Public Hearing

Conditional Use Permit

Tri-County EMC Installation and Operation of a Solar Energy System at 866 Oak Street

Elected Officials Present:
- Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Harvey (Chip) Walker, Jr.
- Councilman Alvin Butts
- Councilwoman Teresa Doster
- Councilman James A. Gorley
- Councilman William Mangum, Jr.
- Councilman Charles R. Haley
- Councilwoman Alma Stokes

Elected Officials Absent:

Staff Members Present:
- City Administrator, Gary Sanders
- City Attorney, Christopher Huskins
- City Clerk, Sarah Abrams

Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr. called the Public Hearing to order regarding a Conditional Use Permit requested by Tri-County EMC at 6:00 PM.

City Administrator Gary Sanders read the rules for making public comments.

Mayor Rocker advised Greg Mullis and Amber Wismer of Tri-County EMC signed in to speak on behalf of the Conditional Use Permit and they will make their presentations at this time.

Mr. Greg Mullis and Ms. Amber Wismer presented Council with a handout regarding the Tri–County EMC Solar Energy project. They advised the site should be up and ready by the first of April and generating energy by the end of May. They will be offering
members an opportunity to rent blocks of solar panels for a fee of $25.00 per month at no risk.

Mayor Rocker asked if any one was present to speak in opposition to the Conditional Use Permit; no one signed in to speak in opposition to the request made by Tri-County EMC for a Conditional Use Permit at 866 Oak Street.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to end the public hearing meeting on the request made by Tri-County EMC for a Conditional Use Permit at 6:27 PM. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

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Walter C. Rocker, Jr. Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk
City of Eatonton Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 7:00 PM
Eatonton City Hall, 201 North Jefferson Avenue, Eatonton, Georgia 31024

Elected Officials Present:
  Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr.
  Mayor Pro-Tem Harvey (Chip) Walker, Jr.
  Councilman Alvin Butts
  Councilwoman Teresa Doster
  Councilman James A. Gorley
  Councilman William Mangum, Jr.
  Councilman Charles R. Haley
  Councilwoman Alma Stokes

Elected Officials Absent:

Staff Members Present:
  City Administrator, Gary Sanders
  City Attorney, Christopher Huskins
  City Clerk, Sarah Abrams

Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr. called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Pastor Dexter Lamar of the Greater High Hope Christian Center gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Butts to approve the minutes of the last meeting with any necessary corrections. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0. Councilman James A. Gorley and Councilman Charles R. Haley abstained.

Public Comments: Gwenette Little - Community issues, Pastor Dexter Lamar, Barbara A. Bell, and Trenton Brown - Greater High Hope Christian Center, Community Storm Shelter/Safe Room / Community Life Center
Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Gorley to hear from all who signed in to make Public Comments. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Reading of the Rules for Public Comments: City Administrator Gary Sanders read the rules for Public Comments.

Mayor Rocker called on Ms. Gwenette Little for public comments. Ms. Gwenette Little advised Council she lived at 103 Holly Drive, and did not approve of some of the goings on in her community. Little advised her car has been vandalized (scratch and sprayed); neighbors park their vehicles and leave their garbage can near the street which blocks her view of on coming traffic, preventing her from seeing how to drive out of her yard; and the police will not respond to her calls. Councilman Gorley advised Ms. Gwenette Little he would discuss her concerns/issues with the Chief of Police.

**Old Business:**
Presentation of Planned Community Programs by Greater High Hope Christian Center

Pastor Dexter Lamar of the Greater High Hope Christian Center advised serving as the pastor since 1997, and his church facility is located at 110 East Hogan Blvd. He discussed building a community safe room which would house an after school program and a Community Life Center. The storm shelter would provide shelter in case of a catastrophe from a storm or a tornado. The space would hold up to about 300 persons.

Mrs. Bell, who is the grant writer for the project, asked Council for their blessing. Gorley asked if the support was in the form of a letter of support or in funding. Bell advised a letter of support.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Gorley to write a letter of support for Greater High Hope Christian Center and authorize the Mayor to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote 7-0.

