

TOWN OF STEELE
COUNCIL MINUTES
November 20, 2023

The Town Council of the Town of Steele, Alabama met in Regular Session at 6:30 PM on Monday, November 20, 2023 at the Steele Community Center, following publication and posting pursuant to Alabama Law. The following members were present:

Present: Mayor Roger Adams
Councilmember Nancy Miller-Borg
Councilmember Michael Stevens
Councilmember Rick Barnes
Councilmember Philip Gleason Jr.
Councilmember Deborah Banks

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Adams, who then led everyone in a word of prayer.

Resolution 2023-013 - Proposed Cost Changes to the ADECA Asbestos Water Line Replacement: Councilmember Barnes made a motion to adopt resolution 2023-013, seconded by Councilmember Miller-Borg and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Miller-Borg, Banks and Gleason Jr.

Nays: None

Mayor Adams mentioned that there will be a public hearing on Monday November 27, 2023 at 4:00 PM at Town Hall to discuss the amendment to the ADECA project.

A motion to approve the minutes from October 16, 2023 Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Miller-Borg and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Miller-Borg, Banks and Gleason Jr.

Nays: None

A motion to approve the October 2023 Financials was made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Banks and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Miller-Borg, Banks and Gleason Jr.

Nays: None

Public Works Truck: Mayor Adams stated that the maroon GMC truck used by the Public Works Department leaks oil and has received an estimate of somewhere around \$1,000 to repair it. Mayor Adams stated that it is an older truck and he feels that it is time to discuss replacing it. He has been in contact with the dealership which has the state bid and stated that he will get some more information for the next Council meeting and have some numbers to present to the Council.

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Public Works Department pay scale: Mayor Adams stated that the Town has hired Brent Davis as a public works department employee to replace Joey Haynes, who is retiring in December. This necessitated an adjustment to the pay scale for this department. A motion to approve the new pay scale for the Public Works Department was made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Miller-Borg and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Miller-Borg, Banks and Gleason Jr.

Nays: None

Police Department: Flock cameras will be converted to a 5 - year contract beginning December 31, 2023. A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes to approve this contract, seconded by Councilmember Gleason Jr., and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Miller-Borg, and Gleason Jr.

Nays: None

Mayor Adams stated that the shipping container for office storage space was brought out and it is sitting on the right side of the Town Hall. The shelving is up and it is in use. Councilmember Gleason Jr. asked the price of the container, and Mayor Adams stated that it was \$4,600 for the container plus delivery fee.

Mayor Adams stated that the power bill at the lagoons is running very high (\$6,700 this past month). He stated that he made the decision to purchase chemicals from Eco-Cure, 60 lbs. at \$100 per pound was purchased. The process has started to treat the lagoons. Mayor Adams stated that the duckweed is dying, and the sludge is being eaten by the chemical causing the water level to drop. This is a one-time treatment. Councilmember Barnes mentioned that we do pay Engineers of the South a monthly fee to maintain the sewer, and also mentioned the high-power bill. Councilmember Barnes also asked if samples were being pulled and tests were being run on the sewer. Discussion was had regarding turning the aerators off to see if the chemicals are working.

Councilmember Miller-Borg stated that the annual report for the library was included in the packets. She reminded everyone that Santa is coming on December 5th. She stated that there are approximately 10 homebound citizens in Steele who would benefit from receiving a Christmas basket if anyone was willing to organize it.

Councilmember Miller-Borg mentioned sales tax and wanted to inquire about raising the Town's sales tax.

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Councilmember Miller-Borg mentioned the building on Duncan Farm Road that is for sale. She stated that it would be a great building for a New Town Hall. She mentioned that it already has offices, and an area in the back for recreation. Councilmember Barnes added that this would be a great opportunity for this Council's term of office, an 8,000 square foot building that is fairly new that would solve some problems for the Town. He stated that it would probably take a year and at least \$200,000 to get it ready to move in. He feels that it should be seriously considered. Councilmember Barnes also suggested that we go through the steps to see what would need to be done to bring it ADA complaint. Mayor Adams stated that he has given thought to this issue. He feels that we couldn't build a building for what we could get it for but his concern is the location. Mayor Adams stated that would need an architect to take a look at it first before we seriously consider it. The first step is to have everyone on the Council look at it and see if they are in agreement. If everyone agrees, then reach out to an architect to see what specific costs will be.

Mayor Adams stated that Bobby Welch mentioned to him a while ago about using the field behind Dollar General to make a soccer field. There was discussion regarding requirements for soccer fields.


Firefighter Wesley Cox was present for the meeting and stated to the Council that he was looking for some grants for the Fire Department to purchase some needed equipment.

Mayor Adams stated that the Police Report was included in the packets.

With there being no further business to come before this regular Council Meeting of October 16, 2023, Councilmember Barnes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Adjourned at 7:35 PM.



Mayor Roger Adams



Donna Ambrosius, Town Clerk