COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF LUVERNE

June 14, 2021

The City of Luverne Council met in regular session on June 14, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., in the City Hall Building. The following members were present:

Mayor Ed Beasley

Betty Dawson, Councilwoman

Kip Smith, Councilman

Kathy Smyth, Councilwoman

Elliott Jones, Councilman

Eddie Billings, Councilman

Mike Jones, Attorney

Michelle Royals, Engineer

Margie Gomillion, Clerk

Mayor Beasley called the meeting to order. The mayor called on Betty Dawson to lead the pledge of allegiance to the flag and Mike Jones to say a prayer.

The mayor called for the approval of the minutes of May 24, 2021. Councilman Billings made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the vote was unanimously approved.

Mayor Beasley stated everyone has a copy of Engineer Royals’ departmental reports. Ms. Royals reported everything is in her report.

The mayor called on the city clerk for the administrative report. Routine work was performed.

Mayor Beasley stated everyone had a copy of the chief’s report. Since the last meeting, the police made 45 traffic stops, wrote 38 citations and over 7 warnings. The department made 6 misdemeanor arrest and 1 felony arrest. There were 4 animal control calls since the last council meeting.

Councilman Billings reported that All-Stars has started and the boys are still fund-raising to help with that.

Engineer Royals reported that the roof of the older airport hangar was recently sealed.

The mayor stated he spoke with Mrs. Kathryn at the library and the reading program is drawing a good crowd of children. Everything is going good at the library.

Mayor Beasley stated everyone has a copy of Mr. Neal’s report. Councilman Smith stated the fire station’s metal roof is leaking. Engineer Royals stated she would check to see where the cool seal was purchased for the airport hangar. The mayor suggested to investigate the cost to repair the roof and he would see if it would be eligible for an ADECA grant.

The mayor stated this afternoon’s dedication of the Douglas Park Gazebo in honor of Mr. Joe Rex Sport was nice and he is sure Mr. Sport really appreciated it. The mayor also voiced his appreciation to the council and Ms. Royals for working so hard on the dedication.

Mayor Beasley presented the council with the revised Multi-Purpose Center Rental Agreement. After some discussion, Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the revised Multi-Purpose Center Rental Agreement. Councilwoman Smyth seconded the motion and all was in favor. The agreement is as follows:

**City of Luverne**

**Furman G. Mitchell Multi-Purpose Center**

**Rental Agreement**

I have read and understand the following rules set forth by the City of Luverne and will be personally responsible for any damages that may occur to any City property.

The City of Luverne will not be liable for any accidents or injuries that occur while renting the Center.

No alcohol is allowed on the premises at any time.

No smoking is allowed on the premises at any time.

All garbage, including bathroom garbage, is to be placed in bags and placed in the outside garbage cans.

All tables must be wiped clean of food, beverages, crumbs, etc. Floors shall be swept clean of all food, crumbs, etc.

No confetti or powder of any kind (i.e. gender reveal substances) is allowed on the premises.

All tables and chairs shall be left set up as found when entering the building.

Cancellations must be given at least 48 hours in advance to receive refund. You must present original receipt to receive refund.

Cost for one day/night rental is $125.00 payable 7 days prior to date of use. The key must be returned to the police department the same day as used.

The responsible party must give the City of Luverne a copy of a valid driver’s license and a current phone number. Must be 21 years old to rent.

The Center will be inspected after each use for damage and cleanliness.

Any and all damages will be repaired to original condition at User’s expense.

The User will pay market value for any items missing after the event.

Do not place or remove anything on the walls, such as tape or nails.

All events must comply with the City of Luverne ordinances including noise ordinance.

No admission fees or product sales are allowed at or as a result of the event.

No bounce houses or slides allowed without prior approval and providing event insurance with the City as an additional insured in an amount not less than One Million and No/100 ($1,000,000.00) Dollars.

The event SHALL conclude and all clean up completed prior to 12:00 midnight.

Next, the mayor presented the council with Resolution 061421 PY2021 Community Development Block Grant Program authorizing the filing of the application to ADECA and authorizing the mayor to sign all documents related to filing of the application. Engineer Royals explained that this is a revision of one of the resolutions passed at the last council meeting to correct a typo in the dollar amount. After some discussion, Councilman Billings made a motion to adopt the revised resolution 061421. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and all was in favor. The resolution is as follows:

City of Luverne RESOLUTION 061421

PY2021 CDBG Application

WHEREAS, the Alabama Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program has been established to assist local governments in meeting community development and housing needs consistent with the objectives set forth in Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the City of Luverne, acting by and through its Council proposes to apply for Community Development Block Grant funds for the purpose of making necessary sanitary sewer and street improvements on Jeffcoat Street; and

WHEREAS, under terms and provisions of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, the City of Luverne as a recipient of these funds is required to designate and appoint a Financial Officer to perform certain duties in the administration of said grant.

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the proposed Jeffcoat Street comprehensive improvement project is $388,500.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City of Luverne, as follows:

THAT, Ed Beasley, Mayor, is hereby authorized to execute and submit an application with appropriate assurances to the State of Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, requesting Program Year 2021 CDBG funds in the amount of $349,650; and

THAT, the City of Luverne does hereby approve and commit a 10 percent local cash match in the amount of $38,850 to complete the proposed project and that Ed Beasley, Mayor, is hereby designated and appointed as Financial Officer under the terms and pursuant to the provisions of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and is directed and empowered to make necessary assurances and to perform on behalf of the City of Luverne, those acts and assume such duties as are consistent with said position.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 14th day of June, 2021.

Councilman Billings stated he would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, cards and flowers which meant a lot to the family.

Councilwoman Dawson stated she noticed the matting of the resolution that was passed for Charlie Johnson earlier in the year has been completed. Councilwoman Dawson is going to contact his son, Tony, to ask if the council can present it to him and his mom. The mayor asked Councilwoman Dawson to let the family know that he and the council will be glad to present it at City Hall or in private if they would feel comfortable.

Mike Jones stated that he met with Lomax Byrd today on the things going on at the old Sew American building. Mr. Byrd has several businesses operating out of the building and he has an interest in most of them. Mr. Byrd is investigating the possibilities of adding more businesses out there. One of the businesses he is considering operating out of the building is a NAPA store. He is also looking at an equipment rental company, a scaffolding company, and possibly one other business. He is concerned about operating a retail business out of the building that would be in competition with other people in Luverne which he is receiving reduced rent from the council. Mr. Byrd is interested in purchasing the building if the council will consider selling it. Mr. Jones stated he reminded Mr. Byrd that the city is attempting to get a grant to repair the roof of the building. The mayor stated that if the building is not owned by the city that the city cannot file for the grant. There was discussion on grant requirements for retaining the building after grant funds are expended on it. Mr. Jones stated that Mr. Byrd has concerns about investing money in repairing the building when it is not his building. Ms. Royals offered to question South Central on the grant requirements for building retention. Mr. Jones stated the council could always put limitations on the sale of the building requiring it be sold back to the city at the purchase price plus improvements if Mr. Byrd ever decides to sell. After further discussion, Mr. Jones was asked to speak to Mr. Byrd about his preference on purchasing the building as is at a reduced amount or waiting the required time after the grant funds are expended. Mr. Jones agreed and stated he will report back Mr. Byrd’s intension to the council.

Councilman Billings made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned.