

August 20, 2024

Pre-Council meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor W. Keith Varner at Mulga Town Hall.

Council members present Jeremy Davis, Chandra Gage, Lisa Armstrong, Lelan Taylor, and Rachel Davis.

Visitors present: Brenda Jordan, Austin Lovelady, and Susan Sayers.

District 1: Been thinking about how to save money on the dumpsters. We pay approximately \$1000 or more for the dumpsters each month. Why can't we buy our own?

Mayor: There is a fifth wheel that you pull. It is a trailer and has 3 roll off dumpsters that come with it. The price is around \$58,000. Instead of continuously paying this and getting really nothing in return for our money if we take that money and apply it to the cost of the trailer then it would be paid off in no time. That way we would be getting something back for it. Once we pay for it that will be an expense that will never occur again except for dump fees. You are talking about cutting that cost from \$1,000.00 to approximately \$75 to \$100. Then you have the dumpsters for any other thing that you have that you want to host.

District 2: Are the new garbage collection prices \$23 per month?

Mayor: That is something someone got a price on. Garbage prices are being raised from \$15 per month to \$20 per month which is still less than everyone else.

District 2: Have we decided on a flat fee for limb pickup?

Mayor: No that is something that we are still researching and discussing.

District 2: The lot is very clean on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave where the guy is going to move a trailer into. Does that mean he is close to moving?

Mayor: I do not know. The tenant that was renting the house next door is the one that had all that junk. He took a lot of that with him when he moved.

District 3: Nothing

District 4: I was going through Facebook the other day and saw a post about the next Mulga Clean Up on September 14th. I did not even know there was one scheduled. I think the lady in minor included us with them. It is not on our FB page.

This weekend is dumpster weekend.

District 5: The park board has overspent their budget. In order to finish the funding for the spook trail they are asking for an additional \$3000.

The work on the new lights for the ball field is almost complete.

**Mayor:** We are considering fencing the area around the pole where the wire comes down. This will depend on wire leftover from the other project. We would put barb wire around the top to help keep people out.

**District 5:** A concerned citizen had asked for more speed bumps on Bayview Drive.

**Mayor:** There has been a request put in for Bayview Drive, Forest Ave and we need one on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

**Austin Lovelady:** Can I make a suggestion for that area? I know a lot of people may not like it but what if we make Bayview Drive and 2<sup>nd</sup> street a 4-way stop? That would make people stop at that intersection and slow down.

**Mayor:** We need to put this out there to the public. This would be the time to do it in preparation for upcoming ball season and park activities.

Council meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Invocation by Lelan Taylor, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Lisa Armstrong makes a motion to accept the August 6, 2024 minutes as written. Second by Rachel Davis. Roll call:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Abstain

District 3: Yes

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

**Mayor:** Yes

Lelan Taylor makes a motion to accept the July 16, 2024 minutes as written. Second by Lisa Armstrong. Roll call:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Yes

District 3: Yes

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

**Mayor:** Yes

Chandra Gage makes a motion to approve the bills for payment on August 20, 2024. Second by Jeremy Davis. Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Yes

District 3: Yes

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

District 1: What do we want to do about the dumpsters?

Mayor: I was just sent a text on one for \$36,800. This is an 18 ft trailer with 3 roll offs. I will get together some pricing with freight and present at the next meeting.

District 2: Nothing

District 3: Nothing

District 4: Nothing

District 5: Our town workers are working very hard at the park on the concession stand.

Rachel Davis makes a motion to allocate \$3000.00 of the towns fund to the park boards budget in order to finish out their budget year. Second by Jeremy Davis. Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Yes

District 3: Yes

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

Mayor: I received a letter from ADECA and they have granted the title change from Jefferson County to Mulga for Bayview Park.

We will offer the email in to be part of the minutes.

I also received an email from The Land and Water Conservation Fund. They issued the original grant for this property. They also approved the transfer to Mulga.

We will also offer this letter to be part of the minutes.



We also received the Resolution from Jefferson County. They have deeded over that piece of property to The Town of Mulga.

We have now reached out to Rod Hawkins to start taking bids on the splash pad. We have the money already allocated to this. We will also now be able to hopefully acquire additional grants for the splash pad.

A special thanks to Ben Goldman and Shelby Morris for all the hard work they did to make all of this happen.

Lelan Taylor makes a motion to authorize Mayor Varner to enter into a contract with The Land and Water Conservation Fund. Second by Rachel Davis. Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Yes

District 3: Yes

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

**Resolution No. 2024-09:** A resolution setting a public hearing on the adoption of ordinance no. 2024-04 to promote the safety, health, and welfare of the public by establishing the building department of The Town of Mulga, Alabama, adopting building regulations and technical codes; and designating the building official.

**Mayor:** We are taking over the building inspections from the county. These are the building codes that we have chosen to adopt.

**Ben:** The resolution sets a public hearing for the second meeting in September to consider the adoption of the technical codes by reference. There are 8 technical codes that are proposed for adoption by reference. They are all several hundred pages each. The statutes say that you can adopt them by reference instead of having to actually have that in your ordinance and have to hang that on the bulletin board or in cities where they have to publish their ordinances in the newspaper. They would have to run the entire thing in the newspaper. The impact of that is that we have to go through this extra step of setting a public hearing when we adopt a technical code by reference. The proposed ordinance 2024-04, which is attached, does a number of things. We are not adopting it tonight. That would happen after the public hearing in September. It will (1) Confirm that you are establishing building official (2) It will adopt the building regulations which is attached to the ordinance and it will also adopt these technical codes. We are proposing the adoption of the following 2021 edition codes from the International Code Council: International Building Code, International Energy

Conservation Code, International Existing Building Code, International Residential Code, International Plumbing Code, International Mechanical Code and International Fuel Gas Code. There is also a 2020 edition of the National Electrical Code which is published by a separate group that is also recommended for adoption.

Lisa Armstrong makes a motion to adopt Resolution NO 2024-09. Second by Lelan Taylor. Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Yes

District 3: Yes

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

Austin Lovelady: We would like to start a service with the Gas Authority of GA call SRCS (State Regulatory Compliance Service).

The Public Service Commission and PHMSA , which regulates our natural gas is coming down hard on smaller municipalities. They have adopted new rules and regulations that have made it hard on us to go out independently and get training books and material that we need to be in compliance. We discovered a couple of weeks ago that the company that we were using to help keep us in compliance was using outdated manuals. The state comes in to our facility and checks to make sure our books and equipment are up to code. Georgia Gas Authority offers a service where they come in and look at all of this and helps us to get in compliance. They will also do our operator qualification training, pipe fusion qualifications and assist us with all the reports that we have to do for our natural gas system.

The cost for this service for the remainder of the year (September to December) is roughly \$9,300.00. This will be broken down monthly. For the 2025 year it will be approximately 19,000.00.

Lisa Armstrong makes a motion to approve for Mulga to go into the SRCS with Georgia Gas Authority for the fee of \$9,300.00. Second by Rachel Davis. Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Yes

**District 3: Yes**

**District 4: Yes**

**District 5: Yes**

**Mayor: Yes**

**Resolution NO 2024-10: A resolution in support of changing the zip code of Bayview from 35005 to 35118 and authorizing the mayor to take any action necessary in order to effectuate this change.**

**Rachel Davis makes a motion to adopt Resolution NO 2024-10. Second by Lisa Armstrong. Roll call vote:**

**District 1: Yes**

**District 2: Yes**

**District 3: Yes**

**District 4: Yes**

**District 5: Yes**

**Mayor: Yes**

**Rachel Davis makes a motion to adopt Resolution NO 2024-11. Second by Lisa Armstrong. Roll call vote:**

**District 1: Yes**

**District 2: Yes**

**District 3: Yes**

**District 4: Yes**

**District 5: Yes**

**Mayor: Abstain**

**Ordinance NO 2024-05: An ordinance setting the compensation for the mayor and town council members.**

**Lisa Armstrong makes a motion for immediate consideration of Ordinance NO 2024-05. Second by Jeremy Davis. Roll call vote:**



District 1: Yes

District 2: Yes

District 3: Yes

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

Jeremy Davis makes a motion to adopt Ordinance NO 2024-05. Second by Lisa Armstrong. Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Yes

District 3: Yes

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

Jeremy Davis makes a motion to appoint Melissa Freeman as acting town clerk until Tabitha Galloway returns from medical leave. Second by Chandra Gage. Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Yes

District 3: Yes

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

Mayor: We have been in negotiation with Minor Fire Dept. about the increase for fire protection. We are currently paying \$33,450.00. With a 9% increase it would put us at \$36,000.00. There has not been an increase for the past 10 years. The cost of everything has gone up unfortunately. What does the council want to ask for?

Council: 7 ½ or 8%

Mayor: We are getting closer to annexation. They have no debt and no legal matters that they are aware of. We are still trying to figure out the number of houses and the routes for garbage pickup.

The regional planning committee will come in and help with the drawing of the district lines.

Maytown will have to call for a vote. They will have to have 50% plus one person for the annexation to take place.

Lisa Armstrong makes a motion to adjourn. Second by Rachel Davis. All in favor.

Attest

  
Melissa Freeman  
Town Clerk

Respectfully Submitted:



W Keith Varner  
Mayor