

**CITY OF EUHARLEE
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
MARCH 20, 2018**

Mayor Steve Worthington called the meeting to order followed by a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Clerk Carolyn Banks called the roll and the following were present: Mayor Steve Worthington, Council Members Craig Guyton, Tracy Queen, David Duncan, Joe Turner and City Manager James Stephens. City Attorney Boyd Pettit was not present.

Mack Parnell on behalf of Representative Barry Loudermilk said to let them know if they need assistance with any federal funding. They may be able to help. He provided a brochure that listed some of the services they offered. He also invited Mayor, Council and staff to the Local Government Services Day on April 23, 2018 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the Chattahoochee Tech North Metro campus. He congratulated Mayor Steve Worthington and Council Member Tracy Queen on their recent appointments.

POW WOW – Rene Duncan

Rene Duncan said she was there on behalf of Joey Pierce. The Native Heart Incorporated is a 501© (3) that do the Euharlee veterans POW WOW each year scheduled for October 6-7, 2018 which is Saturday and Sunday. They begin set up on Thursday, October 4, 2018. They requested use of Frankie Harris Park from October 4-7, 2018.

Rifle Quotes – Deputy Chief Bill Yee

Euharlee Deputy Police Chief Bill Yee provided council with copies of quotes for police rifles. He stated they are a little behind time and they have not looked in to this for the 3 years he has been there. He said they them at Cobb County when he was there and just to mention, recently another school shooting. He asked council for any questions they may possibly have.

Council Member David Duncan wanted to know why they were asking for 12 rifles when they only have 8 officers and the 2 of them. Officer Yee said 2 for the part time officers. It's rare but it has been when only the part time officers were working. It is also a tool. When one goes down you have to take it to the manufacturer or to the store for repair. We do not want to be down and everyone not have access to it. Council Member Craig Guyton said it is above the amount that is budgeted this year. Deputy Yee said yes. Council Member Guyton asked if it is another line item in the police department funds it can come from to balance that. City Manager James Stephens said, the police department actually have a fund, included in the budget resolution, over and above and separate from the general fund. The balance could be taken out of this special fund. He said it has not been discussed between him and Chief New.

If the council approved this tonight, his recommendation would be to take the balance from that account. The \$3,629.00 amount is a different line item in the police department budget. It is for racks and installation.

Mayor Steve Worthington said we are pretty tight on money. Maybe we can do half of them now and the other half the first of next year. He can understand a supervisor having maybe one or if it is a fulltime or part-time officer.

Council Member Tracy Queen asked if it would be doable with 1 rifle per shift. Deputy Yee said that is doable to start off with.

Council Member Joe Turner said he would agree with Council Member Queen with one per shift, but if you have 2 or 3 officers called out, he would like to start out with 4 or 5. The 2 officers on duty could have

the guns in the car and maybe 1 or 2 for back up. He kind of agrees with the Mayor also. Deputy Yee said he does understand what Council Member Turner is saying.

Mayor Worthington asked, if they were adjustable and Deputy Yee said yes but you still have the arm length ratio.

Council Member Tracy Queen suggested 4 per shift with 1 in the hands of deputy chief and sergeant or corporal.

Council Member Craig Guyton said he understands the budget, but hates the idea of any possibility of one of them to need it and not have it. Over the next couple of weeks if Mr. Stephens and Chief New can get together and look budget wise.; if any way possible, it would be nice to get them all. He said for them to give them a recommendation in 2 weeks. Mr. Stephens asked Deputy Yee if that price is contingent on buying 12 and Deputy Yee said no.

Joe Cowan Park - Joe Turner

Council Member Joe Turner said one day last week after it rained, he went to the park to see the outfield. He heard ducks were swimming in the outfield. He did run into Don Varvel, Park & Recreation Director and discussed some of the problems he faced. Don suggested putting tarps over the fields. Council Member Turner suggested the idea to get a couple of wheel barriers and fill out the low places to patch. As they were talking, he asked Don to get prices together for him to present to council. It was not any disrespect to Mr. Stephens. He said the comment on the document council received states he gave a directive to Don. It was not an order and he was disappointed in the wording of the sentence. He was there and talked to him and asked him to get some number together. The things on the list, as far as redoing the fields for \$41,000.00 is out of the question. He does not know if Mr. Stephens can figure \$22,000.00 for tarps or maybe a tarp for the worst field. Don was there to answer any questions.

Council Member Craig Guyton said in the beginning we never purchased tarps. He asked if the \$22,000.00 will cover the whole infield and the pitcher's mound. Don said it will cover everything in the infield of all 4 fields. He asked if it included Osborne Park and Don said no. Council Member Guyton said the tarps would help keep the dirt portion from being totally mud.

He asked what the \$41,000.00 included. Don explained the large field and redoing the dirt. He said, in his opinion, it looks like a sink hole behind second base. He has seen the hole get extremely deep. If the repair was done back in 2014, it should still be holding up. It should not have this deep of water.

It also includes doing the other 3 fields. To remove the sand with clay mixture to firm up the fields and level it off so the water will drain. Council Member Guyton asked if all 4 fields can be done for \$41,000.00 and Don said yes. Don said, it is also addressed the sod issue on field 1. They have been fighting to get grass to grow on field 1. He reached out to All Star Fields who did the work. All Star Fields were told to just lay the sod on top of the clay. There is no base under there and the sod is sitting on the clay and it will never grow.

Council Member Craig Guyton said for \$63,000.00 we can have tarps for all fields, all 4 fields re-graded and sinkhole repaired behind field 2. Mr. Stephens recommended a geotechnical test to the soil borings on field 1.

Council Member Guyton said we need to fix it. Currently we have 3/4 of a million dollars in the URA fund. Mr. Stephens said, Boyd Pettit confirmed they could use the funds from the URA fund.

Council Member Guyton said, he had written that down to talk with him and short of talking with him he can't imagine those funds not being available for that because that is what they were partly for to begin with. He suggested gathering some other quotes, not just from All Star Fields to compare.

As far as he is concerned, they need to get it fixed.

Council Member David Duncan asked the life expectancy on the tarps. Don said it is a 12 mill tarp and depending on the use. You will roughly get about 5 years.

Council Member Tracy Queen asked if the tarps were hand rolled or machine rolled and Don said hand rolled.

Council Member Joe Turner said it appears that we patch every 3 to 4 years. If this can be done, do it and do it right.

Council Member Tracy Queen asked about the hole behind second base. Council Member Turner said, to patch it until we get through this season. Council Member Craig Guyton asked if Don and his crew could monitor it throughout the summer to get through the season and plan to fix it come fall. Don said that is the plan to try to keep it filled in and keep it level. Council Member Guyton suggested to keep practices off field 1. Don said there are no scheduled practices on field 1.

Mr. Stephens stated that Don will be reaching out to Acworth who recently renovated some of their fields to get contacts other than All Star Fields.

Mr. Stephens apologized to Council Member Turner if he feels he misstated facts. Maybe he ought to have used the word instructions instead of directive.

Jolly Building - Tracy Queen

Council Member Tracy Queen said he was approached by several people about the Jolly Building. The one that was most beneficial would be the Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts and the foster care system. The foster care group would like to get the building and fix it up. The council will have to talk to them as a group and say if you fix up the building can we also let the Girl Scouts use it in the evenings for their meetings and use it as a multi facet building. It would be a place for foster care and DFCS to store and for them to meet. Also for DFCS and foster care parents to meet. It will not be just our county using it. After research, statistics show Floyd County has over 2000 in foster care and Bartow County has 158. These are the two he is familiar with. He knows there is a lot of work to be done on that building but the foster care is willing to fix it and pay for it. It is just a matter of giving them approval to do it. The council definitely need more information from them of what they are willing to do. He wanted to inform council they are interested in the building. He would also say to them to allow the girl scouts and boys scouts to use the building also. The nice thing about DFCS meeting here is the proximity to the police department. The operation will be Monday through Friday for the meetings.

Council Member Craig Guyton said he would suggest who ever the contact is, give them Mr. Stephens contact information so he can get all the details for council. There have been a couple of non profits look at the building for use. If we are interested as a council to put the building to use, which he is in favor of, they need to undertake to see what it will involve to fix it up. No offense, but he does not want an outside entity doing that. The building is in a good spot for different organizations to use.

Mr. Stephens said you would need to look into a certificate of occupancy.

Council Member Joe Turner asked if public works still use the building. Mr. Stephens said there are some things stored there, but the building has not been utilized other than Mayor Thayer had an office he used right after he was elected. Currently it is not wired for hot water. He stated Leeroy has been in and out of the Jolly building. He has been working on a list of needed maintenance items for all our facilities.

Mayor Steve Worthington said he knows the city is already working on the building. Not to dispute Mr. Stephens, but there is an instant hot water box under the sink and has been there 20 years when it was remodeled. There wasn't a place for a hot water heater. He also stated the building was donated to the city by the Jolly family for the purpose of Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts. He feels the attorney needs to be involved to determine who uses the building. He is all for the Scouts using it because it was intended for them to use when it was donated to the city.

Council Member Guyton was not talking about to donate to a 501© 3 but to rent it. If it was left for the Boy Scouts to use then let's make it active for what the family wanted. Mayor Worthington said they started out using it, until the council started meeting there and the boy scouts started using the Commissary. He said the city also doubled the size of that building.

Solicitor Pre Trial Diversion Program - Tracy Queen

Council Member Tracy Queen said everyone should have a copy of the contract provided by the solicitor and asked if there were questions. It is basically for shoplifting and marijuana use. It diverts the person to pre trial diversion. They will have a fine and the city will get a certain amount of dollars per month. It is a twelve week program and Council Member Queen read some of the requirements for the program included in the contract. He said he was familiar with the program because one of his son's participated in the pre trial diversion. They were trespassing at a church they thought was haunted in Canton, Georgia. Eighteen kids got the pre trial diversion program.

City Manager James Stephens said, you mentioned Canton, Corporal Cruz, one of Euclid officers, is the one who made the suggestion. He had actually been involved with Canton. The solicitor and the municipal judge thought it was a wonderful idea. It gives kids a second chance and will create a small revenue stream instead of being transferred to the superior court and lose revenue. Cartersville already has the program they utilize and he thinks Adairsville does.

Council Member Queen said it worked out well for all the kids and there were no record for the kids, especially those going into college.

Council Member Joe Turner asked when this would be offered to the kids. Mr. Stephens stated the way the contract is worded; the solicitor would make the call on who would be eligible.

Council Member Joe Turner motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 pm. Council Member Tracy Queen seconded the motion. The motion was carried with Council Members Guyton, Queen, Duncan, Turner and Mayor Worthington all voting in favor.

With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned.