

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MONTEZUMA
CITY COUNCIL
May 21, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

INVOCATION: Attendees stood as Police Chief Eric Finch led in prayer, then said the “Pledge of Allegiance” in unison.

PRESENT: Mayor Nealie Johnson; Council Members: Mayor Pro-Tempore Daniel Porter, Walter Felton, Marie Tooks and Charles Ivey; City Attorney, Jon Coogle; City Manager, Mel Fulghom; City Clerk, Jennifer McCarthy; Police Chief, Eric Finch; Fire Chief, Roy Yoder; W & S Line Maintenance Chief, Lonnie Shaw; W/WW Plants Chief, Terry Cross; Public Works Chief, Tim Goodman; and Economic Development/Tourism Coordinator, Angie Mathews

ABSENT: Council Members Cleveland Hobbs & Howard Brown

CITIZEN COMMENTS

CITIZEN #1: Ed Turley presented a petition to council with 31 signatures asking for the removal of the speed bump on Holland Street, Montezuma, GA. He stated that the issue on Holland St. had more to do with the volume of traffic, not speed. The speed bump diverted the volume of traffic to Engram St.

Responses: The City Manager, Mel Fulghom, responded that the issue was speed and was placed due to safety concerns. Councilman Ivey responded to Mr. Turley and asked him to get more signatures due to the population in the area. Councilwoman Tooks responded that the situation was indeed a speed issue, and she has witnessed the speeding as a pedestrian in the area.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION # 1 To accept all issues on the consent agenda, as follows:

To Approve minutes of regular council meeting of April 9, 2024, as received by all members.

To Ratify Phone Poll of April 10, 2024, to allow a speed bump to be placed on Holland St. due to safety concerns from speeding. A copy is attached to and made part of these minutes. Attachment #1.

To Ratify Phone Poll of April 29, 2024, to approve the revised Intergovernmental Agreement, Mutual Agreement For Services with the City of Oglethorpe for Police Services. This contract is for 12 months, May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025. A copy is attached to and made part of these minutes. Attachment #2.

To approve re-zone of Property located @ South Dooly St. identified by Parcel #4042A 0003B2 from R-1 to R-2 for the purpose of a new apartment complex as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Committee. A Public Hearing was held on Monday April 22, 2024. A copy is attached to and made part of these minutes. Attachment #3

To issue a Certificate of Non-Conforming use as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Committee. To allow a mobile home with restrictions to be located at 410 North Plum Street in Montezuma that is currently zoned R-1 (Single Family Residential). A Public Hearing was held on Monday May 20, 2024. A copy is attached to and made part of these minutes. Attachment #4

To appoint Wanda Pendl, Denise Colbert, and Laura Long as Montezuma representatives of the Macon County Library Board.

To Adopt Proclamation of National Nursing Home Week and declare the week of May 12-18, 2024, National Nursing Home Week: "Radiant Memories". A copy is attached to and made part of these minutes. Attachment #5

MOTION BY: Mr. Ivey
SECOND BY: Mr. Porter

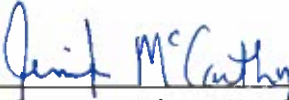
VOTE: UNANIMOUS, IN FAVOR OF

ADJOURN:

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.



Nealie L. Johnson - Mayor



Jennifer McCarthy - City Clerk

PHONE POLL OF MAYOR & COUNCIL

DATE OF POLL	10-Apr-24		
QUESTION:	To place a speed bump on Holland Street due to safety concerns from speeding.		
VOTE	YES	NO	COMMENTS
MAYOR JOHNSON	✓		
HOWARD BROWN	✓		
WALTER FELTON	✓		
CLEVELAND HOBBS	✓		Called twice. Could not reach.
CHARLES IVEY		✓	
DANIEL PORTER	✓		
MARIE TOOKS	✓		

PHONE POLL OF MAYOR & COUNCIL

DATE OF POLL	29-Apr-24		
QUESTION:	<p>To extend the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Oglethorpe to provide backup and call coverage on 911 calls when the COO does not have an officer on duty. This extension is for 12 months, beginnig May 1, 2024 - April 30, 2025.</p>		
VOTE	YES	NO	COMMENTS
MAYOR JOHNSON	✓		
HOWARD BROWN	✓		
WALTER FELTON	✓		
CLEVELAND HOBBS	✓		
CHARLES IVEY	✓		
DANIEL PORTER			Called 3 times. Did not answer.
MARIE TOOKS	✓		

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

MUTUAL AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES

Whereas the City of Oglethorpe (hereinafter COO) and City of Montezuma (hereinafter COM) have reached an agreement on a temporary basis for the City of Montezuma Police Department to provide backup and call coverage on 911 calls for the City of Oglethorpe when COO does not have an officer on duty. The City of Oglethorpe agrees for the City of Montezuma's Police Chief, Eric Finch, to have direct oversight of the Oglethorpe Police Officers within the department.

- All COO Officers will report directly to Chief Finch of COM.
- The COO Officers will follow the established protocol and chain of command.
- Both cities' officers will work as one team to provide excellence to both communities as deemed necessary by Chief Finch.
- The COO Municipal Clerk will report directly to the Mayor of Oglethorpe primarily and the Council, secondarily. All requests, directives and/or correspondence regarding Municipal Clerk duties will be directed to the Mayor (and/or council) and relayed to the clerk. All email correspondence will be sent to both the Mayor and Municipal Clerk.
- The COO Mayor and Council will consult with COM Police Chief as needed with regards to budget forecasting and departmental needs assessment in terms of purchasing and contracts.
- COM Chief will give the COO City Clerk and Mayor/Council prior notice before purchasing equipment/essentials needed and before entering any new or amending any current contractual agreements.

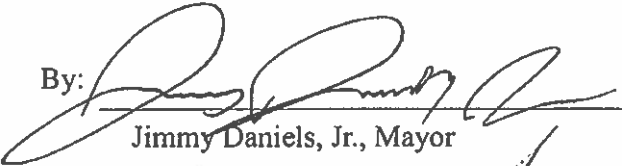
The COO will be responsible for paying their current staff and the benefits of four full-time officers, one part-time officer, and one municipal court clerk. The COO will be responsible for gas purchases and maintenance for COO vehicles.

The process for recruitment of new hire officers will be as outlined below. Recruitment of Police Chief will be the sole responsibility of COO Mayor and Council.

- COO Mayor and Council will advertise for new officers utilizing desired platforms. COM Chief will receive copies of ads.
- The COO Mayor and Council will review all applications, conduct initial virtual or in-person interviews, and perform previous or current employer reference checks.
- COM Police Chief and Police Captain will conduct background check by Certified Background Investigator
- Polygraph to be conducted by the Georgia Bureau of Investigations. (Required by State Certification)
- Drug Test by local medical facility.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AGREEMENT

By:


Jimmy Daniels, Jr., Mayor

Attest:


Melissa Jones, City Clerk

CITY OF MONTEZUMA

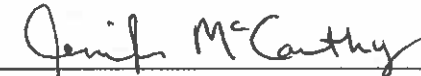
Witness this 29th day of April, 2024.

By:



Nealie L. Johnson, Mayor

Attest:


Jennifer McCarthy, City Clerk

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF
MONTEZUMA**

**Designating May 12th – 18th, 2024 as
“National Nursing Home Week”
In the City of Montezuma**

WHEREAS, the number of elderly and disabled Americans is dramatically increasing;

WHEREAS, all citizens are affected by the past and present contributions Of America’s elderly and disabled people;

WHEREAS, we salute our communities citizens now residing in nursing facilities, many of whom planted the seeds that made our community grow and prosper;

WHEREAS, nursing facilities provide caring and supportive services that make quality of life possible for our loved ones;

WHEREAS, members of facilities of the American Health Care Association are providing a host of activities in observance of “National Nursing Home Week”, guided by this year’s theme, “**Radiant Memories**” **A Tribute to the Golden Age of Radio**” which begins on Mother’s Day, May 12th thru May 18th.

THEREFORE, do I, Nealie Johnson, as Mayor of the City of Montezuma, proclaim the week of May 12th through May 18, 2024 as “National Nursing Home Week” in Montezuma, Georgia. I urge all citizens to visit friends and loved ones who reside at these facilities and help honor and serve the individuals who laid the foundations of Montezuma by participating in this year’s observance of the week at one of our town’s facilities.

This 13th Day of May, 2024.

CITY OF MONTEZUMA, GEORGIA

By: 
Nalie Johnson, Mayor

Attest: 
Jennifer McCarthy, City Clerk