

Mayor's Update – 8-22-14

Dear Citizens:

Council Meeting – Aug. 12th:

The Council voted unanimously to approve proposed amendments to the Town's Land Use and Zoning Ordinance as they were posted in the recent Public Hearing Notice.

The Council also voted unanimously to award contracts for repair to Riggs Street. Engineering goes to Volkert, Inc. and construction goes to Gene's Dozer. Thank you for your patience and understanding. I'll keep you posted as we proceed.

FEMA and Alabama Emergency Management:

Email arrived last week telling us that all town projects submitted are approved for funding. Up to this point the Town has spent approximately \$33,000.00 from reserve funds on storm damage expenses. At least \$42,000.00 more will be spent on Riggs Street for engineering services and repair. Almost all the streets in town received damage and are included in our request for FEMA and State assistance. We received news today that advanced payment of approximately \$59,000.00 was mailed to us on August 16th. The remainder of funds will be paid when work is completed.

I-10 Bridge Proposal:

A meeting was held at 5 Rivers on the causeway on 8-15-14: Congressman Byrne, mayors and elected officials from surrounding counties met with bridge sponsors to receive updates on the proposed project. See information on the home page; copies are available at Town Hall.

Congressman Byrne gave a report in which he talked about a proposed bill that could extend the Alabama 3-mile limit in the Gulf to 9 miles. He also shared news that President Obama has signed a bill passed by House and Senate that allows veterans to receive medical treatment from private doctors and private health care facilities, available to veterans who live more than 40 miles from a VA facility or who cannot receive care in a timely manner from a VA facility.

Honorary Mayor of the Month:

The Honorary Mayor for the month of July was Daniel Howard. Thank you, Daniel, for spending time with us to learn about the town and its operations and to participate with us. He participated in a storm recovery planning session, spent time with Lynn learning about clerk duties and shared some time with me in a question/answer session. If you would like to participate in this outreach program, please include your name in the drawing.

In Your Service, Patsy