

CITY OF OGLETHORPE  
OGLETHORPE CITY HALL  
115 CHATHAM STREET  
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES  
OCTOBER 23, 2025 AT 6:00PM

Call to order: 6:02PM Mayor Pro-Tem Harrison, Mayor took over at 6:05PM

**Department Head Reports: (All should have been emailed prior to meeting)**

- 1) City Clerk, Melissa Jones – report emailed to council at the end of each month
- 2) Police Dept – Chief Breletic advised the GCIC Audit had been completed. Was a good audit and the regular monthly report would be sent in at the end of the month. There was a go-cart style vehicle stolen and PD recovered it and also a weapon. No court in November due to scheduling conflict for the judge. Mayor asked about recruitment of new officer/officers. Chief advised that he had a few hits on the ad that was put out by the city clerk, but it was slow going. CM Mahone attested to the fact that the police schools were also slow moving as recruits don't want to spend the money and attend for 4-5 months and then not pass the last test and then they're out of the money spent.
- 3) Librarian, Glenda Rigby – report to be emailed at first of the month
- 4) Water/Sewer - HWR Jeff Harrison advised that Coggins Construction had the drain lines run and were working on raising the coffer dams. Would probably start pumping out the sludge Monday. They've been hard at work every day. HWR has called in the locate for the leak down Asbury Road and will fix on Tuesday. They located the sewer tap for the new home on Kaigler Street. Town Creek Apartments requested water cut off for plumbing work on one apartment unit; however they do not have individual cut-offs for each apartment. Said they would call back, but did not. Another resident complained of water leaking in his basement. HWR will look at Friday morning, but may be coming from the Apartment issue as the residence is located close to the apartments. CM Harrison asked about the Oliver Street issue where the driveway has been put over our water line. HWR will most likely move the meter back down towards our main line and if they continue to drive over and break the water line – that will be the homeowners responsibility to fix.
- 5) Blue Tag Tree Service – advised that everything was good. CM Harrison asked for Mr. Hubbard to get with her in regards to the May Road – County Clean Up.
- 6) Mahone Quality Lawn Care – emailed report. Said he would need a purchase order for pine straw for city hall as well as reminded that the garbage cans at the cemetery needed to be brought up to the front so that they could be emptied and some holes drilled in the bottom to keep them from filling up with water. This information will be passed on to part-time Public Works employee by Ms. Jones.
- 7) Fire Department – report emailed monthly – Chief Childs left a schedule and map of the fire hydrants with the Mayor and he encourages everyone to at least take a quick look at for any questions they may be asked by residents. Chief Childs will update on Monday the flushing schedule.

Individuals with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities are required to contact the City Hall at 478-472-6485 promptly to allow the City time to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.

**Council/Committee Reports: (All should have been emailed prior to meeting)**

- 1) Mayor Daniels – Leadership in Harmony Packages – will give out next week.
- 2) Human Resources/Finance – CM Harrison advised that a new Public Works part-time employee had been hired. She would also like Oglethorpe to become a City of Ethics and we will need to submit information.
- 3) Public Safety – CM Harrison advised that Chief Breletic already gave report and Chief Childs advised they were busy, but good.
- 4) Utilities/Streets/Cemetery – CM Harrison will contact Bill Powell at Ga Rural Water to move forward with the water rate study and get it completed before December 31, 2025.
- 5) Planning & Recreation – CM Woodard – absent due to scheduling conflict. Mayor Daniels advised he had spoken with her. Mayor thanked Ms. Jones for getting the new baby swings ordered and in. Mr. McDonald (new public works employee) got them installed Thursday. The other swings were in good condition. The Mayor will get more information on the Pickle Ball / Tennis Courts. CM Mahone – said he spoke with a contractor in regards to a backboard of some sort. But to save money we could fix the existing fence and hanging maybe the green curtain like at the dump.(conversation ensued). They will continue working on this project. They also need to look at cutting back tree overhang, etc. Definitely need to check the property line on the left side of the park. Ms. Jones advised a possible “Tree Lighting” ceremony the night before the Christmas Parade in front of city hall and inviting the community and maybe have area church’s bring in their children to sing carols. Mayor said maybe hot cocoa and cookies or something. Mayor said if there was going to be a Christmas Extravaganza – we need to start on it asap.
- 6) Downtown Development Authority – The Mayor wants to make sure we keep communication open. We want to make sure we know their Market schedules, etc. so that we can help promote it and help make it a success for them. Maybe someone could go to their meetings or have them come to council meetings to give report.
- 7) Grants Committee – CM Harrison advised that Ms. Jones had applied for the BRACE Grant and was approved. Just waiting on the amount – a new fence cover, vests, pickers, and roll off garbage dumpsters put throughout the city. CM Harrison said we can apply for more grants after we become a Broadband Ready Community. The application is on the GMA site and she asked Ms. Jones if she would get that completed. Then we can go after more grants. The Mayor advised that he met with a group and Mercer University has been given a grant to have a dentist office. Dr. Williams donated his building and equipment to this project so we would have a dentist back in Oglethorpe. We will need to apply for a grant to help get the start up going and they will give us the information on applying. (Approximately \$250K). This is the Rural Health Transformation Program. CM Harrison also thanked the Chief and Police Officers for participating and helping with the Faith in Blue event in Oglethorpe.
- 8) Connectivity Committee - CM Beckum – Duck Race and Festival this Saturday in Montezuma. Senior Citizen Building meeting with RVRC and Council on Aging on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1PM at city hall. CM Beckum also advised that the Flint River Packers Company was moving right along and close to completion.

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- 9) Building Maintenance Committee – CM Mahone advised that Phase I (pressure washing and painting) of the gym had been completed. CM Harrison asked what his vision for this building was. CM Mahone advised it could be rented along with the park or business center for events. He advised his next Phase would be working on the floor and the lighting.

**New Business:**

- 1) Budget Review – Each council member or department gave their input. Ms. Duncan and Ms. Jones will work to have completed by next Wednesday’s Council Meeting.
- 2) Motion to approve Railroad Street adjustment of manholes and valves to grade using T-Splost Funds in the amount of \$7,740.00 made by CM Harrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> CM Mahone, AIF
- 3) Motion to approve Anna Drive and Clifton Bradley Patch using T-Splost Funds in the amount of \$27,800.00 made by CM Harrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> CM Mahone, AIF
- 4) Motion to approve Sumter Street sidewalk/gutter project using T-Splost Funds in the amount of \$3,190.00 made by CM Harrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> CM Mahone, AIF
- 5) Motion to approve Clifton Bradley Storm Drain Project using T-Splost Funds in the amount of \$73,665.00 made by CM Harrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> CM Mahone, AIF
- 6) Motion made to approve 2 weeks paid vacation in lieu of 2025 pay raise, as 5% raise effective January 1, 2026 once Employee Evaluation completed by Mayor Daniels made by CM Harrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> CM Beckum, AIF

**Old Business:**

**Other Business:** The Chief of Police brought up the Literacy Council Building owner has advised that she would like to have an adult daycare there. There will need to be a Zoning Board Meeting/Hearing as the zoning for that area will need to be reviewed or possibly changed. Ms. Jones advised that there was an application as well as a non-refundable fee that would have to be paid by the building owner for having a zoning change. The Chief would like to be in contact with the Zoning Board.

**Public Comments:**

**Adjourn:** Motion made at 8:22PM by CM Harrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> CM Beckum, AIF

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