CITY OF OGLETHORPE

OGLETHORPE CITY HALL

115 CHATHAM STREET

 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 1, 2024 – 6:00PM

**Call to order:** Mayor Daniels 6:00PM

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Invocation:** CM Harrison

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda with the addition of #6 and #7 under New Business and #1-#4 under Old Business made by CM Harrison, 2nd by CM Mahone, AIF

**Approval of Minutes** from January 4, 2024 Regular Council Session and the January 25, 2024 Work Session. Motion to approve January 4, 2024 Council Session Minutes made by CM Mahone, 2nd by CM Bradley, AIF

Motion to approve the January 25, 2024 Work Session Minutes made by CM Harrison, 2nd by CM Woodard, AIF

**Recognitions of Guest(s)**: 1. Kathy Cockerham – Police Department – absent – called after agenda printed

 2. Joy McNutt – Police Department – absent – called after agenda printed

 3. Tony Walker – Collection fee for taxes (GTS $200) – absent

 3 - minute limit of speaking time

 Trash – why limit of 6 feet for limbs

 4. Robert Koch – Thoughts on future of Oglethorpe – I just want to share my thoughts on the future of Oglethorpe. I have seen a lot of changes that are taking place in our down town. I see people are investing in buildings and businesses and I am encouraged. We have people that have decided that Oglethorpe can be a place to start a new business or to fix up existing businesses. We’ve seen new facids, fresh paint, new signs, and fresh activity. Unfortunately, we also see the decline of the cities upkeep of the business district. The trash cans, while emptied every week, are often overflowing. Trash blows around the curves and piles up in the storm drains causing drain back - ups. The weeds grow without restraint up through the cracks and crevices of the sidewalks/streets. We have lightbulbs that provide very nice lighting, but the flower beds surrounding them are kept half-hazardly cared for. If the potential to have an attractive business district is good, the infrastructure is in place, but the lack of commitment by the city management has left a highly unattractive void. What will this council do about those things? I know the job that you have as a council member is daunting. You have so many different areas you will need to address to manage to continue to fix past problems, to build a future for Oglethorpe. The majority of you asked to be here where you are right night. Seated at that table by submitting your name to be elected, by qualifying, by stepping up. That’s exactly what this city needs. Citizens fully committed to the task at hand. It requires sacrifice and dedication. You will need to be at every meeting, to stay informed, and to work with your fellow council members. You will need to make the business of the city of Oglethorpe your top priority in your life. That brings me to my closing statement. I wonder if Mr. Beckum can put Oglethorpe first in his dealings with all the other entities in which he is involved? Would a decision that has to be made could be in conflict with his roles as a Chamber of Commerce, Macon County Development, or any of his other many interests. Can he do for the city what needs to be done? Perhaps the conflicts of interest is too great. So, for the good of the city, I request that Mr. Beckum resign so that Mayor Daniels can present someone to the council who will not be sat with such a conflict of interest. Thank you for your time tonight.

Mayor Daniels – Thank you for expressing your concern and having the courage to come in and advise on things that need to be kept up. We hear you, we’ve taken notes, and look forward to coming with suggestions. As far as personnel, we will look at as far as your concern. Thank you for acknowledging things that you see. Is there anyone else here who would like to respond? CM Beckum – If you would, I would like for Mr. Koch to send all of us a copy of his statement. I don’t know about you, but lots of times when somebody addresses… (cut off) Robert Koch – I do have a copy. CM Beckum – A lot of times it’s hard to remember each issue to address and I would like to address them point by point. Mayor Daniels – Ok, I will make a copy of this and get it out to the rest of you.

**New Business:**

1) Motion to approve RVRC as Administrator of CDBG Program made by CM Bradley, 2nd by CM Harrison, AIF

2) Cell Phone for Council – Department Chair – CM Bradley – Before we vote on that, I have a question on that. Do we know if we have this budgeted? Has Melissa said anything about that? Mayor Daniels – She hasn’t. CM Bradley – I would propose that we delay this vote and revisit once we have a quote and to know if budgeted. Mayor Daniels – Ok, so we will budget this for now until we get some numbers. CM Mahone – In regards to processing now, we should get some research. CM Harrison – Please get some rates for a group plan. It would be for 5 council.

3) Nominating Flint Energies for the Renaissance Award offer by GMA and Kenny Welch for Starr Award – Now to piggy-back on some of the things stated by Mr. Koch, maybe we could get with him with what we can do better for those things. Motion to nominate Flint Energies for the Renaissance Award and Kenny Welch for the Starr Award made by CM Beckum, 2nd by CM Mahone, AIF

4) Approve of ‘Keeping Oglethorpe Clean’ sign from GENTS put on Anna Drive and Smith Road – Motion made by CM Harrison, 2nd by CM Woodard, AIF

CM Beckum – Also, we have signs at the Chamber that state keep Macon County Clean and I would suggest that maybe we coordinate in the future and have these throughout the county if everyone is available to participate. Mayor Daniels – Absolutely, we’ve participated with other cities in the past. CM Beckum – This would be a period of time of making recognition of keeping our community clean. Mayor Daniels – Let’s just work on getting a date and everyone get involved to do it. CM Harrison – We did it with We Love Oglethorpe Week, too. And I really want to ramp that up this year.

5) Grant Committee for “Grant Purpose Only” – Mayor Daniels, CM Harrison, CM Bradley, and CM Woodard Motion to approve Grant Committee with previous selected people be formed and start planning grants – CM Harrison, 2nd by CM Woodard, AIF CM Bradley – Also would we be able to open this up to citizens if they have grant experience or knowledge, that they can join? Mayor Daniels – I think we should get together first. CM Harrison – Yes, that’s what we said at the work session.

6) Police Contract – CM Mahone – Everyone is aware that the current contract that we have now expires in April. We have on our agenda, we had one applicant that was still interested in the chief position. We got to kind of be pro-active as we have 2 months left. Let’s say this process goes through with the individual that is being interviewed. An individual that is a chief of a city, that’s not someone that just walks in and they want everything that is on your lap. It intels more. If you ask someone as a chief to write down that job description, they would still be writing tomorrow. It’s not just minute. It wouldn’t be fair to the individual that we interview and makes it through that process. We are kind of putting them in a bad situation coming in. (can’t understand last sentence.) CM Harrison – Ok. CM Mahone – So, I’m saying that we need to extend this contract here with them even if that person passes because you are going to have to have an overlay. You can’t wait until that point and then say this one individual, you have to have certain certifications for a chief and certain credentials. For example, like we have to have the sheriff position is kind of open. Someone for the sheriff position, you would need to be in a leadership position prior to going to that position. The position of a chief you can’t just take someone off the street and say ok they are going to become a chief and we will be putting citizens in a bind with doing that. So, let’s say that that person meets the credentials, there is going to have to be an overlay. CM Bradley – Like a transition period. CM Mahone – yes, because if not we are setting that person up for failure. I’ve looked over the individual application and all their credentials and they are not going to be able to just step in. Just being honest, they’re not. CM Harrison- Do you have a recommendation of how you think the contract should… CM Mahone – It ends in April and we don’t need to wait until that point. Once that contract is over, we don’t get no other resources. CM Woodard – I thought this was going to be extended anyway. Even if we interview a new chief it isn’t going to give us time to give a 30-day notice per the contract. We are past that period. CM Mahone – The contract can be cancelled at any time from each party. CM Harrison – So we would need to let Montezuma know by March 24 so that if this person is who we hire as the chief could give their notice. So I’m thinking June maybe? By end of June, that person should be in place, should have 30-45 days of training and we would know what certifications they need to get if they don’t have them… What are you thinking? Mayor Daniels – By you saying June, now we got to start thinking about finance, the budget, the salary, cars, etc? CM Harrison – That’s all already in the budget. Mayor Daniels – What exactly are you time frame? CM Mahone – At the bare minimum 6 months because once we lay everything out, budget, etc. you got to look at the resources that you’re getting. With the current contract that we have, if there’s a call, we are getting like free labor to a certain extent. Anytime that we have calls, we have multiple officers show up on the scene. Once we end that contract, we will only have one officer on duty. In order to run on full staff for a police dept, you are going to need 8 individuals. Then you would need to have a supervisor on both of those shifts, so that’s 10 there. Oglethorpe has never had like an assistant chief as far back as I can tell. It would be easier if you do. They are on 12 hour shifts and they fluxuate. From a financial standpoint we are not going to be able to do that. Prior to this contract we were paying out overtime. Individuals making over $1K a week overtime. We cut overtime out $1K per individual who was working here each week. You had to have it for coverage though. Then you had to look at the individual because they were not. CM Harrison – But then we balanced out that over-time with a lot more revenue. It’s a budgetary issue. You are saying until October to keep the contract in place? CM Mahone – In regards to changing. We have to look at a funds standpoint of the resources we going to lose. Law enforcement itself is not a job that a lot of individuals are applying for and you can’t have officers going to calls by themselves. Can we afford to have 2 individuals on at the same time? No, we can’t. It’s also about vehicles. Currently Montezuma vehicles are servicing over here and we are not using vehicles. Using their vehicles, that’s why you see Montezuma over here. Mayor Daniels – We have two here. CM Mahone – The two full time are here. (someone speaking) CM Harrison – So how many total are being used? Captain Hill – You have 3 being used. The taho is just parked up there. CM Beckum- Have all of you read the contract? I read again this week, it’s way to general. There is nothing wrong with interviewing a quality candidate for chief of police. I’m all in favor of doing that process. But, to be fair to everybody we need to renew that contract and put specific details there. The fines, forfeitures, tickets, etc. – there is nothing in there stating the specific time lines for doing those things. If we renew, we need to put specific details in there. I missed the last meeting; however, I did read your minutes. I think to be fair we need to look at the specifics as well as the budget involving having a stand - alone police department. I have a lot of experience with that from previous time with the city. We may have x amount of money in the budget not associated with anything, but we need to look at everything on both sides. Thankfully, if I read the contract right, we have 30 days to terminate if decided to. I appreciate Montezuma and what they have done to help us, but I’m just saying let’s look at what we got and how it can be changed to make it satisfactory and then look at the chief of police and everything that is associated with that and our own stand-alone police department before we jump into it. This is a big decision that we need to think long and hard about it. If it’s what we need in our community and what our citizens want, then I’m in favor of it, but I want to get caught blind-sided. CM Bradley – Like what it costs for the chief to get his certification, like how much it costs and all that. CM Mahone – We need to extend that contract. They don’t have to, the ball is not in our court. CM Bradley – But, we can’t get bulldozed because we are Oglethorpe and they are Montezuma. That’s not fair to say either. Mayor Daniels – I think we just need to look at everything and the Public Safety Committee get together and if they want to extend, we will look at the contract, etc. CM Bradley – You have said you would like to start like Town Hall Meetings and this subject keeps coming up. It did all last year when this started. I know we had two people not show up tonight, but it keeps coming up about people being upset about the police department, wanting it here etc. I think if you have a Town Hall meeting with that as the conversation, let’s hear what everybody has to say. It needs to be heard. I was mis-informed before coming in. There is a lot of gossip that is out there and sometimes it’s because information is not given to the public properly. There’s not enough transparency like what we talked about. It’s got to be crystal clear so that people know what the contract is, what people are doing, and what we expect them to do. If we don’t educate them, they don’t know. Captain Hill – The chief gave some graphs to pass out. This is from the 2 chiefs prior to the contract. With their full staff and our half a staff. When we couldn’t get in the system, the chief would have Ms. Cindy do reports. Then we had to do double work. Ms. Williamson talked to Ms. Cindy to find out what we could do. Now we can get in Oglethorpe’s system. They system pushed handwriting tickets. 