

Monday, September 20, 2010 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
(Late) Councilwoman Teresa Doster
Councilman James Gorley
Councilman Jim Hall, Jr.
Councilman Derek Hudson
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.

Councilman Derek Hudson gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Butts and seconded by Hudson to approve the minutes of the last meeting with any necessary corrections. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Council members Jim Hall and Alma Stokes abstained and Doster was late.

Public Comments: No one signed in to address Council.

Old Business:

New Business:

Mr. Stu Aaron advised Council he owned 153 acreage of land near Morningside Drive which is located off Hwy 16 West within the City limits of Eatonton. He proposed with the help of Reeves Construction to operate a rock quarry. This project could possibly bring 30-40 new jobs to this county. About 20% of the rock from the quarry would be transported by truck and 80% by rail. There is a need to install 3-4 miles of rail to the site, also there is a grant that the City can apply for to get help with the installation of the rail line, and the deadline for the grant application is October 31, 2010. After much discussion Council agreed to meet and talk with Reeves and Stu Aaron concerning his quarry proposal.

Kathy Smith was not present to present the BHT Report.

Council discussed proposal to implement a fee to help defray the cost for removal of excessive trash and yard debris. Council decided to move forward with the proposal and bring a procedure to the next Council meeting.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to adopt proposed Resolution to make application for a Transportation Enhancement Grant (TE) and authorize Mayor Reid 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 Walker advised Ame Haley thanked and complemented the City crew on cutting and preparing the Pine Grove Cemetery for the cemetery tour scheduled for October.

Councilman Butts advised the City received a news release document from the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia to communicate safety and reliability of services to gas customers to publish in the paper, in light of the gas explosion accident in California.

Councilman Gorley advised the Boswell Road culvert repair project is complete, and the Street Department continues to clean out and repair other drainage problems around town. Today they are repairing a drain box on South Jefferson Avenue. Naturchem has sprayed the kudzu and it is beginning to die. Gorley praised the Street Department for doing an excellent job. Gorley also reported employee Tommie Little in the Building and Grounds Department is ill and will be out for an undetermined amount of time.

Councilwoman Doster advised the next Downtown Development Authority meeting will be held on September 28, 2010. Doster asked Council to submit names of candidates to serve on the Downtown Development Authority Board.

Councilwoman Stokes advised Mrs. Audrey Hightower who served as clerk for the City of Eatonton passed away on Saturday and the funeral will be on Tuesday morning at Wesley Chapel.

Stokes handed out information concerning the 2010 Mayors' Christmas Motorcade, she requested Council donate items from the list to be distributed to the Vets.

Stokes advised Council she received an invitation from the Middle Georgia Regional Commission to attend the 2010 Annual Meeting at the Pavilion at Claystone Park, Lake Tobesofkee, Macon, Georgia on October 14th at 6 pm.

Councilwoman Stokes advised the City of Eatonton will move from Better Hometown affiliation to the Main Street program and she presented a proposed Economic Development Budget. Katy Smith would be in charge of the Main Street Program. Mayor Reid advised the BHT program served a population of 3500 or less, whereas the Main Street program classification would better serve the City of Eatonton.

Motion was made by Stokes and seconded by Walker to accept the proposed Economic Development Budget. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Walker to add Intergovernmental Agreement between Georgia Department of Public Safety and the City of Eatonton for providing fingerprinting machine and maintenance and upkeep for the Eatonton Police Department to the Agenda. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Hall to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Georgia Department of Public Safety and the City of Eatonton to provide fingerprinting machine and maintenance upkeep for the Eatonton Police Department and authorize the Mayor to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

City Administrator Dan Elmore advised the City purchased a replacement prison van, and now the second prison van is down; it needs a transmission. The street crew has started the drainage project on South Jefferson Avenue. They located a blockage starting about 50 feet south of McDonalds that must be cleared and Elmore has contacted South East Pipe Survey to televise the interior of the pipe and take measurements.

City Attorney Chris Huskins read added language on Aluminum Mill Deeds stating that the property reverts back to the City if property is not developed according to guidelines set by Council, before Mayor Reid was allowed to sign deeding the property to the Downtown Development Authority.

Mayor Reid advised Council that the Senior Citizen building and property should revert back to the City; item is on Putnam County Commissioners' agenda for tomorrow night. Also appointment to the Water Authority Board will go before the judge.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Stokes to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

John Reid, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk