. Mayor Tygrett explained the reason for this ordinance. Ms. Leonetti, Mr. Moore and Mr. Hadlock had comments and statements.

**Outdoor Watering Restrictions Ordinance (1<sup>st</sup> Read)**

This came to the Mayor from G.M.A. and the City Attorney (Mr. Quinn) did the 1<sup>st</sup> Read. Mr. Hadlock questioned if it was any different than what we already had in affect. Any changes can be incorporated into the 2<sup>nd</sup> Read.

**Police Dept. New Maintenance Contract Approval**

Capt. Hudson gave a brief summary of the maintenance contract on the cameras in the patrol cars which will allow 24 hour contact with them on maintenance issues and quarterly check-ups.

City Attorney wanted to address a couple of legal provisions to protect the city. Mr. Ransom made the motion to approve the contract pending approval from the City Attorney and to authorize the Mayor to sign all necessary documents. Mr. Moore seconded the motion.

**A vote was held and the motion carried. (5/0)**

### **Adopt New Service Delivery Strategy by Resolution**

The Mayor mentioned that it was a good move to opt out of the Parks and Recreation. We need to adopt by resolution the new service delivery before the city will be eligible for state administered financial assistance, grants, loans or permits. If we adopt in December we will be eligible January 1, 2011. Mr. Ransom made the motion we accept to renew the Service Delivery Strategy for the City of Clarkston with Dekalb County. Ms. Leonetti seconded the motion.

**A vote was held and the motion carried. (5/0)**

### **Employee Holiday Bonus**

Ms. Leonetti, Ms. Swaney and Mr. Hadlock are not in favor of the bonus and would rather give a gift card or ham instead. Ms. Leonetti made a motion to give the City of Clarkston employees a \$50.00 gift card from Kroger. Ms. Swaney seconded the motion. **A vote was held and the motion carried. (5/0)**

### **PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT:**

Mr. Glover stated that P&Z approved a sign for Cedar Pines and approved a handicap access for Mr. Singletary. We recommended seek a variance out for building a carport in their front yard and AT&T more stuff on the cell tower. Approved a sign for a business on Montreal and Thriftown.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Ordinance to Amend Parking and Loading Requirement Striping color (2<sup>nd</sup> Read)**

Mr. Quinn did the 2<sup>nd</sup> Read. Mr. Ransom made a motion to accept the Ordinance as read. Mr. Moore seconded the motion. **A vote was held and the motion carried. (5/0)**

#### **Ordinance to Amend the Business Licensing and Occupation Tax Ordinance (2<sup>nd</sup> Read)**

Mr. Quinn (City Attorney) did the 2<sup>nd</sup> Read. Mr. Ransom made a motion to accept this ordinance in its entirety. Ms. Leonetti seconded the motion. **A vote was held and the motion carried. (5/0)**

#### **Council to Adopt by Resolution Fees for Amusement Machines**

Mr. Quinn (City Attorney) read the resolution for the amusement machines. Mr. Ransom made a motion to accept the resolution as read. Ms. Leonetti seconded the motion. **A vote was held and the motion carried. (5/0)**

### **CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT**

Chief Scipio spoke on crime during the holidays. They have held eight crime prevention programs and have been checking on the senior citizens in our community.

### **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Community Activities**

Ms. Leonetti nothing to report.

**Buildings and Grounds Committee Report**

Mr. Moore invited everyone to the Clarkston Community Center tomorrow morning at 10:00 am. This is a Community Café for opportunity zone which is United Way in conjunction to Dekalb County and other entities to extend services to families in need in areas of education and health.

**Parks and Recreation Committee Report**

Not present.

**Police Affairs Committee Report**

Ms. Swaney nothing to report.

**Finance Committee Report**

Mr. Hadlock nothing to report.

**Sanitation Committee Report**

Mr. Ransom wanted to remind everyone that the Christmas Tree Lighting will be on Saturday and that Dekalb County is honoring our Police again this year at the annual luncheon at Perimeter College.

**City Attorney's Report**

Mr. Quinn nothing to report.

**Mayor's Report**

The pool bids have come in and we should be reviewing them this week and next week. It's a grueling process because we are using federal funding. The Lake Project started today and I am very happy with the groups that came together to make this happen. Tree lighting is at 6:30 pm on Saturday and Santa is arriving by helicopter. We did have another violent crime just outside of Clarkston and I have been working with the County to provide us more resources and I have been in contact with Crime Stoppers to punish those who commit crimes in our community. I want to make a statement that we will not tolerate those who come to our community to make diversity an opportunity to commit a crime.

Mr. Ransom moved to adjourn the Council meeting and pay Council bills. Mr. Moore seconded the motion. No discussion followed. **A vote was held and the motion carried.** (5/0)

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.