1. 7:00 PM Call to Order

2. Invocation: Councilman Alvin Butts

3. Approval of Minutes: Attachment #1

4. Public Comments:
   Reading of Rules for Public Comments:

5. Old Business:
   A.

6. New Business:
   A. Alcohol License by Babu Singh d/b/a Shell Express & Eastside Package Store, 204 East Sumter Street Eatonton, GA Attachment #2
   B. Proposed Resolution to Fix Qualifying Fees for the 2015 Municipal Election Attachment #3
   C. Proposed Resolution to Reaffirm the Tenets of GMA’s City of Ethics Program Attachment #4
   D. Proposed Resolution to Appoint a Member to the Historic Preservation Commission Attachment #5
E. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Changing the Date of the January 19, 2015 Council Meeting (MLK, Jr. Day)

7. Committees Report:
   - Finance and Personnel – Council Member Harvey C. Walker, Jr.
   - Public Utilities – Council Member Alvin Butts
   - Street, Building and Grounds – Council Member William C. Mangum
   - Zoning and Ordinances - Council Member Teresa Doster
   - Environmental – Council Member Charles R. Haley
   - Community Development – Council Member Alma Stokes
   - Public Safety – Council Member James A. Gorley
   - City Administrator – Gary Sanders
   - City Attorney – Christopher D. Huskins
   - City Clerk – Sarah Abrams

8. Executive Session:

9. Motion to Adjourn:
City of Eatonton Council Meeting
Monday, December 15, 2014 at 7:00 pm
Eatonton City Hall, 201 North Jefferson Avenue, Eatonton, Georgia 31024

Elected Officials Present:
  Mayor John Reid
  Mayor Pro-Tem Harvey (Chip) Walker, Jr.
  Councilman Alvin Butts
  Councilwoman Teresa Doster
  Councilman William Mangum, Jr.
  Councilwoman Alma Stokes

Elected Official Absent:
  Councilman James A. Gorley
  Councilman Charles Haley

Staff Members Present:
  City Administrator, Gary Sanders
  City Attorney Christopher Huskins
  City Clerk Sarah Abrams
  Interim Fire Chief Eugene Hubert
  Police Chief William Kent Lawrence

Mayor John Reid called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Councilwoman Alma Stokes asked for a Moment of Silence in the place of invocation.

Motion was made by Stokes and seconded by Butts to adopt the minutes from December 2, 2014 Council meeting with any necessary corrections and ask Councilwoman Doster and Councilman Walker who were absent from the meeting to vote. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0 with Doster and Walker voting for approval of the minutes.

Interim Fire Chief Eugene Hubert presented the new firefighter’s uniform. Hubert advised firefighters will go to this uniform by the end of the year. Hubert introduced new full time firefighter Brandon Neff; he will start January 3, 2015. Hubert also advised Fireman Santa toy drive received over 160 applications for toys. The Department spent $1,500.00 on toys and the toys will be given away on Wednesday morning at 9:00 A.M. Hubert also reported Fireman Jamie Williams received Fireman of the Year award.

Mayor Reid extended words of welcome to Fireman Neff.

Public Comments: None

Mrs. Carrie Vanderver Director/Project Manager presented the Eatonton Main Street Report.
Attended Main Street 101 in Carrollton on Dec 9.

Completed all DCA reporting due over maternity leave. Eatonton in good standing and up-to-date on all reporting.

Have registered to attend the 2015 Spring Georgia Academy for Economic Development.

Yarborough's Florist Shop officially closing doors on Dec 20. Open 9-5 daily until closing. Everything in store for sale! Asking $80,000 for building (includes walk in cooler). Owner selling (not listing with real estate agent). She has agreed to give Main Street/DDA a spare key so that we may show the space to potential businesses.

Rumor of Heavens' Gate closing is NOT TRUE. Ms. Elaine was aware of the rumor, but has confirmed it to be false.

Christmas in the Briar Patch craft festival canceled due to weather. Rain held out for parade, which was a success.

Working full work-week, but new office hours are Tuesday and Wednesday 9a-1p and Thursday 9a-5p. Working from home Monday (full day), Friday (full day), and Tuesday and Wednesday (afternoons). Hours are posted on office door and website.

Hoping to hold a "town hall" meeting in January to raise awareness about Main Street and to facilitate community discussion about what Eatonton would like to see in Downtown. More details to come.

Shelagh Fagan has resigned as Chair of the Main Street Board. Lisa Jackson has been voted to be new chair.

Mayor Reid thanked Mrs. Shelagh Fagan for her service to the Community. Mrs. Fagan advised she would continue to serve on the DDA.

Old Business:
Revolving Loan Brown Dog Restaurants
Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to add Revolving Loan to Adam Smith / Brown Dog Restaurants LLC to the Agenda. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.
City Attorney Huskins discussed Revolving Loan to Adam Smith / Brown Dog Restaurants LLC and acquiring personal property as collateral for the loan as a substitute for a second interest on his home. Huskins advised that it is preferable to be the first lien holder on the collateral provided to secure the loan and suggested Council approve Smith’s personal property.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Walker to approve Attorney Huskins making modification to the terms of the Revolving Loan for Adam Smith / Brown Dog Restaurants LLC and replace the previously approved collateral to secure the loan with his personal property. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

New Business
Discussion and possible action regarding the abandonment of City property on Baynes Street. Attachment #2
Council discussed the abandonment of City property on Baynes Street. City Attorney Huskins advised Council that first the property owners on Baynes Street must be notified, and have an appraisal done. This will require investigation work.

Motion was made by Mangum and seconded by Doster to allow the City Attorney to proceed with the process of abandoning City property on Baynes Street. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Councilman Walker advised some people are under a delusion that he took a job in Florida but he has been in training for 4 weeks. Walker wished all a Merry Christmas.

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

Councilman Butts and Mangum wished all a Merry Christmas.

Councilwoman Doster advised a new sidewalk will be installed under the EEE Grant and signs.

Councilwoman Stokes expressed words of appreciation for the years of service Mrs. Barbara Trubey performed as an employee for the City of Eatonton. Mrs. Trubey will be retiring at the end of the year and will be missed. Stokes wished Mrs. Glenda Higgins a speedy recovery from her medical illness; she is the sister of City Marshal Dianne Veal.

City Administrator Gary Sanders reported:
Five candidates qualified for the Special Election to fill the vacancy that will be created by Representative Mickey Channell’s resignation. The County will conduct a Special Election on January 6, 2015. Advance Voting began today.
Work on the Willie Bailey Street drainage project began on Monday, December 8. This work will require road closures in the area. The pipe that crosses underneath Willie Bailey Street has been replaced. The contractor will spend this week working along Willie Bailey Street to North Maple Avenue. Crossing under North Maple Avenue will be done after the New Year's holiday.

The annual SPLOST report is at your seat. It will run in this week's Eatonton Messenger.

A Public Information Open House was held on Tuesday, December 9, to present GDOT's proposed Highway 44 widening project in Greene and Putnam Counties. Public comments will be accepted via the DOT website or by mail through Tuesday, December 23, 2014.

The new website went live last Thursday evening, December 11. A lot of work went into it and it's something we can all be proud of. There will continue to be some tweaking over the next few weeks.

This Wednesday, December 17, at 9:00 AM the Eatonton Fire Department will begin distributing the toys collected during the Fireman Santa toy drive.

City Attorney Huskins wished all a Merry Christmas and thanked the Council for his employment with the City of Eatonton.

Councilwoman Stokes reminded Council the Christmas Lights Decoration Contest will take place tonight. City Administrator Sanders advised Fireman Hubert along with himself would serve as the judges for the contest. A total of 6 entries were received.

Mayor Reid wished all a Merry Christmas and advised looking forward to working with Council next year.

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
I (We) do hereby certify that the information for my business or profession as reported herein is true and correct, and that I am familiar with the city ordinance providing for penalties and revocation of my (our) certificate for making false or fraudulent statements in this application. I (We) have read and understand Section 18.39 of the Occupational Tax Ordinance as shown on reverse side.

(Signed) Babu Singh
(Signature of Applicant)  
Date: 10/27/2014
RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION by the Board of Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia to fix qualifying fees for the 2015 municipal election and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. §21-2-131 (a) (1) requires that the governing authority of any municipality, not later than February 1 of any year in which an election is to be held, shall fix and publish a qualifying fee for each municipal office to be filled in the upcoming election; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. §21-2-131 (a) (1) requires that such fee shall be 3 percent of the total gross salary of the office paid in the preceding calendar year including all supplements authorized by law; and

WHEREAS, the offices of Mayor and three council seats (at-large, Wards 1 & 4, and Wards 2 & 3) shall be filled in the 2015 municipal election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia, that:

The qualifying fees for offices to be filled in the 2015 municipal election are hereby established as follows:

Mayor........................$360.00
Council Member .....$198.00

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia on this 6th day of January, 2015.

John Reid, Mayor
City of Eatonton, Georgia

ATTEST:

Clerk, City of Eatonton, Georgia
§ 21-2-131. Fixing and publishing of qualification fees; manner of payment; distribution of fees paid

(a) Qualification fees for party and public offices shall be fixed and published as follows:

   (1)(A) The governing authority of any county or municipality, not later than February 1 of any year in which a general primary, nonpartisan election, or general election is to be held, and at least 35 days prior to the special primary or election in the case of a special primary or special election, shall fix and publish a qualifying fee for each county or municipal office to be filled in the upcoming primary or election. Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, such fee shall be 3 percent of the total gross salary of the office paid in the preceding calendar year including all supplements authorized by law if a salaried office.

