

The Clermont Town Council met on March 8, 2016. The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present: Mayor, James Nix, Council Members, Seth Weaver, Kristi Crumpton, Council Member elect Doug Myers and Council Member elect Margaret Merritt. Deputy Clerk, Amy Lomax and Town Clerk, Sandra Helton.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS: Town Clerk, Sandra Helton swore in Council members, Margaret Merritt and Doug Myers by having them place their hand on the Holy Bible and repeating the Oath of Office.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the agenda. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: James Forrester, pastor at the Mt. Yonah satellite of Concord Baptist Church gave the invocation and Mayor Nix led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING: SIMMONS REZONING: PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Nix opened the public hearing at 7:04 pm for all requests pertaining to the rezoning of the Simmons property. The request is to re-zone the 1.31 acre tract from Residential I (RI) to Highway Business (HB). The property is located at 130 Main Street. He asked if anyone had any questions, comments, or wished to speak on this matter.

Jeff Simmons said he would like to sell the property to the prospective buyers and they would like to rezone it to make it available for their business.

Leigh Corley, owner of Ability Physical Therapy addressed the Mayor and Council and explained she and Carrie Adams were wanting to buy the home and make it an office building to serve the pediatric population for physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy. Mayor Nix asked her if she planned to remodel the existing building. She replied she wanted to give the building a nice facelift and landscaping along with a driveway. Mayor Nix explained to her that she would need to get the driveway permit through the State Highway Department since it was a state route and also to get with the fire marshal to inspect the building prior to occupancy. Seth Weaver asked if she was planning on having paved parking. She replied it would have paved parking with a circular drive and plenty of parking. Seth Weaver mentioned the property to the left of the building when paved may cause a drainage issue on the parking lot and asked if they had looked into it. She replied the parking would be on the right side and not the left where the old storage building is now located.

Jan Gailey, resident of Clermont, said she was concerned about the traffic flowing out onto Main Street and traffic congestion during peak hours of the day. Leigh Corley said their plans was to do a circular driveway with the exit being on the further end away from Highway. 129.

With no questions or comments remaining, Mayor Nix said the hearing would remain open for twenty minutes.

MINUTES: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the February 2016 Minutes. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Kristi Crumpton made a motion to approve the January 2016 Financial Statement. Seth Weaver seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

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

MICHAEL AND DANA CHITWOOD: WATER DRAINAGE ISSUE: Michael and Dana Chitwood addressed the Mayor and Council about a water issue on their property located at 146 Staton Drive. They presented pictures/plat of the property and said they had lived there for twenty years. She stated their land has a storm water easement on the southeastern side of the property which is pictured on the plat and said they presumed that a culvert located on 133 Brown Drive fed the easement. However she stated that they do not have a topographical map showing the easement. She said the storm water has never been in the easement but is diverted onto their property and does not provide sufficient drainage. She said they could not enjoy their yard, or plant a garden, and the foundation of their house had been eroded with overwhelming water levels. She said the culvert located at 201 Brown drive does not put water into the easement and therefore they cannot control the water if it's not in the easement. She said it looks like the easement comes straight thru the property where their house sits and said they would like to have documentation of the easement as well as who created the original drawing of the easement. She believes a house was built on top of the easement and asks the Mayor and Council if they would look into this matter. After some discussion, she said she would try and locate some additional maps/information.

BIKE RACE: On March 5th and 6th Dingo Race Productions held a two day bike event in Clermont with prior permission from the Mayor and Council. There were several problems on Sunday, the 6th, with parking and participants trespassing onto personal property. After some discussion and comments from the audience, Seth Weaver made a motion for the Town of Clermont to stop hosting the Dingo Race Productions Bike Race Event. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Nix called for further comments on the Simmons property. Being none, he closed the public hearing.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE: 82-2016-02 REZONING PROPERTY BELONGING TO DONALD SIMMONS AND JAMES SIMMONS. Mayor Nix gave the first reading of Ordinance 82-2016-02 to amend the zoning map of the Town of Clermont, Georgia by rezoning of one track or parcel of land within the Town of Clermont, and owned by Donald Simmons and James Simmons.

ADJOURN: Seth Weaver made a motion to adjourn at 7:39 pm. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Sandra Helton, Town Clerk
