Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr. called the September 5, 2017 Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Invocation was given by Councilman William C. Mangum, Jr.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Haley to approve the minutes from the work session held on August 23, 2017. Motion carried by a vote 5-0. Councilman Alvin Butts and Councilwoman Alma Stokes abstained because they did not attend the work session.
Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Haley to approve the minutes from the Council meeting held on August 21, 2017. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0. Councilman Alvin Butts and Councilwoman Alma Stokes abstained because they were not present at the last meeting.

Public Comments: None

Reading of the Rules for Public Comments: Omitted

Old Business:

Proposed Resolution to Amend Chapter 18 (Businesses) of the Code of Ordinances Attachment #5A

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Haley to approve the proposed Resolution Amending Chapter 18: Businesses of the Code of Ordinances by adding Sec. 18-2 (Garage Sales, Yard Sales, and Rummage Sales) to the Code of Ordinance and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

New Business:

Main Street Director, Andrew Simpson

Main Street Report for City Council Meeting Tuesday September 5 2017 - August Recap

Organization

Eatonton Main Street is still looking for applicants to the board. A working board is required by the Department of Community Affairs, as part of the annual assessment to maintain Main Street designation.

I attended the Georgia Downtown Association Conference in Columbus. Many of the speakers emphasized the importance of spending power of Baby Boomers and Millennials. Mobile Friendly Websites and social media platforms were also discussed. One of the main themes was to think different and not copy what every other city is doing, be original. Value the assets that you have and use them to gain economic vitality and visitors.

Promotion

The Briar Patch Arts Festival on September 30, is expanding this year to include E. Sumter St and E. Marion St. The Shared Histories program was well attended by approximately 30 people at the Georgia Writers Museum. The Jake Bartley Band concert sponsored by The Peoples Bank/The Peoples Agency drew around 200 people. This was an excellent crowd number as there were concerts at The Plaza Arts Center and at Memory Lane the same time.
Design
Mark Smith (Old World Finance Location) has submitted a facade grant application for his W. Marion St. property.
Sara and Buddy Nolan (Maggie Lane) have submitted a facade grant application for their Jefferson Ave. property.
Stewart Rodeheaver (Vizitech USA) has submitted a facade grant application for his E. Sumter St. property.
Shannon Minchey (Southern Unique) has submitted a facade grant application for their W. Marion St. location.

Economic Vitality
Downtown Eatonton continues to attract interest in bringing merchants into the Downtown. However, buildings like Moore LP Gas (107 N. Jefferson Avenue), China Chef (104 N. Jefferson Avenue) Communicom/Charter Building (104 E. Marion St) and 112 W. Marion Street prevent a vibrant Downtown from putting down roots and taking hold and are off-putting for new businesses due to the buildings not being compliant with building codes/planning and zoning regulations. (Sec. 14-31. Adoption by Reference. Georgia Uniform Codes Act, O.C.G.A. § 8-2-25, 14-68. - Complaint in rem in municipal court; procedure; lien; appeal and Sec. 75-343 District Requirements {e})

112 W. Marion Street is being used as a storage facility by the building owner which is incompatible with the zoning code. Sec. 75-342. - Uses allowed.

The building housing Cucos Restaurant is still undergoing renovations.

The Pex Theater which holds The Country Kitchen had its marquee badly damaged by heavy rain. The restaurant remains open with people entering from the back entrance. The marquee has still not been repaired.

The Ribbon Cutting for Sumter Street Station Apartments is postponed until 100% occupation of the apartments.

Woodmen Life had a ribbon cutting and then announced they would be moving to W. Marion St. in September.

Summary
Briar Patch Festival vendor applications are now closed. Vendor interest has increased since 2016.

The sponsorship drive by Eatonton Main Street has not gone well. Businesses would prefer to sponsor events, rather than have an annual subscription. This may cause cash flow issues for certain events in the future, as the event part of the promotions budget is based purely on donations.

Discussion and Possible Action on Supplemental Agreement #1 with the Georgia Department of Transportation Attachment #6B

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Gorley to approve the Supplemental Agreement #1 with the Georgia Department of Transportation Contract no PI#0011702, Putnam County, SR 24 from SR 16 to N of East Harris Street/Willie Bailey Street and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Discussion and Possible Action on Second Amendment to the Subscribed Regulatory Compliance Service Program Agreement Attachment #6C
Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Mangum to approve the second amendment to the Subscribed Regulatory Compliance Service Program and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Proposed Resolution to Appoint an Election Superintendent and an Absentee Ballot Clerk for the November 7, 2017 Municipal Election Attachment #6D**

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Walker to approve the proposed Resolution appointing Gary Sanders, Election Superintendent and Lisa Yates, Absentee Ballot Clerk for the November 7, 2017 Municipal General Election and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0. Councilman James Gorley abstained from voting.

**Proposed Resolution to Ratify the Action of the Mayor in Signing a Warranty Deed Attachment #6E**

City Administrator Sanders advised when the City transferred the water and sewer assets to the Eatonton-Putnam Water and Sewer Authority, this property was transferred, but the deed was not done.

Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Mangum to approve the Resolution Ratifying the action of Mayor Rocker in signing a Warranty Deed and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign the Resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Proposed Resolution to Ratify a Contract Change Order for the Transportation Enhancement Project Attachment#6F**

Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Gorley to approve the Resolution to Ratify a contract change order for the Transportation Enhancement Project and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Proposed Resolution to Adopt a Net Millage Rate for 2017 Attachment #6G**

City Administrator Sanders advised the City has given proper notice of the proposed millage rate with the publication of the 5-year history of levy notice in the paper and on the City’s website. There is no property tax increase.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Mangum to approved the proposed Millage Rate of 9.494 for 2017 on property subject to Ad Valorem Taxation by the City and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign forms and other such supporting material as may be required to accomplish the intended purpose of this Resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.
Alcohol License for Consumption of Liquor by the Drink, Beer, and Wine on the Premises – Ben and Patricia Payne d/b/a The Frisk Pub at 117 North Jefferson Avenue, Eatonton, GA Attachment #6H

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Haley to approve Alcohol License for consumption of Liquor, by the drink, Beer, and Wine on the premises, requested by Ben and Patricia Payne d/b/a The Frisk Pub at 117 North Jefferson Avenue, Eatonton, GA. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to add appointment of department heads to the agenda. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Haley to re-appoint all department heads with the exception of the City Clerk. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Department Heads Re-appointed:

Buildings and Grounds Supervisor- Bennie Mosley  
Fire Chief-Eugene Hubert  
Gas Superintendent-Charlie Bales  
Street Supervisor -Joseph Hawkins  
Police Chief-William Kent Lawrence  
Main Street director-Andrew Simpson  
Senior Citizen Director- La’Toshia Maddox

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to re-appoint Sarah Abrams as City Clerk. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0. Councilman James A. Gorley abstained.

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

Councilman Butts discussed Irma and if the City was prepared for the storm. City Administrator Gary Sanders advised the City is good on supplies and in good shape.

Councilman Butts expressed words of appreciation for the out pouring of sympathy during the loss of his brother.

Councilman Butts discussed garbage service at the Sumter Street Station Apartments. Butts requested if something could be done because of the overflow of garbage around the dumpster. City Administrators Sanders advised he would reach out to the Sumter Street Station management and inquire into them providing an additional dumpster for their customer.

Councilman Gorley congratulated the Police Department on receiving 100% on their GCI audit.
City Administrator Gary Sanders advised the contractor for the City’s LMIG resurfacing project will start deep patching on Godfrey Road later this week or early next week to finish up this year’s project list. Mid-State Striping will be here in the next week or two to stripe Dickey Drive and Madelyn Avenue.

City Administrator Sanders reminded Council to please remember the called meeting to consider the budget this Thursday, September 7 at 6:00PM at the Hut.

City Administrator Sanders advised the Regional Commission Council will meet Thursday, September 14 at 6:00 PM.

Mayor Rocker asked if there was any other business to be conducted before we adjourn. There being none, motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0. Meeting adjourned 7:30 PM.

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Walter C. Rocker, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk
Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Invocation was given by Councilman William C. Mangum, Jr.

**Old Business:**

**Proposed Resolution to Adopt a Balanced Budget for the City Fiscal Year 2018**

*Attachment #2*

**Public Comments:** None
Reading of Rules for Public Comments – Omitted

City Administrator Gary Sanders read the FY 2018 Proposed Budget for the City of Eatonton.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley approve the Proposed Resolution to Adopt a Balanced Budget for the City Fiscal Year 2018 and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

*Adopted FY 2018 Budget for City of Eatonton $6,082,103*

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.
Meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM

Walter C. Rocker, Jr, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk