

## Work Session Minutes

March 11, 2024

@ 5:00 PM

The Council discussed the possibility of increasing the Council pay and what impact it would have on the Budget in different amounts. Ms. Cassandra Lee had been the original one to ask that it be considered for Council. She had spoken with Accountant – Emily Edwards about the possibility of raising the pay of Council by \$100.00 or \$200.00 dollars per month and Ms. Edwards had told her it was feasible maybe even more as long as she knew ahead of time it could be included in budget. It was also mentioned that the Mayor is usually increased at the same time due to it must be in place 6 mths prior to elections because it doesn't affect current Council and Mayor. Brent White said that he thought that it was needed but wasn't sure it had to be voted on at this time because they had plenty of time since it didn't have to be done until 6 mths prior to election. Ms. Lee ask what else did he need to decide.... Mayor Weatherwax suggested raising the pay by \$300.00 so that would make the Council pay \$800.00 and the Mayor \$1,300.00 per month and it would impact the budget by only \$21,600.00 per year which the City budget can handle.

Jason Newton Building Inspector was present to talk to Council on the nuisance at the property of 310 Gay Street. He had a packet of information of all the letters and visits he has made on this location with accompanying pictures. He had followed all the notifications and time limits for the owner to eradicate this issue. The owner is an elderly man who has been said to have dementia but his son also lives at this address. Mr. Newton had followed all the necessary steps to this point and it is the Council decision to next steps.... Council was sympathetic to the elder mans mind state so they ask that Mr. Newton talk to him and also find out if someone has power of attorney and if so that person would be the one responsible. Cassandra Lee thanked Mr. Newton for his detailed account and his information given to Council on this property.

Chief Craig Knight was present to speak on the dog control issues and what the Cities options are. He had spoke to some surrounding areas as to what they do. Training is required and if the Police department takes on this task Chief Knight would want to have 2 officers trained which would be a cost of \$500.00 for each officer to have them State Certified in Montgomery and it is a week-long training so the cost of lodging, meals and travel would also have to be considered. He would want this to be on a volunteer basis and those officers would deserve a 1 or 2 step raise also in his opinion. There will need to be equipment bought for the vehicle if not a possible vehicle also needed, and Chief Knight gave a price list of those known items. The City could also be required to build and maintain storage of the animals along with feed & water and daily care. Once the animals had been in the Cities possession for 7 days it could be destroyed by euthanizing and the carcass would have to be safely destroyed....these are only a few of the major things that Chief Knight cited as being the Cities responsibility if the Council so chooses to go this route to solving the dog issues with the leash law. Chief Knight had also talked to both local vets about the possibility of taking on this for the City. Dr. Lee and Dr. Crow have the facilities and the capability to euthanize if necessary animals. Each of the Dr.'s have shown interest in this but both were considering the cost and will get back with Chief Knight for this. It seemed to be the consensus of the Council and Chief if one of the vets or both wanted to do this the City would pay whatever was agreed upon could benefit both parties and also the Citizens of Moulton. When the Chief gets back the information he will report back to Council on this matter and then they will know the options and can possibly decide what the next steps will be.

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Roger Weatherwax, Mayor

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Deroma Pepper, City Clerk

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Brent White, Council Member

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Jason White, Council Member

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Cassandra Lee, Council Member

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Denise Lovett, Council Member

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Joyce Jeffreys, Council Member