

City of Eatonton Council Meeting Tuesday, September 21, 2009 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
Councilman Jim Hall, Jr.
Councilman Derek Hudson
(Absent) Councilwoman Alma Stokes
Attorney Chris Huskins
City Administrator, Dan Elmore

Mayor John Reid called the meeting to order at 7 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. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

New Business:

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Walker to advertise Occupational License request made by Jeffrey B. Lott d/b/a Tacqueria del Loco to sell liquor by the drink, beer and wine at 117 North Jefferson Avenue. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Hudson to ratify the action of the Zoning Board to allow Shirlon Willis to rezone .84 acres on Forrest Street from AG-1 to C-1 for a Daycare Center. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to adopt **Text Changes to the City of Eatonton Code of Ordinances, Chapter 75- Zoning Division 8. Downtown Business District-Section 75 -303. District Requirements (b) Outside tables and Sec. 58-3 Obstructing Streets, Generally.** Motion carried by a unanimous Vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Butts to approve a **Resolution** requesting Middle Georgia Regional Commission to complete an application for an **ARRA Grant** to build out the fire department to house a full time fire fighting force in Eatonton, Georgia and to authorize Mayor Reid to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Hudson to approve a **Resolution** authorizing the **Retention of Certain Funds Collected** in satisfaction of accounts in arrears and for other purposes, and to authorize Mayor Reid to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Doster to approve a **Resolution** requesting Middle Georgia Regional Commission to complete an application for a **Gateway Grant**

for certain street beautification efforts and for other purposes, and to authorize Mayor Reid to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Doster to approve **Text Change to the City of Eatonton Code of Ordinance Chapter 2 Article III Officers and Employees Division I Generally Sec. 2-67 Fire Department.** Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to approve proposed Retirement for the Water and Sewer employees that transferred to the Eatonton Putnam Water Sewer Authority as presented by the City Administrator. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Doster to approve request made by Putnam Jasper Support Services and the Knights of Columbus to host the annual Tootsie Roll Drive, November 13-14, 2009 in downtown Eatonton. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Committees Reports:

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to pay bills if and when the funds become available. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Councilman Walker requested a Financial and Personnel Committee meeting on Thursday morning at City Hall.

Councilman Hudson advised he would be looking over a Recycling Proposal presented by Robbie Attaway on Thursday.

Councilman Hall advised the City would need six full time fire fighters to make the schedule work; the Fire Grant that the City received will pay for five fulltime firemen. Also Hall advised he is looking for funds to make renovation to the firehouse.

Administrator Elmore advised City crews worked on the old Gas Department building this week. Received 2 bids to replaced the roof and awaiting a third. The City should receive 2 new leaf machines tomorrow and the auger will be here on Friday. At each Council person seat is a copy of the suggested schedule for Strategic Planning dates. Elmore also reported City Hall roof is leaking in the upstairs area.

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: **Personnel.** 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 by Councilman Hall. Motion passed.

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

Executive Session

Motion was made by Councilman Walker and seconded by Councilman Gorley to return to open session. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

In Open Session Mayor Reid stated Council discussed rehiring Department Head personnel for the year.

The Department Heads are as follows:

City Administrator- Dan Elmore

City Clerk – Sarah Abrams

City Solicitor – Michael Gailey

Fire Chief – Steve Reid

Gas – Cleveland Key

Legal – Chris Huskins

Municipal Judge – Dave Ridgeway

Police - Kent Lawrence

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Hall to rehire Sarah Abrams as City Clerk for another year. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0. Gorley abstained.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to hire the rest of the Department Head personnel for another year. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

John Reid, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk