

April Minutes
April 2, 2007
Commerce City Hall
Conference Room
6:00 P.M.

The regularly scheduled work session of the Mayor and Council was held on Monday, April 2, 2007 at 6:00 P.M. in the Commerce City Hall Conference Room, 27 Sycamore Street. The work session was called to order by Mayor Charles Hardy. City Clerk Shirley Willis called the roll and those in attendance were Mayor Charles Hardy, Mayor Pro Tem Dusty Slater, Councilmen Donald Wilson, Wayne Gholston, Mark Fitzpatrick Bob Sosebee and Richard Massey, City Manager Clarence Bryant, one member of the press and five (5) citizens.

Mayor Charles Hardy said that City Manager Clarence Bryant would give an updated report on the Skateboard meeting with new officers of the Skateboard Committee later in the work session.

The Jackson County Chamber Breakfast would be held on April 4, 2007 at 7:30 A.M.

The Business after Hours would be 4/12/2007 at the Hardman House from 5:00 P.M until 7:00 P.M.

On 4/16/2007 the council needed to be at the Courthouse at 6:00 P.M. for the Library presentation. The event would be in the Grand Jury Room.

The Fire Department Chicken-Que would be held on Saturday, April 21, 2007 at the Fire Department.

The City had reserved one table for the Chamber banquet.

Nicholson Councilmember Faye Seagraves had requested that the City of Commerce made a donation for the Nicholson Daisy Festival.

1. Lonnie Dickerson - Opening Day

Mayor Charles Hardy called on Lonnie Dickerson, Recreation Director, to make a presentation regarding opening day.

Mr. Dickerson invited all elected officials to the opening ceremonies on 4/7/2007 at 1:00 P.M. after the Easter Parade and egg hunt. He said he thought it would be good for the elected officials to mingle with the group and about twenty minutes after the ceremony the teams would begin playing. Gerald Jordan would be honored at the ceremony for all his participation in the sports activities. The Jordans would be singing and there would

be three simultaneously thrown first pitches. Those would be thrown by Gerald's stepsons Jake and Charlie Epps and also his son Caleb Jordan.

2. Chief John Gaissert – GMA Law Enforcement Insurance Credit

Chief John Gaissert made a brief presentation of a program that GMA has supplied information for a proposal in the Risk Management of general liability insurance. He covered the pros and cons of the program for thought by the Mayor and Council to determine if the City of Commerce would like to participate.

3. Greg Lauderman – Ga. Tech, Tech Smart Summary

Mr. Greg Lauderman of Tech Smart gave an updated summary as to the status of the program as a result of the series of meetings held with others regarding the network broadband subject. Mr. Lauderman said the beginning would be the core network and partners and build on that.

He recommended finalizing the RFI, establishing the partners, technology teams and then develop the NERDS.

There was some discussion of the largest broadband used in the City of Commerce and also regarding a commitment from Ga. Public Web in bringing the wireless hub to the City of Commerce.

4. Planning Commission Hearing Items

- A) Mr. Jerry Arnston, 2323 Magnolia Place – Request for a variance on the size of his accessory building.

The Planning Commission recommended approval with conditions.

- B) Mr. Vladimir Rubin requested rezoning for annexation of his property located on Map 15, Parcel 0-13J, Blue Heron Drive.

The Planning Commission recommended approval.

5. Temporary and Permanent Skateboard Location

City Manager Clarence Bryant said he and Mayor Charles Hardy had met with the new officers of the Skateboard Committee and offered as a temporary solution the parking lot on Little Street all day on weekends and one half day during the week. They also offered to help relocate the ramps and place them on the asphalted surface. City Manager Clarence Bryant said if that was agreeable with the council John Stell would amend the ordinance and have it ready for approval on Monday night.

Councilman Donald Wilson asked if they liked it and Mr. Bryant said the response was yes.

In looking at a permanent location a portion of the lot on Pine Street across from the Post Office could be given. The Committee wanted certain dimensions on the area. In looking at the elevations of the property the City would later make the area into a parking lot when skateboarding went away. The layout would give 30 feet for parking should an event require parking. The determination of the size was sought so it could be included in this year's budget.

6. City Manager's Reports

Mr. Bryant reported the status of the following projects.

- A. Homer Road Water and Gas was completed from Mount Olive to Hospital Road and from Cedar Drive to Pittman Creek; also from Mt. Calvary Church on Hospital Road to Homer Road. Mr. Bryant said that the City of Commerce and DOT were working on the realignment at the Hospital Road.
- B. Steve Reynolds Industrial Boulevard water main was complete except for one air relief valve. The testing on the line should occur this week and the line placed in service.
- C. The electric conversion for Homer Road was scheduled for this Thursday from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. All commercial accounts would be handled first and should be back on within 30 minutes or less. Mr. Bryant said from BP to Jim Morgan's would be underground versus overhead. The street light circuits would be installed. Mr. Bryant said modifications to the plan had to be made because DOT wouldn't work with setting new poles in the right of way.

Councilman Bob Sosebee asked about the block from CVS to Peerless and Mr. Bryant said that would come out and everything would be underground. New transformers would be added at the sub station and if a circuit was lost then the whole town would still be carried.

- D. The natural gas west loop was complete. The contractor was pumping the main up to 750 psi and after it passed the test the cut in valves would be made.

7. MGAG Election Resolution naming Mark Fitzpatrick the alternate voting delegate.

Mark Fitzpatrick was planning to run for the MGAG Board and letters had been sent out to help get him elected.

Councilman Richard Massey is the alternate voting delegate to the Electric Authority.

City Manager Clarence Bryant said that he and Mayor Hardy would be going to Asheville, N. C. on April 16, 2007 to bid on the new Ingles Development electric load.

Also, Rooker was working with a California Industry that would need 500 parking places for employees. The industry at this time was unknown to the City of Commerce.

8. Activity Reports – Will be in the agenda package.
9. Financial Report – Will be in the agenda package.

The work session was adjourned.

Charles L. Hardy, Jr., Mayor

Shirley Willis, City Clerk