

The Clermont Town Council met on December 3, 2013. Ellen Rogers led the invocation and Mayor Nix led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Mayor, James Nix, Council members, Ellen Rogers, Seth Weaver, Sonny Helton, John Brady and Debra Armour. Deputy Clerk, Amy Lomax, and Town Clerk, Sandra Helton.

MINUTES: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the November 12, 2013 minutes. Sonny Helton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the November 2013 Financial Statement. Sonny Helton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

REPORT: ORDINANCE 97-01 PLANNING AND ZONING: The Council reviewed this report.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE: 82-2013-01 ANNEXING PROPERTY BELONGING TO MARGARET MERRITT. John Brady made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 82-2013-01. Seth Weaver seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE: 82-2013-02 REZONING PROPERTY BELONGING TO MARGARET MERRITT. Since this property is being annexed under the same zoning as in Hall County, this ordinance just amended the zoning map of Clermont. Sonny Helton made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 82-2013-02. Seth Weaver seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE: 82-2013-03 REZONING PROPERTY BELONGING TO MARGARET MERRITT. John Brady made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 82-2013-03. Sonny Helton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE: 2013-01-11 MILLAGE RATE: This Ordinance sets the millage rate for the Town and it also rolls it back to zero. Seth Weaver made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 2013-01-11. Debbie Armour seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

GARBAGE TRUCK REPLACEMENT: Seth Weaver made a motion to table the issue of garbage truck replacement until the January meeting. John Brady said he had already been in contact with some trash pickup companies and had gathered some pricing information which he shared with everyone. John Brady seconded the motion and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

COUNCIL MEMBER TIME:

John Brady: John Brady said the roof on the stage at the gym has partially blown off and he would like to see about replacing it with a permanent roof in the near future.

Seth Weaver: Seth Weaver presented a plaque to Ellen Rogers for having been the grand Marshal in 2012 in the Clermont Days Parade. He also had plaques for past Grand Marshal's and said he would deliver them to those who were unable to attend the meeting.

Debbie Armour: Debbie Armour made a motion to give each employee a \$100 Christmas bonus. Seth Weaver seconded, and all Council voted in favor. Motion passed.

Sonny Helton: Sonny Helton made a motion to begin the process of establishing wards in the Town of Clermont. There was some discussion. The citizens would no longer vote at large, instead there would be a council member elected from each ward. This act would be required to go before legislature and would involve attorney fees. It will take at least 2 years to get it implemented. John Brady suggested we have only four wards and change the charter to a strong Mayor which allows the Mayor to vote. He also said if we had no qualified candidate from a specific ward then we extend the qualifying period for two weeks and open up that ward for anyone in the City. He said this would save the Town money. John Brady seconded, and all Council members voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Town Clerk: Sandra Helton reminded everyone of the JMA meeting coming up in January.

ADJOURN: Sonny Helton made a motion to adjourn at 7:28pm. Ellen Rogers seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Town Clerk, Sandra Helton
