

TOWN OF STEELE
COUNCIL MINUTES

October 16, 2023

The Town Council of the Town of Steele, Alabama met in Regular Session at 6:30 PM on Monday, October 16, 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.

Absent: Councilmember Deborah Banks

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

Mike Sewell of McClure, Sewell, Johnson & Associates was present and gave the review of the Fiscal Year 2022 Audit.

Mr. Bryan Newell, Congressional District Candidate for 3rd District of Alabama running on the Republican ticket was present. He introduced himself and shared a review of his qualifications for Congressional Candidate District, and ask the Council and citizens in attendance for their vote in March 2024.

Candice Hill with St. Clair County Economic Development Committee (EDC) was in attendance to discuss grant seeking opportunities available for the municipalities of St. Clair County. In reviewing the 5-year strategic plan for St. Clair County, they were asked to assist municipalities to help in coordinating a grant assistance program. The St. Clair County EDC is asking each of the municipalities to give \$6,000 toward a needs assessment for grants that are needed for that municipality. Mrs. Hill stated that the \$6,000 is a one-time fee, and can be paid in 2024. She also stated that Steele's assessment is scheduled for October 25, 2023. Councilmember Barnes made a motion to approve the \$6,000 cost for the EDC grant partnership. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Stevens and approved by the Town Council as follows:

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

Nays: None

Mayor Adams mentioned the engagement letter from McClure, Sewell, Johnson & Associates for the next Fiscal Year's audit and suggested tabling the issue for the next Council Meeting.

Town of Steele Council Meeting

10/16/23

Page 2

Karen Bowen was present for the meeting on behalf of the Library Board. She stated two members had resigned from the Library Board and there are two candidates that they would like the Council to consider: Ashley Bright and Phillip Hyatt. Councilmember Miller-Borg made a motion to approve Ms. Bright and Mr. Hyatt as new members of the Library Board, seconded by Councilmember Barnes and approved by the Town Council as follows:

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

Nays: None

Councilmember Barnes mentioned the Library State Aid allocation and explained how the funds have been separated. He stated that they reviewed the income / expense reports from 2017 through 2022 and the remaining state aid was calculated at \$12, 353.90. Councilmember Barnes made a motion to approve the allocation of this amount to the library for state aid. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Miller-Borg and approved by the Town Council as follows:

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

Nays: None

Councilmember Barnes made a motion to approve the September 18, 2023 Council Minutes, seconded by Councilmember Miller-Borg and approved by the Town Council as follows:

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

Nays: None

Councilmember Barnes made a motion to approve the September 2023 Financial Reports, seconded by Councilmember Gleason Jr. and approved by the Town Council as follows:

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

Nays: None

Ashville High School Wrestling Team would like to have a road block on November 11, 2023 at Steele Station Rd and Highway 11. Councilmember Barnes made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Councilmember Miller-Borg and approved by the Town Council as follows:

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

Nays: None

Employee Evaluations: Beverly Stephens and James Martin are up for yearly evaluations. Councilmember Barnes made a motion to approve these evaluations, seconded by Councilmember Stevens and approved by the Town Council as follows:

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

Nays: None

Resolution 2023-012: One Time Raise for Employees for 2023 was read by Mayor Adams. Councilmember Barnes made a motion to approve this resolution, seconded by Councilmember Miller-

Town of Steele Council Meeting

10/16/23

Page 3

Mayor Adams stated that the Public Works employees need an air compressor for the shop. Councilmember Barnes mentioned that it is already in the budget and approved.

Mayor Adams mentioned that there is a storage problem at Town Hall for the storage of documents. He mentioned that he has seen some shipping containers that he feels would be suitable for storage. There was discussion regarding the required document retention schedule for municipalities. Councilmember Stevens made a motion to approve purchasing a shipping container, 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 there was a police report from Chief Ward included in the packets for this Council Meeting.

Councilmember Gleason Jr. asked about the flashing speed signs. Mayor Adams stated that Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) required that the face plates on the signs be changed, and they should be put back up this week.

Councilmember Gleason Jr. stated that the park needs new bleachers and the approximate cost would be \$6,175 for bleachers that would be up to code.

Councilmember Miller-Borg reminded everyone that Trunk or Treat is Halloween Night, Tuesday, October 31, 2023. She also stated that Delores Hydock will be coming to the Community Center on November 16th at 6:30 PM to present "Footprints in the Sky."

Councilmember Barnes mentioned that the power bill for the lagoon is over \$6,000 again and he is concerned about it. Mayor Adams mentioned that there are other options for chemicals, etc. to use in the Lagoon. Councilmember Barnes stated that he would like to discuss these options with Mike Walraven of Engineers of the South.

The St. Clair County Economic Development Committee annual event is coming up on Thursday, October 19, 2023.

Mayor Adams wanted to say "thank you" to Ruby and Richard Reynolds for the fall decorations in front of Town Hall and the Community Center.

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 7:25 PM.



Mayor Roger Adams

