

The Council of the City of Villa Rica met in a regular scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 in the Council Chambers at 101 Main Street, Holt-Bishop Justice Center, Municipal Courtroom. Those present were Mayor J Collins; Councilmembers Perry Amidon, Verland Best, Woody Holland, and Joey Kelley; Deputy City Manager (Utilities) Eric Lacefield, City Clerk Reedell Saxon and City Attorney David Mecklin. Councilmember Shirley Marchman and City Manager Larry Wood were absent with notification. Approximately 27 people were in attendance.

Collins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The invocation was given by Collins. All recited the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes from the May 5, 2009 meeting was presented. Amidon moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Holland. Motion carried 4/0.

Police Chief Michael Mansour presented a Law Enforcement Purple Heart certificate to Sgt Chet Long who was recently injured in the line of duty. Sgt Long was dragged and subsequently run over by a vehicle attempting to leave the scene of a traffic stop. His injuries were non life threatening and Sgt Long is expected to eventually return to active duty. Long, surrounded by his family, accepted the certificate.

Chief Mansour reported that three citizens who witnessed the incident immediately came to the aid of Sgt Long and also assisted responding officers in locating the perpetrator. Chief Mansour presented a Good Samaritan Award to these three for exemplary actions by a citizen in the aid of an officer. Randy Brooks was present to receive his award. The others, Lea Kandes and Sean Ruff, will receive the plaques later.

Under Old Business: Lacefield presented an update on the progress of the Georgia Municipal Association in submitting a new pension plan with the ten year vesting for new employees. GMA expects to have the documents ready for Council consideration at the July meeting. Holland moved to postpone this until July, seconded by Kelley. Motion carried 4/0.

Under New Business: Lacefield asked Deputy City Manager (Services) Jeff Reese to present the June 2009 Employee of the Month, Tressie Slay, who coaches the track team and also serves as a receptionist at Gold Dust Park. Slay was on hand to receive her plaque and check.

Interim Community Development Manager Taurus Freeman presented RA-01-09, a request for rezoning by Dr. Mobolaji Oyebanjo of Villa Rica, for a medical office at 307 Old Stone Road. The rezoning would consist of 0.52+/- acres to be rezoned from R-20 (Single-Family Residential) to OI (Office-Institutional). Freeman said the Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval. Collins opened the floor for a public hearing. Dr Oyebanjo addressed Council and said she currently has a clinic in Villa Rica which she has operated for the past 18 months. She is hiring more staff and is hoping to move her practice as a board certified psychiatrist and board certified addictionologist to be nearer Tanner Villa Rica. She will be associated with Tanner and also Willowbrook. No other public comment was forthcoming and the floor was closed. Council asked about a buffer between the property of this proposed rezoning and the residence at 301 Old Stone Road. Freeman said Dr Oyebanjo is aware of the buffer requirements and will comply. Amidon moved to accept the rezoning, seconded by Best. Motion carried 3/1 with Kelley opposed.

Lacefield presented one item under Consideration of Bids:

1. Postage Meter – three quotes were received. The current provider, Pitney Bowes, is the low bidder at a total of \$ 6,600.00 for a 60 month contract paid in monthly increments of \$110.00. Holland, who had previous objections to Pitney Bowes, withdrew his objections. After a brief discussion, Kelley moved to award the low bidder, Pitney-Bowes, seconded by Amidon. Motion carried 3/1 with Holland opposed.

Lacefield presented two items for Payments over \$5,000:

1. ITT Flygt Corporation, \$20,202 for a backup pump for the Bivins Road Lift Station. This is a budgeted item. Holland moved to approve, seconded by Kelley. Motion carried 4/0.
2. Delta Municipal Supply Company, \$6,460 for twelve 1” water meters for the meter change out program and 20 Data Loggers for residential meters to track possible leakage at sites with high water bills. Funds are available and this was budgeted. After some discussion, Holland moved to approve, seconded by Amidon. Motion carried 4/0.

Lacefield reported that the three police vehicles budgeted for purchase in the current fiscal year would need to be ordered in the next week in order for the City to have delivery in 2009. Lacefield said the vehicles would be 2010 models and have not been bid. Chief Mansour said the bid winner of the two 2009s just received said these three vehicles could be provided at a similar cost if ordered right away. Lacefield said the City could bid the vehicles out but would not receive the units until 2010. Council talked about other makes of vehicles. Captain Keith Shaddix addressed Council and pointed out that equipment such as cages, light bars, and consoles are not interchangeable between makes. After some discussion, Holland moved to put the vehicles out for bid, seconded by Kelley. Council discussed the time line necessary to place a timely order. Reese asked if Council would consider authorizing the City Manager to order the vehicles if the low bid was within a certain price range. After further discussion Collins called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried 4/0.

Lacefield, Reese and Mansour presented a City update.

Lacefield: The West Water Reclamation Facility is in Week 14 and is ahead of schedule. The GEFA application is still in the works.

Mansour: The Police Department’s new Explorer program will be featured soon in a magazine. The enrolled youth will be learning how to be police officers, learn investigation techniques and other important police work. There is also a class being initiated to teach high school students and adult violators about the dangers of impaired driving including the dangers of texting while driving. The new citizens’ police academy begins August 6, 2009.

Reese: Good progress is being made on the City Complex. Crews have removed 1800 square feet of old flooring with a value of \$22,000. This will be used in the display area of the new City Hall. Drummel Waste Services is continuing preparation for demolition of the old mill buildings. Utilities are being moved to the east side of the building which will remain. The South Carroll Road parking lot is almost complete. Inmate crews are picking up paper before mowing. The City will also be spraying Round-Up around guard rails. Holland asked that the future City Complex be referred to as something other than “the Avanti Building”.

Collins opened the floor for public comment:

Jerry Segal, 281 Huntington Drive, Temple, speaking as a media professional, asked Council to approve a resolution in support of the right of Michael Savage, whom he described as a conservative talk show host, not to be liable by a representative of a foreign country for exercising his legal right to speak his mind while in his own country. He also asked for Council support of the “Broadcaster Freedom Act of 2009” legislation to insure “without act of Congress it would prevent the FCC from reinstating any form of the Fairness

Doctrine which would suppress free speech by enabling government to monitor political views in deciding what constitutes fair political discourse on the airwaves”. Segal asked that the resolution should recognize that there is an attack on freedom of speech and that the Council supports the First Amendment. Holland pointed out that the Council does not take up issues not on the Agenda or advertized. If any action is to be taken it would have to be at the next meeting.

There being no further comments, the floor was closed.

Kelley moved to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate acquisition and personnel matters, seconded by Holland. Motion carried 4/0. Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m.

Council returned to open session at 8:00 p.m. Mecklin brought before the Council a sales contract for real property located in the City of Villa Rica. The City, based on authorization given previously in Executive Session, has negotiated with the Smallwood family to purchase a small tract of property approximately one-half acre located on North Carroll Street next to the new City Complex. The proposed terms of the contract are for the City to purchase the property for the sum of \$100,000 with the scheduled closing to occur as soon as any title issues are cleared by the City’s Legal Council. Holland moved to approve the contract as presented, seconded by Best. Motion carried 4/0.

With no further business, Holland moved to adjourn; seconded by Amidon. Motion carried 4/0. Council adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

J Allen Collins – Mayor

ATTEST:

Reedell Saxon – City Clerk