

Monday, November 21, 2011 at 7:00 pm

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  
Councilman Jim Hall, Jr.  
Councilman William Mangum, Jr.  
Councilwoman Alma Stokes

City Attorney Chris Huskins  
City Administrator, Dan Elmore

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

Councilman Chip Walker gave the Invocation.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Stokes to adopt the minutes of the last meeting with any necessary corrections. Motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

**Public Comments:** None

**Old Business:**

Motion was made by Mangum and seconded by Stokes to decline the request made by Lake Country Twirlers to use the Water Works Center for a reduction in the fee amount from \$300.00 to \$100.00 per session. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**New Business:**

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Butts to reappoint Mr. William Reid to serve another term on the Housing Authority Board as the Resident Member. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Walker to approve the request made by Putnam County High School Skills USA for use of the Hut for a Community Service Project. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Walker to accept the application submitted by Ms Rachel Holt and appoint Ms Rachel Holt to serve on the Downtown Development Authority. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to accept the recommendation presented by the Historic Preservation Commission to approve the request made by Melvin and Sarah Rozar for a brick pathway between the sidewalk and street at 203 North Madison Avenue. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Katy Smith Director of Mainstreet reported:**

Economic Development/DDA

- Have a meeting scheduled November 22.
- Streetscape plans are coming together.
- The Downtown Merchant's Christmas Open House was a success.
- Fiddlestix gift store will be closing.

Design/Tree Board:

- Design Team is changing out the fall planting for the winter. New winter banners will go up next week as well as the Christmas lights and snowflakes
- Tree Board is working on a plan for future plantings that will not require approval from DOT and will allow for quicker planting
- New Christmas tree will be planted on the Courthouse Lawn tomorrow for use this year and those following. Stronger specimen better for lighting.

Promotions:

- The Briar Patch Arts Festival was a success! 86 vendors reported a day of good sales and turnout. Downtown Merchants also reported high sale volumes for the day as well.
- This year's Christmas Parade and Bazaar to be held Saturday, December 3 from 4-6 pm. The Theme of the parade will be Winter Wonderland/I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas. There will be the parade, free pictures with Santa, Santa will light the Christmas tree, live music and vendors will fill the courthouse lawn. As long as the weather isn't too warm, we will have snow and a snow play area for the children. And if it isn't too cold that night, we will also show the movie White Christmas at 6 pm.

Katy's Items:

- Working with the Farmers & Merchants Bank's Junior Board of Directors to create a new event in downtown in conjunction with Flamingo Daze.
- Tips On Design had their Ribbon Cutting on November 10th.
- Visited Woodstock, GA to tour their City and discuss planning and business options.
- Working with a few new business prospects for downtown.

- GICH meeting was today, the 21st. Sponsoring a Community Christmas Decorating Contest for the City. Both residential and commercial buildings are invited to participate. Judging will take place on December 17th.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Gorley to approve the proposed **Resolution** to adopt a policy statement regarding the **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990** and authorize the Mayor to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Doster to approve the proposed **Resolution** ratifying the actions of the Mayor in requesting the **Regional Commission Assistance** for a **Law Enforcement Grant** and authorize the Mayor to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Stokes to approve the proposed **Resolution** to approve the submission of a **Department of Natural Resources Trails Grant Application** and authorize the Mayor to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to pay bills if and when funds become available. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Councilman Butts reported the City will receive a savings of around \$100,000.00 by going from steel to plastic pipe on the gas line extension up Hwy. 44 to Lake Oconee.

Councilman Gorley reported Merchant's Way is on track. The CDBG contractor is putting down asphalt on Putnam Avenue and started working on Grand Avenue. The City must comply with the new retro-reflectivity signs law; this will be a large expense to the City. The new signs are mandated by 2018.

Mayor Reid stated by the City working with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission on the retro-reflectivity signs, this could save the City a lot of money.

Councilwoman Doster advised the DDA will meet tomorrow. The Zoning Committee will meet Wednesday, November 30th at 4 p.m. to discuss the Alcohol Sunday Sales Ordinance which passed on November 8th.

Councilwoman Stokes advised GICH met today. Stokes reminded Council to register for Mayor's Day and have a blessed Thanksgiving Holiday.

City Administrator Elmore advised the Hwy 44 gas project extension gas line now lays across the Dixie Pipeline. Gas is up to the Lodge on Hwy 44. The steel pipe line stops at the Lone Oak Baptist Church.

- The contractor working on Merchant's Way has poured 1/2 of the wall.
- The CDBG contractor paved Putnam Avenue first; next week will pave Grand Avenue.
- The contractor dug out and put in the head wall on the Winchester Drive project.

City Attorney Chris Huskins advised he would have information on the pending litigation at the next meeting, and an ordinance on Sunday Alcohol Sales.

Clerk Abrams reminded Council to turn in registration forms for Mayor's Day in Atlanta and State required Newly Elected Officials Institute which will be held February 17-18 or March 2-3.

There being no further business Council adjourned.

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John Reid, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk