CITY OF OGLETHORPE

OGLETHORPE CITY HALL

115 CHATHAM STREET

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINTUES

NOVEMBER 2, 2023 – 6:00PM

**Call to order:** Mayor Hill 6:11PM

Council and Dept Heads in Attendance: CM Harrison, CM Mahone, CM Coogle, City Attorney Coogle, City Clerk & Supervisor Melissa Jones, Chief Finch

Council absent: CM Cross

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Invocation:** Mayor Hill

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

**Approval of Minutes** from October 5, 2023 Regular Council Session and October 26, 2023 Work Session – Motion to approve the pre-written minutes made by CM Harrison, 2nd CM Coogle, AIF

**Recognitions of Guest(s)**: Fannie & Jerome Hannor

**\*** Swearing in of appointed council member Gerald Beckum made by City Attorney Jon Coogle.

**New Business:**

1) Fannie & Jerome Hannor – concerned citizen in regards to the trash pick-up. They pay a fee and don’t get the service. You have to haul your own items like mattresses, but what about the old people who can’t pick that stuff up? She feels targeted. Someone else put their stuff out there, but the city won’t pick ours up because of their stuff. Why are we penalized? Why can’t it all be picked up? Can our area be taken out of the city limits? Do ya’ll have zoning on Mill St.? When’s the last time ya’ll have been over there? There’s pot holes and trash all up that street. CM Harrison – So you said you have brush and limbs, and then the neighbor put stuff over there also. Mr. Hannor – We’ve been putting stuff over there for over 50 years. Who can pay someone to pick their trash up? CM Harrison – Well I do pay my yard guy and that payment also includes taking the trash to the dumpster. Now Mr. Hannor, you’re saying that you put your limbs in the lot next to yours? Mr. Hannor – No, it’s in our lot on our side of the fence. CM Mahone – They should be picking it all up. CM Coogle – How long has it been there? Mr. Hannor – 3 months. CM Harrison – If the limbs are under 6ft, we will pick up. Previous council voted in an ordinance that outside of brush, limbs, and grass – we don’t pick up. Ms. Hannor – What about the older people? Mattresses and furniture. CM Mahone – Regardless of what it is, as long as it’s separated, it should be picked up. We are going to have to address this with Jeff and his team. CM Coogle – Doing a bad job of it. CM Harrison – That falls under me. Then we need to have a meeting with them. Ms. Hannor – I’ve never known a city clerk to have so much power. CM Harrison – The clerk has to go with what the policy/charter says. It’s her job to follow what the charter/policy says. Ms. Hannor – Who set the charter? CM Harrison – Council in previous years. Ms. Hannor – What about litter? You don’t have anybody to clean that up? Stop signs facing the wrong way. CM Harrison – I will take care of stop signs and pot holes. Ms. Hannor – Another question. If you take the oath, you should help the entire city. Is there anything to hold people accountable for the disarray of their properties? CM Harrison – I agree. Ms. Hannor – What about roads? No funding for roads? CM Harrison – We are working on those. May Road is already on the list. Anna Drive is currently in the works. The cold weather is a bad time for paving companies. Mr. Hannor – What about the pot holes? Ya’ll need to ride the roads. When’s the last time any of you (council) have been out our way? CM Harrison – I’m sorry if you feel like we haven’t held up our end. Mr. Hannor – Ya’ll haven’t. Ms. Hannor – We just wanted to bring this to your attention.

**Old Business:**

1) Veteran’s Day and Oglethorpe Police Dept Grand Re-opening: CM Harrison – Reminder Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 11AM at the Oglethorpe City Park. Keynote speakers, food, music, etc. 3pm-5pm there will be a gospel sing under the pavilion.

**Other Business:**

1) Chief Finch – Trik or Treat a huge success. We also went to the Lions Club, Red Ribbon Week at the Elementary School. We took care of the dogs at Dollar General. No longer there. Christmas Parade permit has been requested. Make sure that everyone knows that only the police dept can request the permit from the state. Officer Cruthirds truck parked outside because it broke down. Data system training is complete. Montezuma email addresses will be taken out of our system when we get back to having our own police dept. We did an Elementary School wall through and most of the classrooms have outter wall windows. Experts talked about ways to secure and make safer. Officers will be going to Active Shooter training. Action Plan has been sent in. Public works to get involved in regards to barricades, signs, etc. We solved an armed robbery on Carla Drive last Sunday. There was a robbery this morning on Reynolds St. that we are still working. Captain Hill is reviewing the Flock Camera system for a car that was seen in that area. Flock Cameras to be installed by Nov 16-17.

**Adjourn:** Motion made by CM Coogle 6:46PM AIF