

The Clermont Town Council met on June 6, 2017. The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present: Mayor, James Nix, Council Members, Doug Myers, Kristi Crumpton, Seth Weaver, and Margaret Merritt. Deputy Clerk, Amy Lomax, Town Clerk, Sandra Helton.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mayor Nix requested the public hearing for the budget to be placed on the agenda after the Clermont Station Streets. Kristi Crumpton made a motion to accept the agenda with the changes. Doug Myers seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** John Bowen led the invocation and Mayor Nix led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARING -BOWEN ANNEXATION:** Mayor Nix opened the public hearing at 7:04 pm. He said the annexation request submitted by John Bowen had been recommended for approval by the Planning and Zoning Committee. Mayor Nix asked for any questions or comments from the audience as well as comments or questions from Mr. John Bowen. Council member Seth Weaver reminded them of the Town ordinance which states there are no alcohol sales in the Town of Clermont. With there being no other comments, Mayor Nix said we would allow the public hearing to remain open for twenty minutes and move to the next item.

**MINUTES- MAY 2017:** Kristi Crumpton made a motion to accept the May 2017 Minutes. Seth Weaver seconded, and all Council members voted in favor. Motion passed.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the April 2017 Financial Statement. Kristi Crumpton 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.

**CLERMONT STATION STREETS SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT:** Margaret Merritt made a motion to enter into a joint agreement with the Clermont Station Homeowners Association to pave Station Drive. A special tax district will be created for the homeowners to help pay for the paving. The tax district would be in effect for three years with each property owner in the subdivision paying \$500 per year with the homeowners share not to exceed \$85,000.00. The annual tax payments would be due by January 1, 2018, January 1, 2019, and January 1, 2020. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Margaret Merritt made a motion to accept the streets of Clermont Station into the Town of Clermont's street inventory. These streets are Station Drive, Smokestack Lane, and Little Whistle Way. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Margaret Merritt made a motion for the Town of Clermont to obtain bids for the Station Drive repairs paving project with \$80,000 coming from the SPLOST VII account and the remainder from the General Fund account. The funds coming from the Special tax district would be deposited back into the General Fund account. Seth weaver seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Margaret Merritt made a motion to contract with KCI to process the bid for the Town, oversee the construction project/engineering and make sure the work is done properly. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 82-2017-06-01: AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING PROPERTY BELONGING TO JOHN BOWEN SITUATED ALONG 6532 HOLLY SPRINGS ROAD.** Mayor

Nix asked if there were anymore comments or questions concerning the annexation of the John Bowen property. Hearing none the Mayor gave the first reading of Ordinance 82-2017-06-01. The second reading will be at the next Council meeting on July 11, 2017.

**SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE 2017-05-01: AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE AND UPDATE REGULATIONS ON SUBDIVISIONS IN THE TOWN OF CLERMONT.** Mayor Nix gave the second reading or Ordinance 2017-05-01. This Ordinance will impose regulations as to developments of subdivisions within the Town of Clermont, Georgia.

Kristi Crumpton made a motion to accept Ordinance 2017-05-01. Margaret Merritt seconded, and all Council members voted in favor. Motion passed.

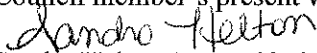
**PARK SIGNS-ADDITIONS AND MODIFICATIONS:** Kristi Crumpton talked to the Council and Mayor about some recent vandalism to the parks. She spoke with the precinct commander, Bonner Burton, to see what could be done about the situation. He suggested more patrolling of the park areas as well as documenting each incident. He also suggested more signage in the parks with the appropriate wording so they could refer to the sign when enforcing the rules. Kristi Crumpton suggested changes to make to the current signs so the deputies can start helping the Town with this problem. The Mayor and Council agreed to these changes and for more signs to be ordered.

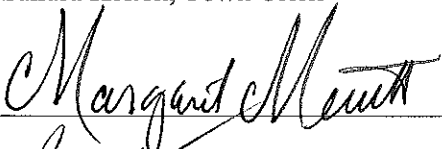
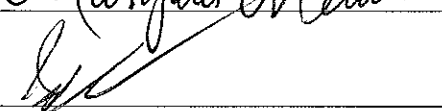
**PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 25017-2018 TOWN OF CLERMONT BUDGET:** Mayor Nix opened a public hearing on the proposed budget. The proposed budget is for \$434,600. It includes a 3 percent raise for the employees and funds for some employee health insurance and a match of up to 5 percent for contributions to an employee retirement fund. It also includes increases in the business license, community center rental, and the park pavilions rental. To pay for the street work in Clermont Station and the employee health insurance and retirement contributions, money from the fund balance will be used to balance the budget

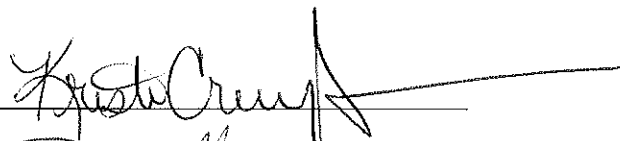
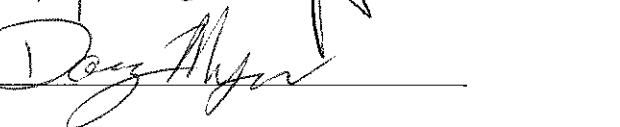
Discussion about the budget centered mostly on providing health coverage for employees and contributions to the retirement fund. The subject of property taxes became part of the discussion with two gentlemen in the audience offering opposing views. Mr. Calvin Stewart said he would not mind paying some property taxes on properties he owns in Clermont if it meant more benefits for employees. Mr. Warren Weaver said he was opposed to the Town having a property tax. The proposed budget does not include a property tax but the Mayor said the time may come soon when we have to look at implementing a tax to keep the Town going.

**ADOPT BUDGET 2017-2018:** Margaret Merritt made a motion to adopt the 2017-2018 budget in the amount of \$434,600.00. Kristi Crumpton seconded. Doug Myers, Margaret Merritt, Kristi Crumpton voted in favor. Seth Weaver voted against. Motion passed 3-1.

**ADJOURN:** Seth Weaver made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 pm. Margaret Merritt seconded, and all Council member's present voted in favor. Motion passed.

  
Sandra Helton, Town Clerk

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