

City of Eatonton Council Meeting Monday, June 15, 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
Councilwoman Alma Stokes
Attorney Chris Huskins
City Administrator, Dan Elmore

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

Rev. Timothy Thompkins gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Butts and seconded by Stokes to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Gorley to approve the consent agenda to include: Shelagh Fagan - Better Hometown Financial Situation, Chief Lent Lawrence – Church Revival Permit, Rev. Timothy Thompkins – Concerned Citizen, Georgia Smith - Neighborhood, Katy Smith – Better Hometown Report, Sylvester C. Pennamon – Underpinning Ordinance. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Katy Smith reported to Council the following activities of Better Hometown

- Participated in the Patriotism Festival, May 21st. and Dairy Festival June 6
- Held a Briar Patch Raffle raised over \$300 for Better Hometown Project
- Applied for a \$10,000.00 grant to furnish the media room at the future “Jail Museum”
- Lamppost Cauldrons has been lined and planted, they are currently growing at Lockerly Arboretum and will be installed when Jim Garner (Design Chair) and Administrator Elmore can get together and make arrangements
- Briar Patch Arts Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 31, 2009 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.
- Katy Smith asked for the continuing support of Mayor and Council

Ms Shelagh Fagan talked to Council about Better Hometown Budget shortfall. Fagan requested more funds be allocated in the budget for Better Hometown. Mayor Reid advised Ms Fagan that Council would give consideration to her proposal.

Rev. Timothy Thompkins talked to Council concerning underpinning trailer ordinance, (2) if the City has applied for Federal Grants, because the side walks along Jefferson

Avenue near McDonald Restaurant needed repairing and a grant would help with the repairs, and (3) marking fireplugs for easy visibility. Thompkins advised that the fire hydrants on East Street needed marking and the grass cut from around them.

Mayor Reid advised Mr. Thompkins that the Underpinning Ordinance was put in place to help make the town look nice, because when old underpinning became loose or fell down mobile home owners did not always repair or replace the underpinning. Mayor Reid urged Thompkins to notify the City Administrator about any fire hydrants that the Fire Department missed when they were marking them.

Georgia Smith requested the Mayor and Council do something about people living in abandoned houses without utilities and a drug problem in her neighborhood. She requested that the property owners cut grass and clean up their property or the City use condemnation process and tear them down.

Sylvester Pennamon asked Council about the Underpinning Ordinance.

Mayor Reid stated that Council is trying to make the town more progressive and is currently working on more affordable housing. We have also applied for Federal Grants and we will be talking about underpinning tonight.

Chief Lawrence discussed loud music complaint calls received at EPD from residents concerning Eatonton Pentecostal Holiness Church Revival Service held at Hillside Apartments. Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Hudson to add to the agenda Eatonton Pentecostal Holiness Church permit to hold Revival Services in the Eatonton Housing Authority property. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Stokes to allow the Eatonton Pentecostal Holiness Church to hold one more service without using sound equipment in accordance with the City's ordinance. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Lisa Jackson from Planning and Engineering addressed Council concerning Text amendment to Chapter 75-Section 459 (b) for variance requirement for vinyl/other underpinning and associated fee.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Doster to adopt City Ordinance Chapter 75-sec. 459 (b) that was sent to Planning and Zoning. Motion carried by a vote of 5-2, Stokes abstained, and Gorley opposed.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Butts to move the next Council meeting to Tuesday, July 14th. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Councilman Walker requested a meeting with Finance and Personnel Committee members on Thursday June 25th at noon.

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 advised that he would be attending the GMA Convention in Savannah, Georgia this weekend.

Gorley requested that paint marking in street near Ms. Lowe's home be painted over on East Street.

Administrator Elmore advised that the culvert at Imperial Lakeview Drive is in need of repair, the water in the pond needs to be drained to make the repairs; the owner of this property is in bankruptcy. The City's portion of the sidewalk on SR 16 has been completed, and he met with the contractor this morning; who reports that he will be finished with his part on SR 16 improvements by the end of the month.

Elmore reported he has finished the interviews for the Street Department Supervisor.

Elmore reported the 36" drainpipe at Uncle Remus Museum was inspected by South East Pipe Survey. Their report showed that the pipe has deteriorated too much to be lined and the pipe will have to be replaced. Meanwhile the sinkhole is deepening and is threatening the integrity of South Madison Avenue. Elmore has requested a bid from Piedmont Water on replacing the drainpipe.

Elmore advised there was an incident with the prison crews last week. The old crews have been replaced with two new crews this week.

Attorney Huskins reported that all right-of-ways on the Willie Bailey Street Project have been filed.

Motion was made by Stokes and seconded by Doster to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

John Reid, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk