CITY OF OGLETHORPE

OGLETHORPE CITY HALL

115 CHATHAM STREET

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 7, 2024 – 6:00PM

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

**Council Present:** CM Harrison, CM Woodard, CM Beckum, CM Mahone

Department Heads: City Clerk Melissa Jones, City Attorney Coogle, Chief Finch, Jeff Harrison

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Invocation:** CM Harrison

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Mahone, AIF

**\* Appointment of Melvin Moore** to council seat left vacant by Natalie Bradley – Motion made for appointment of Melvin Moore made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Mahone, AIF

\* CM Moore sworn in by Attorney Coogle.

**Approval of Minutes** from Feb 1, 2024 Regular Council Session and the February 29, 2024 Work Session: Motion to approve minutes as stated by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Beckum, AIF

**Recognitions of Guest(s)**: 1. Renay Bray – Police Department (statement read by Mrs. Bray attached)

2. Jimmy Bray – Police Department

3. Kathy Cockerham – Police Department

4. Joy McNutt – Police Department

5. Sandra Mann – Trash charge on bill / she burns her own limbs - absent

6. Jerome Hannor – litter when you turn down Richardson St - absent

**New Business:**

1) Motion made to approve increase of HWR Water Solutions Contract for Water Sewer to $5,833.34 monthly from $3,750.00 beginning April 2024 by CM Beckum, 2nd CM Harrison, AIF

2) Motion to hire up to 2 part-time employees for Public Works and to amend the budget accordingly – Motion made to table until next work session made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Woodard, AIF

3) Motion to approve Birch Tree Aviation for mosquito spraying beginning March 2024 for twice a month spraying at $500 each for a total of $1,000 per month, total of 7 months, made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Woodard, AIF

**Old Business:**

1) Police Chief Position / Contract with Montezuma - Motion to table until next council work session made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Woodard. In favor also CM Beckum and CM Moore. Not in favor CM Mahone.

**Public Comments:**

1) Post meeting hearing from Citizens for Concern, Suggestion and Information 2 Minutes: Aron Moore – Wanted to know how many dangerous areas were in Oglethorpe as discussion was that officers wouldn’t go to calls alone as it was dangerous. Also, are we expecting top of the line officers to apply or are we going to train? Jeff Harrison – Thought we might try an incentive package for getting officers to apply. Renay Bray – Questioned decisions being based on “feelings” and not facts statement. Stated that safety issues can happen anytime/anywhere. Would it be possible to have someone on call? Chief Finch – Reminded everyone that next week was Dr. Seuss week at the school and to go read to the children. CM Harrison – Advised leaders could go read at the school.

**Adjourn:** CM Mahone 7:02PM