   (B) For the offices of clerk of the superior court, judge of the probate court, sheriff, tax commissioner, and magistrate, the qualifying fee shall be 3 percent of the minimum salary specified in subsection (a) of Code Section 15-6-88, paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Code Section 15-9-63, subsection (a) of Code Section 15-10-23, paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Code Section 15-16-20, and paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 48-5-183, exclusive of supplements, cost-of-living increases, and longevity increases. For the office of members of the county governing authority, the qualifying fee shall be 3 percent of the base salary established by local Act of the General Assembly or by Code Section 36-5-25 as adjusted pursuant to Code Section 36-5-24, if applicable, exclusive of compensation supplements for training provided for in Code Section 36-5-27 and cost-of-living adjustments pursuant to Code Section 36-5-28. If not a salaried office, a reasonable fee shall be set by the governing authority of such county or municipality, such fee not to exceed 3 percent of the income derived from such county office by the person holding the office for the preceding year or more than $35.00 for a municipal office;
RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION to reaffirm the tenets of the Georgia Municipal Association’s Certified City of Ethics program and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Georgia Municipal Association has established a Certified City of Ethics program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eatonton subscribes to and is certified by the Georgia Municipal Association as a City of Ethics; and

WHEREAS, part of the certification process is the periodic reaffirmation of the tenets of the Certified City of Ethics program and the providing of notification of any changes to the original resolution to the Georgia Municipal Association; and

WHEREAS, some different council members now sit on the Eatonton Board of Council from the time the original City of Ethics resolution was adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia that as a group and as individuals, the Mayor and the City Council subscribe to the following ethics principles and pledge to conduct its affairs accordingly:

Serve Others, Not Ourselves;
Use Resources With Efficiency And Economy;
Treat All People Fairly;
Use the Power of Our Position For The Well Being Of Our Constituents;
Create An Environment of Honesty, Openness and Integrity.

Resolved this 6th day of January, 2015.

John Reid, Mayor

William Mangum

Alma Stokes

Charles Haley

Harvey Walker, Jr.

James Gorley

Teresa Doster

Alvin Butts

ATTEST: Sarah Abrams
Clerk, City of Eatonton, Georgia
December 10, 2014

Mr. John Reid
Mayor
City of Eatonton
PO Box 3820
Eatonton, GA 31024-3820

RE: GMA Certified City of Ethics Program

Dear Mayor:

The City of Eatonton is scheduled to recertify in 2015 as a Georgia Certified City of Ethics. To remain certified, the city must submit to GMA for review and approval a copy of any changes to the city’s ethics ordinance since initial certification and a current resolution signed by a majority of the governing body re-adopting the five ethics principles. You have two opportunities to recertify. To recertify and be recognized at Mayors’ Day in January, these materials must be received by GMA no later than Monday January 5, 2015. To recertify and be recognized at the GMA Annual Convention in June, these materials must be received by April 1, 2015. Please forward the materials to GMA Legal Assistant, Gina Shirley.

Please visit GMA’s website, www.gmanet.com, to see the program requirements and sample ordinance and view the GMA publication “Ethics in Government: Charting the Right Course.” If you have any additional questions about the program, please feel free to give Gina a call.

We appreciate your participation in this important program.

Sincerely,

Lamar Norton
Executive Director

C: Sarah Abrams, City Clerk
RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION by the Board of Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia to appoint a member to the Eatonton Historic Preservation Commission and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, the City of Eatonton seeks to foster historic preservation in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eatonton activated its Historic Preservation Commission in 2009, appointing members to advise the City on Historic Preservation matters within the designated Historic Preservation District; and

WHEREAS, one of the members wishes to resign from the Historic Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eatonton advertised and received an application from a prospective member that meets the qualifications to serve on the Historic Preservation Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia, that:

THE CITY OF EATONTON DOES HEREBY APPOINT LARRY FOLK TO THE EATONTON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION FOR A FULL THREE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2017.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia on this 6th day of January, 2015.

__________________________________
John Reid, Mayor
City of Eatonton, Georgia

ATTEST:

______________________________
Clerk, City of Eatonton, Georgia
City Administrator
Mr. Avery Sanders
P.O. Box 3820
Easton, MD 21602

Re: HPC opening

Dear Sir,

I am writing in response to your request for individuals interested in serving on the Historic Preservation Office in Easton. My wife and I reside at 421 N. Madison Ave. in Easton, an historic property within the historic district.

Since 1980, I have been currently restoring the Cooper-Jenkins house and gardens, and I have been advocates of historic preservation for many years. We are members of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation (S.C.) and the local Historic Society.

We have restored 3 previous historic properties, a Federal Style home and Sears Catalog house on Omaha Ave. and most recently, a Brownstone in Washington D.C.
I am familiar with guidelines for historic neighborhoods and am willing to support these efforts in Eatonton.

Please consider my application for the HPC in Eatonton.

Sincerely,

Larry Fike
431 N. Madison Ave
Eatonton, GA 31024