

Monday, April 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Eatonton City Hall, 201 North Jefferson Avenue, Eatonton, Georgia 31024

Present: Mayor John Reid  
Mayor Pro-tem Chip Walker, Jr.  
Councilman Alvin Butts  
Councilwoman Teresa Doster  
Councilman James Gorley  
(Absent) Councilman Jim Hall, Jr.  
Councilman William Mangum, Jr.  
(Absent) Councilwoman Alma Stokes  
City Attorney Chris Huskins  
City Administrator, Dan Elmore

Mayor John Reid called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor John Reid gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Butts and seconded by Gorley to approve the minutes of the last meeting with any necessary corrections. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Doster abstained.

**Public Comments:**

The following person signed in to address Council:  
Candi Moreno-Lollipop Kids

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Butts to hear from all who signed in to address Council. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Ms. Candi Moreno, the owner of Lollipop Kids at 122 North Jefferson Avenue addressed Council concerning a letter she received from City Marshal Dianne Veal about placing the store merchandise outside in front of her business on the City sidewalk.

Councilwoman Doster advised Ms. Moreno, the Ordinance Committee will meet and review City Ordinance concerning displays on City sidewalks and give her a response.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

Mainstreet Director Katy Smith reported:

The DDA has met with Realtors and will make a final decision on the asking price and who to list the Aluminum Hill Property with on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April.

Merchants gave out over 250 green beads to customers the week of St. Patrick Day for use on March 17<sup>th</sup> for special discounts during their St. Patrick's Day Promotion.

Lollipop Kids Consignment store has opened.

Georgia Cities Week is April 16-23, 2011 and there are many activities planned to help celebrate Eatonton and draw attention to our great City!

Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> 9am – Downtown Spring Planting Day/Flamingos Arrive.  
Pink Flamingo Daze – April 18-23

Monday April 18<sup>th</sup>: Youth Day- The students in the local schools will participate in coloring and essay contests answering questions such as “What would you do if you were Mayor of Eatonton?” and write letters to the Mayor.

Tuesday April 19<sup>th</sup>: Pink Day- All pink items in the Downtown shops will be discounted.

Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup>: Edward Rice Cancer Memorial Day- Program from 4pm to 6pm on the Plaza Arts Center Lawn in Downtown Eatonton, including a proclamation from the Mayor and special vendors including Relay for Life teams, the Health Department and Hospital. 10% of the Downtown Merchants sales will be donated to the Cancer Society.

Thursday April 21<sup>st</sup>: Ladies Night Out- Festivities will take place at The Adele Theatre (inside Blackwell Furniture) from 5pm to 7pm. There will be live entertainment, complimentary appetizers, raffle drawings and a cash bar. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at The Eatonton Putnam Chamber of Commerce, The Farmers & Merchants Bank and The Peoples Bank.

Friday April 22<sup>nd</sup>: Restaurant Night in Eatonton- Come out and support your favorite local restaurants!

Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup>: Flamingo Farewell Party- Taking place on the Courthouse lawn from 11am to 1pm. The event will include the performances by PCHS Jazz Band, PCES Singing Eagles, tour the new Firehouse Facilities, fire trucks will be on display and specialty vendors (including face painting, bounce house, crafts, food and more). Bring out your blankets and picnics to have a day of Family Fun in Downtown!

Doc 103.9 is doing a special Flamingo photography promotion to offer free publicity to the City of Eatonton throughout the week.

Design/Tree Board: Spring planting Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> – over 700 plants were distributed throughout downtown. Mainstreet worked with an exchange student attending PCHS who was instrumental in obtaining volunteers, creating the work plan and overseeing the day for his community service project. The Board has ordered new trees and will begin planting soon. New banners for the City are being created and will be hung as soon as they arrive.

Other scheduled activities: The Farmers Market, Summer Movies Nights, and Patriotism Day.

Katy advised she attended the GICH retreat in Savannah February 21-23, Mainstreet Yearly Off-site Planning at Cuscowilla February 24-25, Georgia Academy of Economic Development March 10, Mainstreet Institute in Dahlonega March 15-18, and Georgia Initiative for Community Housing meeting April 12 at Old Waterworks.

### **Committees Reports:**

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to pay the bills if and when funds become available. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

City Administrator Dan Elmore talked to Council concerning the Utility Committee meeting with the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia concerning marketing and advertising the City of Eatonton Gas System. Gas Authority will create a sign for advertising and submit draft to Council for approval. Elmore advised R. A. W. Contractor will start welding Tuesday and pull pipes on Wednesday.

Councilman Gorley advised the Downtown looks good and sidewalks are being repaired and he wanted to thank the City employees for a job well done. Gorley inquired about planting Redbud Trees; Administrator Elmore advised him the Redbud Trees planting were a part of the Gateway Grant that the City did not receive.

Councilwoman Doster advised the Downtown Development Authority has talked to several realtors concerning Enterprise Aluminum Mill Houses and have received good information on broadening their prospects. The next DDA meeting will be Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.

Councilman Mangum requested a Solid Waste Committee meeting on Friday April 29<sup>th</sup> at noon.

City Administrated Elmore reported Carriage Way paving is complete. Construction on the new gas line to the lake has begun; and a copy of the January Budget Status Report is at each Councilperson's seat.

Council Member Chip Walker made the following motion:

That this Mayor and Council now enter into closed session as allowed by O.C.G.A. #50-14-4 and pursuant to advice by the City Attorney, for the purpose of discussing the following: **Potential Litigation.** And that this body, in open session, adopts a resolution authorizing and directing the mayor or presiding officer to execute an affidavit in compliance with O.C.G.A. #50-14-4 and that this body ratify the actions of the council taken in closed session and confirm the subject matter of the closed session were within exceptions permitted by the open meeting law, said resolution to be in an approval form signed by the Mayor and City Clerk. Seconded made by Councilman Gorley. Motion passed.

Those voting in favor of the motion for the closure: Council members Chip Walker, Alvin Butts, Teresa Doster, James Gorley, and William Mangum. Motion carried.

***Executive Session***

Motion was made by Councilman Walker and seconded by Councilman Butts to return to open session. Motion carried.

Councilman Walker moved that the following Resolution be accepted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Eatonton City Council as follows: At the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011, the Council entered into closed session for the purpose of discussing **Potential Litigation**. At the close of the discussions upon this subject, the Council did vote to re-enter into open session and herewith takes the following action in open session:

1. The actions of the Council and the discussions of the same regarding the matter set forth for closed session purposes are hereby ratified.
2. Each member of this body does hereby confirm that to the best of his or her knowledge, based upon the advice of the City Attorney, the said subject matter of the meeting and of the closed session portion was devoted to matters within the specific relevant exception(s) as set forth above.
3. The Mayor, or presiding officer, is hereby authorized and directed to execute an affidavit, with full support of the members of this Council, in order to comply with O.C.G.A. #50-14-4(b).
4. The affidavit shall be included and filed with the official minutes of the meeting and shall be in a form as required by the statute, which shall be substantially as follows:

Seconded was made by Councilwoman Doster. Motion carried.

Approved this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April 2011.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Gorley for Attorney Huskins take action discussed in closed session. Motion carried by a unanimous vote 5-0.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

---

John Reid, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk