City of Eatonton  
Council Meeting Agenda  
April 4, 2017  
Putnam County Commissioners’ Meeting Room, #203  
117 Putnam Drive  
Eatonton, Georgia 31024  
(706) 485-3311

6:45 PM Public Hearing - Continued Use of Certain Unmarked City Vehicles

1. 7:00 PM Call to Order

2. Invocation: Mayor Pro Tem Harvey (Chip) Walker, Jr.

3. Approval of Minutes: Attachment #1

4. Public Comments:
   Reading of Rules for Public Comments

5. Old Business:
   A. 

6. New Business:
   A. Main Street Report Attachment #6A
   B. Proposed Resolution to Appoint a Member to the Eatonton Main Street Board of Directors Attachment #6B
   C. Discussion and Possible Action on Regional TSPLOST Projects Attachment #6C

7. Zoning:

8. Committee Reports:
• Finance and Personnel – Council Member Harvey C. Walker, Jr.
• Public Utilities – Council Member Alvin Butts
• Streets, Buildings 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

9. Executive Session:

10. Motion to Adjourn:
City of Eatonton Council Meeting
Monday, March 20, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Putnam County Commissioners’ Meeting Room #203
117 Putnam Drive
Eatonton, Georgia 31024

Elected Officials Present:
Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr.
Mayor Pro-Tem Harvey (Chip) Walker, Jr.
Councilman Alvin Butts
Councilwoman Teresa Doster
Councilman James A. Gorley
Councilman Charles R. Haley
Councilman William Mangum, Jr.
Councilwoman Alma Stokes

Elected Officials Absent:

Staff Members Present:
City Administrator, Gary Sanders
City Attorney, Christopher Huskins
City Clerk, Sarah Abrams
Police Chief William K. Lawrence

Mayor Walter Rocker called the March 20, 2017 Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Invocation was given by Councilman Charles R. Haley.

Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Mangum to approve the minutes from March 7, 2017 Council meeting. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Councilwoman Teresa Doster and Mayor Pro-Tem Harvey Chip Walker abstained from voting because of not attending the last meeting.

Public Comments

Special Recognition of Putnam County High School Boys and Girls Basketball Teams
Omitted
Old Business:

Discussion and Possible Action on the REGLG Loan to Vizitech USA
Mr. Derek Hudson spoke on behalf of REGLG Loan. Mr. Hudson asked Council to consider preparing a plan to return some of the money Vizitech invested on the application process for the loan. Vizitech is out-of-pocket between $50,000 - $60,000. Councilman Walker advised the Finance Committee met many times to discuss the REGLG Loan request and it is the desire of the committee to see businesses locate here in Eatonton and be successful. Much consideration was also given to putting the taxpayers at risk. Councilman Walker asked if anyone wanted to ask questions or make comments in reference to the REGLG Loan. There being no questions or comments, motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley that based upon the advice of counsel concerning changes in the sufficiency of collateral and increases in long-term debt since Council’s resolution of October 20, 2014 the City continue to assist Vizitech in finding an alternate intermediary while withdrawing as a potential candidate for the same. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

New Business:

Proclamation Recognizing April 2017 as Child Abuse Prevention Month
Attachment #6A
Motion was made by Doster and seconded Gorley to approve the Proclamation recognizing April 2017 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and urge residents to commit to ending the cycle of child abuse and neglect by working together to support the children of the City of Eatonton, Georgia. Also, authorize Mayor Rocker and Council members to sign the Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of Council by a vote of 7-0.

Discussion and Possible Action on Wreaths Across America Program
Attachment #6B
Motion was made by Walker and seconded Haley to hear from Mr. David Ballengee on the matter. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Mr. David Ballengee from the Sons of the Confederate Veterans spoke on behalf of the Wreaths Across America program. Mr. Ballengee advised this program places sponsored wreaths on veterans’ graves and he would like assistance in getting a list of and in locating all veterans’ graves in the Pine Grove and East Eatonton Cemeteries. On December 16, 2017 a live wreath will be placed on the graves. This project is to honor Veterans and help keep their memory alive. As of today, 180 graves have been located in Pine Grove and 80 in East Eatonton Cemetery. Councilwoman Stokes recommended that Mr. Ballengee contact Willie Frank Thompkins with POST 583. On Veterans’ Day, Thompkins puts flags on the veterans’ graves in East Eatonton Cemetery. He should be able to provide a list of veterans there.
Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Butts to approve the Wreaths Across America Program. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Engage a Structural Engineer to Inspect the Plaza Arts Center Attachment #6C**

City Administrator Sanders advised $80,000 was put in SPLOST #8 for the Plaza Arts Center to help with exterior repairs, including the roof, windows, and bricks and that Mayor Rocker suggested that the City engage a structural engineer to perform a condition assessment of the Plaza Arts Center to prioritize those most urgent issues needing attention.

Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Mangum to approve the proposed Resolution authorizing the Mayor to engage a structural engineer to inspect the Plaza Arts Center in the work of performing a condition assessment of the Plaza Arts Center for a total amount not to exceed $2,500.00 furthermore, the Mayor is authorized to sign contracts and other supporting and related documents as necessary to accomplish the goal of this resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Proposed Resolution to Amend Chapter 42 (Historical Preservation) of the Code of Ordinances Attachment #6D**

Councilwoman Doster advised the Ordinance Committee met and discussed the proposed changes to Chapter 42 (Historical Preservation) of the Code of Ordinances. The changes were made to update and streamline the process. City Attorney Huskins read and discussed all proposed changes to the chapter.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Butts to approve the Resolution amending Chapter 42 (Historical Preservation) of the Code of Ordinances as presented tonight. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0

**Historic Preservation – Request by Tom and Mary Barrett for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 302 North Washington Avenue Attachment #6E**

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Walker to accept the recommendations from the Historic Preservation Commission in approving a Certificate of Appropriateness requested by Tom and Mary Barrett at 302 North Washington Avenue. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Zoning: None**

**Committee Reports:**

Councilman Walker expressed words of appreciation to committee members on the hard work and efforts they put in on the REGLG Loan.

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.
Councilwoman Teresa Doster thanked committee members for work on updating the Historical Preservation Code of Ordinance.

Councilwoman Doster asked about work on Highway 44. City Administrator Sanders advised the Gas Department is installing a new gas service to Georgia Butts’ at their new location. The tap required a bore under the road.

Councilwoman Alma Stokes advised the Women in History Month program will take place on March 31, 2017 at Putnam County Commissioners’ Administration Building at 12 noon. Councilwoman Stokes talked about tire issue at the tire store next to City Hall. Councilman Haley asked if the City could withhold issuing their business license. Also if the Health Department could get involved with getting them to cover up the tires or clean up due to the Zika virus carried by mosquitos’ breeding in standing water.

City Administrator Sanders advised that EPD checked the store’s inventory and have checked their site. The City of Eatonton has a Scrap Tire Ordinance in place but the ordinance does not address used tires inventory. The business next door is selling tires as used tires. One of the owners was arrested for dumping tires and City Marshal Veal is working on the case with EPD.

City Attorney Huskins advised if a business is in violation of the City’s’ code, a license can be denied. Administrator Sanders advised he would look up when the business was permitted.

City Administrator Gary Sanders reported Council is invited to attend an Unmanned Systems Space Launch at the Putnam County High School on Thursday, March 23. The event begins at 9:00 AM with a demonstration by NASA.

Administrator Sanders reported meeting with the contractor for the resurfacing projects on Lower Harmony Road and Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive on March 13. We expect work to begin as early as next week or the first of April. Motorists may experience delays in those work zones.

Administrator Sanders advised projects for consideration by the Executive Committee of the T-SPLOST Round are due by April 14. The Streets, Buildings, and Grounds Committee will meet again to consider the project list prior to the April 4 Council meeting.

Administrator Sanders advised we will hold a public hearing pertaining to exempting the placement of identification decals on certain City vehicles just prior to the next council meeting on April 4 at 6:645 PM. Reminders will be sent out.
Mayor Rocker asked if there was any more business to be discussed. There being none, motion was made by Walker and seconded by Haley to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.

ATTEST:

_______________________________
Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk

_______________________________
Walter C. Rocker, Jr., Mayor
Eatonton Main Street

Revitalizing Our Downtown

P.O. Box 4384 Eatonton, GA 31024 706.749.2150
A 501-c-3 Non-Profit Corp. Designated by the Georgia Dept. of Community Affairs for the City & County

Main Street Report for City Council Meeting Tuesday April 4 2017 - March Recap

Organization

The Main Street board voted to invite Tommy Cook from the Chamber of Commerce to apply to the Board.

The Christmas Decoration Design Committee did not meet this month.

Completed Eatonton Main Street Registration on Georgia Secretary of State website for 2017.

Promotion

The first ever ribbon cutting from Eatonton Main Street performed by Mayor Rocker attracted over 50 people.

The St. Patrick’s Day week combined online 20 second videos of Downtown merchants and ended with the event at Spicy Southern Bistro. With over 100 views on Instagram for each video the online social media reach can be gauged more successfully than a television or newspaper ad campaign.

Collecting sponsors for the Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 8 between 10am and Noon.

Design

The Athens Design Studio proposal document for the E. Sumter Street corridor was delivered.

Economic Vitality

Spicy Southern Bistro and The Country Kitchen have seen an uptick in customers. There has been more foot traffic in the Downtown due to the warmer weather in March. Still awaiting news on the opening of the Dialysis Center and the restriping of the Shopper’s Strip Mall area. The Artisans Guild Art Gallery had a soft opening on March 30.

Empty Properties.

234 N. Jefferson Ave. (Ray Drug/Good Neighbor Pharmacy.) Someone contacted the landlord about putting a bakery in there. The landlord then took the property off the market for several months, turning down interest. After hearing nothing from the prospective bakery, the landlord contacted them and they said they were no longer interested. I advised the landlord to maintain the marketing until a contract was signed.

106 and 122 N. Jefferson Ave. are currently available for rent. 106 is currently being used as a storage facility.

104 N. Jefferson Ave. (China Chef) is still available for rent. This building is in need of repair.

107 N. Jefferson Ave. (Moore LP Gas) is still available for rent. This building is in need of repair.

102 W. Marion St. (World Finance) is available for rent.

112 W. Marion St. Not available for rent or purchase. A garage door has been placed in the rear of the building.

Summary

Eatonton Main Street continues to look at ways to increase the name recognition and promotion of Downtown Eatonton with increased use of social media and a billboard facing North on Highway 441.
RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION by the Board of Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia to appoint a member to the Eatonton Main Street Board of Directors and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, the City of Eatonton determined that it was desirable and necessary to activate Eatonton Main Street; and

WHEREAS, Eatonton Main Street seeks to promote and develop the City’s downtown district through economic development, organization, promotions and design and encourages preservation of the City’s historic and cultural character; and

WHEREAS, Eatonton Main Street is generally overseen by a Board of Directors composed of twelve members and vacancies on such Board exist; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eatonton has received an application to fill a vacancy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia that Mr. Tommy Cook is hereby appointed to the Eatonton Main Street Board of Directors for a term of three years expire March 31, 2020.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia on this 4th day of April, 2017.

Walter C. Rocker, Jr., Mayor
City of Eatonton, Georgia

ATTEST:

Clerk, City of Eatonton, Georgia
APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR
EATONTON MAIN STREET, INC. A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corp.

Basic Information:
Name: Tommy Cook  Email: tommy@eatonton.com
Home Address: 156 Bass Rd NE  City: Milledgeville  Zip: 31061
Employer: Eatonton-Putnam Chamber of Commerce  Are you the Owner? O Yes O No
Work Address: 305 N Madison Ave  City: Eatonton  Zip: 31024

About You:
I am (check all that apply):
O A resident of the City of Eatonton
O A resident of Putnam County, but not the City of Eatonton
O Available for Board Meetings the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.
O A Downtown Property Owner [If so, what is the address]:
O A Downtown Business Owner [If so, what is the address]:

My involvement in the community is as follows (check all that apply and elaborate):
O Participating in local non-profits: As a Chamber employee I participate in non-profit member events
O Assisting in local projects: Community clean up through Leadership Putnam
O Attending local events: Will attend most of upcoming community events

My interests, hobbies, talents, skills include: Shot/videography, video editing, event planning,
All workshops, online classes, hiking, camping, outdoor recreation.

I am interested in serving on the Main Street Board because: Exposure at the Chamber is why Main Street will help both organizations better serve the community.
I will allow my name to be submitted for consideration in service to the Organization: and if appointed to serve as a member of the Board of Directors, I agree to:

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<th>Action</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attend all possible regular monthly Board Meetings, committee meetings and any special meetings.</td>
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<td>Attend eight hours of training within my first year of service to the Board (date time TBD)</td>
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<td>Attend the annual planning retreat of the Board (half-day). Enter into full discussion and participation in the policy decisions affecting Eatonton Main Street and its purpose in the local community.</td>
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<td>Accept responsibility for assignments and offer suggestions on programming and operations.</td>
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<td>Maintain matters of confidentiality as required.</td>
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<td>Serve the Authority, working for its overall well-being and that of the Eatonton Community.</td>
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<td>Seek opportunities to learn more about community revitalization efforts and best practices.</td>
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<td>Have a blast!</td>
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Signature: [Signature]
Date: 3/27/17

Return to: Main Street Eatonton, Inc., 201 N. Jefferson St. Eatonton, Georgia 31024. 706-749-9150
Board Contract

1. [Members Name], understand that as a member of the Board of Directors of Eatonton Main Street, I have a legal and moral responsibility to ensure that the organization does the best work possible in pursuit of its goals. I believe in the purpose and mission of the organization, and I will act responsibly and prudently as its steward.

As part of my responsibilities as a board member:
1. I will interpret the organization’s work and values to the community, represent the organization, and act as a spokesperson when called upon.
2. I will attend at least 75% of board meetings, committee meetings, and special events.
3. I will actively participate in one or more fundraising activities.
4. I will act in the best interests of the organization, and excuse myself from discussions and votes where I have a conflict of interest.
5. I will stay informed about what’s going on in the organization. I will ask questions and request information. I will participate in and take responsibility for making decisions on issues, policies, and other board matters.
6. I will work in good faith with employees and other board members as partners towards achievement of our goals.
7. If I don't fulfill these commitments to the organization, I will expect the board president to call me to discuss my responsibilities.

In turn, the organization will be responsible to me in several ways:
1. I will be sent, without request, monthly financial reports and an update of organizational activities that allow me to meet the “prudent person” section of the law.
2. Opportunities will be offered to me to discuss with the executive director and the board president the organization’s programs, goals, activities, and status. Additionally, I can request such opportunities.
3. The organization will help me perform my duties by keeping me informed about issues in the industry and field in which we are working, and by offering me opportunities for professional development as a board member.
4. Board members and employees will respond in a straightforward fashion to questions I have and feel are necessary to carry out my fiscal, legal, and moral responsibilities to this organization. Board members and employees will work in good faith with me towards achievement of our goals.
5. If the organization does not fulfill its commitments to me, I can call on the board president and executive director to discuss these responsibilities.
6. The City of Eatonton will provide continuous directors and officers insurance coverage for its board members.

Signed: [Signature] Date: 3/27/17
Member, Board of Directors

Date: ___________________
President, Board of Directors