**New Business:**
**Zoning**

Request by Tri-County EMC for a Conditional Use Permit for the Installation and Operation of a Solar Energy System at 866 Oak Street. Presently zoned AG-1 [Map 062A, Parcel 059] Attachment #6F

Motion was made by Doster and seconded Walker to approve the request made by Tri-County EMC for a Conditional Use Permit for the Installation and Operation of a Solar Energy System at 866 Oak Street and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign the Resolution. Motion carried 7-0.
Proposed Resolution to Ratify the Action of the Mayor in Submitting a Letter of Interest for Participation in the EPA’s Cool and Connected Pilot Program
Attachment #6A
Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Doster to ratify the action of the Mayor in signing and submitting a letter of interest to the EPA for participation in the Cool and Connected Pilot Program and authorize the Mayor to sign letters, applications and such supporting and collateral material as shall be necessary for participation in the Pilot Program. Motion carried by a unanimous vote 7-0.

Proposed Resolution to Apply for a DOT Off-System Safety Enhancement Grant
Attachment #6B
Motion was made by Mangum and seconded by Gorley to approve the Proposed Resolution to apply for a DOT Off-System Safety Enhancement Grant and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign letters, applications and such supporting and collateral material as shall be necessary for the property application and administration of the 2016 Off-System Safety Enhancement/LMIG Grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.
Grant requires a 30% match from the City.

Proposed Resolution to Select an Engineer to Develop and Design a Community Development Block Grant Attachment #6C
Motion was made by Mangum and seconded by Doster to approve the proposed Resolution to engage Carter and Sloope Consulting Engineers for the purpose of Developing and Designing its 2016 Community Development Block Grant Project and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign applications and such supporting material as shall be necessary for the proper development and design of said project. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Proposed Resolution to Select an Administrator to Plan, Develop, and Administer a Community Development Block Grant Attachment #6D
Motion was made by Mangum and seconded by Haley to adopt the proposed Resolution to engage Associates In Local Government Assistance, Inc to prepare and submit the proper application for the 2016 Community Development Block Grant offered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign applications and such supporting and collateral material as shall be necessary for the proper application for the Community Development Block Grant. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.
Proposed Resolution to Adopt a United Healthcare Plan Attachment #6E
Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to approve the proposed Resolution to adopt the United Health Care Choice Open Access ($1000 Deductible) Plan to be effective April 1, 2016 and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign contracts, letters and other supporting documents as may be necessary to provide this coverage to City Employees. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

(United Healthcare Insurance Premium per employee will be $649.00 from $830.)

Committees’ Reports:

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to pay the bills if and when funds become available. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Councilwoman Doster advised Council to look at the newly constructed stage in the parking lot.

Councilman Haley thanked City Marshal Veal for submitting her case report.

Councilwoman Stokes advised GMA Annual Convention will be held in Savannah, June 24th through 28th and the Women’s in History program will be held March 31 at the County Administrative Building.

City Administrator Gary Sanders submitted the following report:
Construction on the stage is well underway. The frame and roof have been installed, the floor has been poured, the front steps and brickwork are done, and the electrical should be done today. Remaining work will include sidewalk, curbing and handicapped ramp installation.

The DNR will be notifying trail grant applications of selection results next month (April).

The Municipal Gas Authority regional meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15 in Elberton and Sanders will attend.

The next Council meeting scheduled for March 21, 2016 will return to the Commissioners’ meeting room.

GMA District 6th Spring Listing Session will be held Thursday, April 14th, at 11:00 AM at the Middle Georgia Regional Commission. Additional information will be available at a later date.

City Attorney Christopher Huskins expressed words of thanks to City Administrator Gary Sanders and Street Supervisor Joseph Hawkins for getting an additional street light put in near his home on Dogwood Lane.
Councilwoman Stokes asked that the citizens of Eatonton be kept in prayer, because of the number of deaths in the last couple of days.

Clerk Abrams reminded Mayor and Council members to file their Personal Financial Disclosure Statement with her by July 1, 2016.

There being no further business; motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

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Walter C. Rocker, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk