Town of Clermont Town Council Meeting December 5, 2023

The Clermont Town Council met on December 5, 2023. The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: Mayor James Nix, Council Members James Castleberry, Doug Myers, Marcia Kesler, and Amanda Nix. Town Clerk Amy Lomax also attended.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Amanda Nix motioned to approve the agenda. Doug Myers seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member James Castleberry led the invocation, and Mayor Nix led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING SOLAR PANEL REGULATIONS: Mayor Nix opened the public hearing on the Solar Panel Regulations Ordinance 82-2023-12-08. The Mayor asked if anyone had any comments or questions. John Brady asked the Council if the Ordinance was for commercial and residential properties. He asked if there were any restrictions to not have the solar panels installed in the front yard of properties. The Mayor said there are restrictions on where the panels could be placed. Council Member Amanda Nix noted that there are regulations on setbacks and placement. It doesn't specifically state "front yard," but with the rules and setbacks, a property owner couldn't place it in the front yard. The Mayor asked if anyone else had any comments or questions. With there being none, we would move forward to the next item on the agenda. The public hearing will remain open for twenty minutes.

MINUTES-NOVEMBER 2023: Doug Myers motioned to accept the November 2023 Minutes. James Castleberry seconded the motion, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: The Mayor and Council reviewed the October 2023 Financial Report.

REPORT: PLANNING AND ZONING: The Mayor and Council reviewed this report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-PERSONEL: Amanda Nix motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:11. Marcia Kesler seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted in favor. Motion Passed.

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION: Amanda Nix motioned that the Council return to regular session at 7:28 pm. Doug Myers seconded, and all Council Members present voted in favor.

EMPLOYEE BONUS: Amanda Nix motioned to give the Town Clerk and Maintenance Staff a Christmas bonus of \$300.00. James Castleberry seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING ON SOLAR PANEL REGULATIONS: Mayor Nix closed the public hearing and gave the first reading of Ordinance 82-2023-12-08.

FIRST READING ON SOLAR PANEL REGULATIONS ORDINANCE 82-2023-12-

08. Mayor Nix gave the first reading of Ordinance 82-2023-12-08. An ordinance to establish Solar Regulations within the Town of Clermont, Georgia; to provide for the purpose, definitions, system requirements, safety inspections, require removal of abandoned systems, to provide for appeals; to provide for an effective date; to provide for severability of provisions; to repeal conflicting ordinances; and for other purposes.

PROJECT UPDATES: Mayor Nix presented Council Member Doug Myers with a certificate of appreciation for his service to the Town of Clermont. Amy Lomax updated the Council on the Market Street Playground. The installation of the equipment is complete. The surfacing is being installed this week, and they plan to be finished by December 13th. We will have a ribbon cutting on December 16th at 2:00 pm, and Santa will also be there for the children to visit. Mayor Nix asked the Council what their thoughts were on not having work sessions or scheduling the session to take place before the regular Council meetings. Due to the number of work sessions canceled due to illness and lack of agenda items to discuss at the meetings. James Castleberry suggested that we only schedule work sessions as needed. After some discussion, the Council agreed to schedule the work sessions as needed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The Mayor asked the audience if anyone had any comments. With there being none, he called for the meeting to be adjourned.

ADJOURN: Amanda Nix motioned to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Doug Myers seconded the motion, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Apry Lomax, Town Clerk