2024 – 2023 what we got now a days – They may handwrite one or two, but when you can print out twenty, you going to lose a lot of revenue. When we come in, you had one officer who was making over $2K a week working 7 days a week. That was $8K a month. He wasn’t writing tickets or putting anything into municipal court. Now we got 2 full time officers – together I would say $6K a month. Add the contract with Montezuma, you all are saving like $6K a month. We got the flip system now so when Montezuma guys are here, they can flip the system and they say everything about Oglethorpe. Last week they took it out because the Chief don’t want anybody thinking anything is out of the ordinary. Before coming here, I was a warden before I retired. I worked with a $42M budget. So, I would not come here and put my name on anything. I think collectively looking forward, regardless of what the council chooses, we are going to support whatever the decision is and help show whoever it may be everything that we know. Look at the crime, multiple shootings and all solved. I think we get blasted, like when someone doesn’t want you to service them. Like we got roasted because someone took a buggy from Dollar General and left it in somebody’s yard. The police can’t be everywhere and do everything. I think moving forward, it’s about respect. Let’s set down to the table and have the conversation. To say that stuff is missing, like the citations. When the citations are written, Ms. Williamson she makes a log and the officer brings them down to Ms. Cindy and they both sign the log that it was delivered and received. So, it shows you the citations that was sent down here. Since now we have stopped and took it out of the system and you went to the Montezuma officer’s handwriting them. Speeding tickets is where you get the money from. Look at the trend. I don’t think it’s about the money coming in, I think every time Montezuma comes over here to do something, we get kicked down. Like last week, I just felt personally disrespected. Like the Mayor said, he’s been on for 2 years. Why overlook someone. We cut costs, targets, weekends, etc. He works to save Oglethorpe money. Everything that is needed we try to flip things to help. It was always a different ticket, but the system was down at the time. We were changing from one to another. CM Bradley – So that they way you just explained all that, it is completely clear. I will be completely honest with you, I have complete respect for Finch. Everything that I brought up last week has nothing to do with Finch. It has to do with citizens frustrated because they think this is going on, when this is actually what is going on. It’s mis-information. So we’ve got to be like this and we can say to citizens when they ask what is actually happening. I don’t think anybody is thinking that Montezuma is doing us dirty. But we are all aware that Oglethorpe and Montezuma has had a feud since the 1800’s. I don’t understand it, it’s weird, but it’s the truth. Captain Hill – We will have to help figure this out. Whatever happened in the past, we can’t change it. CM Harrison – Let me be clear, every officer right now has the ability to flip from Montezuma to Oglethorpe and vice/versa to write tickets? That’s all that we were asking for. Captain Hill – but since last week. CM Woodard – I guess where everybody got confused is when I was talking was, when you are writing a ticket and I’m not telling you what to do with your job because I know you can’t tell me what to do with my job, but financially if I’m coming in and I’m looking at a piece of paper and it has Montezuma on it, I would question that because I am in the city of Oglethorpe. I don’t have a problem with whomever is writing the ticket, but I want it to be correct. I don’t want our citizens saying I got a ticket in Oglethorpe, but why is it on a Montezuma ticket. I don’t want that. We have a means for switching it over. Just if we can keep from that happening and we can all be on one accord with what’s going on, I have no problem with that. Captain Hill – that’s why I thought it required a conversation. Chief refused to flood yall with officers as he’s looking for ways to save monies. We are using floaters and you have 3 people writing citations. I think the problem came in when the guys they getting frustrated, feel like no matter what they do. As a whole we need to sit down, have a conversation, and bridge the gap and get on the same page. CM Harrison – I think we need to include the clerks as well. CM Bradley – Exactly. I was about to say that. Captain Hill – Well we have like if the DA asks Ms. Cindy for a report and she says it’s not there or she doesn’t know how to do it. So, then when the guy comes by to show her, it’s like ok I get it and then the guy calls back and says Captain can you send me this? And then I have to print out stuff. We had a drug case and they are sitting in the evidence room, but by the time it was taken to the drug lab, it was too late. I think moving forward, it’s just we have to communicate. CM Bradley – And please relay to the officers CM Harrison – That we are not trying to make their lives any more difficult than it is, but we were presented tickets scratched out, money that had to be returned from one city to the other, and that’s like woo, no we might have to go back old school to keep the two separated. CM Bradley – I think it does not need to be handwritten, what you just said would work if you could flip the system back over to Oglethorpe. CM Woodard – the only way that I could see you handwriting a ticket is if you are in a vehicle that can’t switch over, or the system is down or something. Captain Hill- When we started with this Justice One, Ms. Williamson asked if we could merge into one system. I think with the holiday’s things got pushed to the side, but normally officers take tickets over every day. Mayor Daniels – Thank you. CM Harrison- So back to CM Mahone’s point, I think we need to talk about it from a budgetary stand-point, the Public Safety Committee needs to meet to review the contract and actually see what needs more specification. At this point that is a 2 year old contract and we know what’s worked and what hasn’t. CM Bradley – And they may ask for changes, too so we need to be prepared for that. CM Bradley – I think to Michael’s point, if you open that door, you can’t close it. That we get more than we pay for. We are paying $9K a month between our 2 full time guys… Mayor Daniels – The Public Safety Committee needs to get together. We need to look at the contract, etc. Are we going to entertain a motion tonight for the extension or wait until the review? CM Harrison – I don’t think we need to make a decision tonight until we’ve had time to review. CM Bradley – We would have to vote by the next meeting? CM Harrison – Or have a special called meeting. CM Bradley – What about the March 7th meeting? CM Harrison – We could. Right now, we will go with the budget meeting and then the public safety meeting. We would need to come up with a date for the budget meeting. Mayor Daniels – We are doing the interview on the 19th. Everyone needs to be here. CM Bradley – I can’t be here. CM Harrison- Is there a better date for you? CM Bradley – My schedule is crazy so don’t hold it for me. CM Mahone – We need to do the budget before then. We don’t need to waste his time if we can’t do it budget wise. Mayor Daniels – What about the 6th at 6pm? Let’s just have a discussion later.

7) Fees for utilizing Business Center and Oglethorpe City Park – CM Harrison as it is now, the fees are $150 fee and $150 refundable deposit for the Business Center. For the Park – it is just a $100 deposit that is refundable with no fee. I think if we are hosting an event at the park where money is exchanged (food trucks, etc.) we should charge a fee. My recommendation is any event that is not free, we should charge $100 to use the park as well as $100 refundable deposit. When I spoke with Mr. Kendrick about using the park, he wants access to the restrooms, he is fine with paying the total of $200.00. I don’t think we need to worry about the gym today, but once we get the gym ready and back open, then we will need to address the fees for use of the gym, also. What we don’t have in place, that we need to vote on is the use of the park fee if there are money’s exchanged and I think that we need to kind to our local community centric groups and government based groups, I don’t know that they need to pay a fee. CM Bradley – The DDA definitely shouldn’t since they created those contracts. I know that there was a fee because I wrote it back when Duck was on city council for use of the park. CM Harrison – We made some changes and we didn’t use that. The large crowd number was changed from 50 to 30 or more people. Mayor Daniels – So Parks and Recreation is there a way to pull the contract. CM Harrison – I don’t have one here, but Ms. Jones does and I can get it. Mayor Daniels – For this event that we are talking about, if they are charging vendors, then we charge a fee for proceeds to the city. If they just want to use it and not charging, that’s fine, but if they are making money, then we charge. CM Bradley – I would do $150 fee with $100 deposit. I mean a lot of times after those event’s, the park gets trashed. So that’s more work on our streets group. I mean you can tell when there is an event up there. I mean people are not respecting the park. If they are charging vendors, then they can afford it. Mayor Daniels – It’s a Food Truck Frenzy. CM Bradley – I would only say that something like that would be a major trash generator, there needs some sort of requirement that they provide additional trash cans on their own or something. There aren’t enough out there to sustain that kind of trash. CM Harrison – When we had the fair, their contract had some good language about that. There is a dumpster there. Yes, let’s put that language in there. To recap. To utilize the park for a regular event – free. Event with over 30 and no money - $100 refundable deposit. Over $30 with money transaction (vendors) the fee is $150 with a $100 refundable deposit if the park is cleaned up afterward. For the Business Center $150 utilization fee and a $150 refundable deposit if left clean. No charge for any community group or government group. CM Mahone – I think there was a something where we couldn’t waive the charge of anyone for the city. Attorney Coogle – It would be done on a case by case basis. If they were doing a service for the city, etc. CM Harrison – Well for this event in particular, he’s ok with the fee. So we do need to implement the vote on the fee/deposit for any event where money is transacted.

CM Harrison – I so move to charge the $150 fee and $100 refundable deposit for the food truck frenzy event on March 10, 2024 and going forward when we revamp the contract, for any event where money is charged with use of the Park. Also, the rental fee of $150.00 and refundable deposit of $150.00 for the Business Center. CM Mahone – Both inside and outside? I say $150 for the inside and $100 outside. CM Woodard – You are saying to charge just $100 to just use the park? CM Mahone – Well we can’t stop others from coming to the park if there is something because it is a public park. CM Harrison – Let’s just keep everything consistent across the board.

Kill the previous motion and amend it.

Motion to implement rental fee of $150.00 for both the Business Center and the Park at events where money is transacted and a $150.00 refundable deposit if left clean made by CM Harrison, 2nd by CM Bradley, AIF

**Old Business:**

1) Anna Drive Update – CM Harrison – Talked with Mr. Ingram. The contractor has reviewed the contractor and they have a meeting for prework set. It is an 8 - week job. After Monday, we should be moving. Attorney Coogle – We have been working with the insurance company on that as well. They are going to cover the cost that the state did not cover. It’s not in writing yet, but she is tenitavely agreed.

2) Fire Chief – CM Harrison – I’ve reached out to Chief Childs to see how, it will be a while before we get the final results of the audit, but from what he can tell we will stay the same or be a little better because they had all of the missing paperwork. He is confident that the next time around we will improve due to his record keeping. Unfortunately, we won’t know for another 5 months.

3) Prison Detail Pick Up 02/02/2024 – They will pick up beds, mattresses, furniture, etc. starting at 9am. Lunch is set up already.

4) Keep America Beautiful project in March – previous CM Cross is going to come back and help with this grant as she did the leg work on it and got us $5K. All activities have to be completed by the end of March and all the documentation has to be in by April 30, 2024. We have to spend every penny or we have to send back the unused. Mayor Daniels – What falls under that grant? Mayor Daniels – Can we purchase things? Ok I want some of those grabber things. I run Tim Goodwin down every time we do something. We have to use their vests, too. So, can I personally get some stuff? Not personally, but for the guys to pick up. Now Melissa gets us gloves and trash bags. CM Harrison – We are getting a screen over there at the dump, we are getting a camera system over there. We host a coloring contest at the school. Mayor Daniels – Anything for downtown? CM Harrison – I don’t know. I’ve asked her to send me everything, but she’s out of town. We have to have it done by March 30, 2024. All the accounting has to be in by the end of April. We are so grateful to have won this grant.

**Other Business:**

**Public Comments:**

1) Post meeting hearing from Citizens for Concern, Suggestion and Information 2 Minutes – Mayor Daniels – Sometimes people don’t make it on the Agenda, so we are allowing 2 minutes for you to voice what you need to. Give us time to think about it because Rome wasn’t built in a day.

1A – Will Erwin – I told Kenny Welch a few months ago about inmates of coming in to clean up trash. It costs \_\_\_\_. CM Mahone- They don’t have the officers for that program. We have relations with the local prison where they have the fire team that is low security and they do ours. Mr. Erwin – How often do they come out? CM Harrison – Once a month. Mr. Erwin – It needs to be once a week especially up here on Hwy 49. I started to go around and start taking pictures and try to shame the city of Oglethorpe especially down here across from the Dew Drop. It’s bad. CM Harrison – When we hosted the clean up during Oglethorpe Week last week, it took us hours just to clean up that one area. Mayor Daniels – So we pay them to come down here once a week for $1K a year. Mr. Erwin – Once a day.

1B – Ms. Harvey? – How will they know where to come by and pick up trash tomorrow? CM Harrison – They have a list of all of the city streets. So, anything in the city limits. CM Woodard – So it’s all day inside the city and go all day? CM Harvey – Yes. CM Bradley – Like last week, the trash pile that I brought up. Jeff came up afterward and asked me if this is where it is and I said yes that’s it. Turns out it wasn’t just sticks and grass like it looks like. They have concrete and carpet and stuff that they can’t pick up. So, when we see piles and looks like our guys are slacking, that wasn’t the case. There’s things in there that are covered. Mayor Daniels – Yes there are just some things they aren’t supposed to pick up. Like those limbs over 6 feet, they are not going to get them.

1C – not sure who Citizen – 1. Captain Hill made a good report where everyone could understand it. 2. You talked about the trash pick up that’s going to happen last week. The citizens don’t know anything about it. You need to be more aggressive about how you put stuff out. Everybody don’t get the paper, you don’t put it on the t.v., you don’t put it on the radio for people to listen to it, and you don’t do it on social media. There are some places people are going to visit. You need to send somebody down there to clean up some houses where I live. Captain Hill – They’ve been cited. Citizen – Ok good. CM Bradley – Unfortunately if it’s on private property, we can’t mess with it, but they can be cited.

Mayor Daniels - I know that we update the website and social media. So, we will start radio. So can we do an advertisement in the paper? CM Bradley – That is too expensive. It’s like $200, but make sure to go to the city of Oglethorpe website and sign up for alerts so that it will come to your phone. And we need to ask Melissa do that a week ahead of time. Mayor Daniels – And CM Harrison made some cards so when you come pay your water bill it has that information on there and you can just pick one up. What about the post office? CM Harrison – They let me. CM Bradley – What we might also want to do is ask RogerAnn if she will write and article and she won’t charge us. Citizen – What about the people in my neighborhood? CM Harrison – I will take it.

1D – Madison Porter – To make a point on Macon Street when the water was out, there was very timely. I was ready to jump in the shower and I got the alert. So that’s a very good method right there. Mayor Daniels – I got a phone call about it and called Melissa. I was able to answer it and Melissa sent me videos and pictures as they were working on it. By 3PM the water was back on. CM Bradley – That was great.

1E – Brenda Harvey – There’s a lot of hangover limbs coming over our street and when the trash truck comes in they have to go to the other side of the street. You have to stop sometime and that’s too much. Mayor Daniels – Kaigler Street? Brenda Harvey – And it’s hitting the buses. Now some citizens did it one time, but I don’t know who it was. Mayor Daniels – Ok, CM Harrison and CM Beckum sit on that committee and they will get it taken care of. Brenda Harvey – So about the CDBG Grant – did we get it taken care of? Mayor Daniels – Yes we did. It got approved. Once they come back we will be moving forward with that. CM Bradley – Just know it’s not a fast process.

1F – Steven Bereza – I think I was supposed to be on the agenda in regards to the mosquito spraying. Ya’ll get a pretty good deal because we do it in line with Montezuma. Mayor Daniels – We will get it on the next regular meeting session for voting on. CM Harrison – Yes, Melissa has the paperwork.

1G – Captain Hill – Chief Finch went to a meeting this morning and they awarded Macon Co a $1.4M Grant to update all radios, digital, car, etc. It was dropped down to $1.2M to where none of the cities have to pay anything. Mayor Daniels – So those 2 at the park, can we get anything? Captain Hill – I think what was going on, anything that is sold, goes back to the IRS.

CM Beckum – It came to my attention this week that Macon County is supposed to have 2 representatives to go to the RVRC Meetings once a month. One of them is the Mayor of Oglethorpe, but you can go with the mayor of the largest city. Also the head of the county commission is also supposed to go. Right now, nobody is going. CM Bradley – I go for Flint Energies. CM Beckum – we need to discuss in the next work session to make sure that somebody from Macon County is at every meeting. Mayor Daniels – It was actually short notice, as I had just gotten sworn in, but I did attend via skype on this one and I let them know I will be at the one in February as well.

CM Beckum- One more thing, all of you, at least in this group, is aware that Melissa Jones has a serious family problem. I’m not going into detail. That’s why she is not here. It involves her husband and his health and I think before leaving here we need to recognize that and be in prayer for them. CM Harrison – absolutely. Mayor Daniels – yes.

**Adjourn:** CM Mahone 7:28PM