City of Eatonton Council Meeting
Monday, August 17, 2015 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 James A. Gorley
  Councilman Charles R. Haley
  Councilman William Mangum, Jr.
  Councilwoman Alma Stokes

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

Mayor John Reid called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.
Councilwoman Alma Stokes called for a Moment of Silence for the Invocation.

Minutes - Attachment #1

Public Hearing – 2015 Budget Amendment #1

Public Hearing – FY 2016 Budget

Regular Council Meeting 08/04/2015

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Butts to adopt the three sets of minutes with any necessary corrections. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0. Councilwoman Teresa Doster and Councilwoman Alma Stokes abstained.

Public Comments: Janet Kelhoffer – Update on Plaza Community Center

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Mangum to hear from all who signed in to make public comments. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Reading of Rules for Public Comments:
City Administrator Gary Sanders read the rules for Public Comments.

Mayor Reid called on Mrs. Kelhoffer for Public Comments.
Mrs. Kelhoffer presented the following update on the Plaza Community Center:

After School Art is starting again Sept. 1. The Art classroom will be used the first, second and third Tuesdays of the month for this free class offered for students k-8th grades.

Anointed Dance uses the dance classroom Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-7:30 PM.

3 ballet classes taught by Georgia College teachers meet Tuesdays from 4-7 PM

Yoga and Pilates classes are resuming in September on Monday evenings 5-7 PM and Friday mornings 9 AM

A teacher at Putnam County Elementary School is interested in teaching a strings/orchestra class. Other teachers who conducted groups for Camp Inspiration through the Board of Education want to talk about the possibility of having other groups meet at the Community Center. We will meet soon to discuss this.

A teacher from Milledgeville wants to talk about teaching ballroom dancing. I’ll meet with him soon.

Greensboro artist Peter Musika, head of the Abandoned Rural America project, is interested in teaching egg and temper painting.

It seems that there are many possible offerings for the children and adults of Eatonton/Putnam County that could be held at the Plaza Community Center. This could become a very busy place.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Kelhoffer, Director Plaza Arts

**Old Business:**

**Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Sublease Agreement between the Eatonton-Putnam Arts Foundation and the City of Eatonton for Space to Operate the Senior Citizens Program**

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Haley to approve the Sublease Agreement between the Eatonton-Putnam Arts Foundation and the City of Eatonton for Space to Operate the Senior Citizens Program with the amendments that were approved at the June 2, 2015 Council meeting and also authorized the Mayor to sign. Motion carried by a vote of 4-3. Those voting for the motion: Walker, Doster, Haley and Mangum. Those voting against the motion: Butts, Gorley and Stokes.

**New Business:**

**Main Street Report submitted by Carrie Vanderver, Director**
Maintaining weekly blog posts on website and sharing through social media. Please follow and like us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. The more likes and share we get the more further reach Eatonton will have.

- Main Street Gray hosted a new event on the first Saturday of August this year. The manager created an event page on Facebook in June. Council, the Chamber and others in the city shared and promoted this event via social media. There was NO other form of advertisement; no money spent on promotion. Due to the help she received from others sharing her event, 300 people showed up that would not have otherwise been visiting or shopping in Downtown Gray that evening.

5th Friday in the Briar Patch on July 31 had smaller turnout than hoped, but we believe much of that had to do with the storm that passed through town. After weather cleared a nice crowd turned out and enjoyed the rest of the evening.

Next 5th Friday event scheduled for October 30. Entertainment will include Movie in the Briar Patch on Courthouse Lawn and live music in Old PCO building and parking area.

Round table discussion on Pop-up Retail on August 6 sparked discussion and formation of a Pop-up Retail exploratory committee. This group is looking into the possibility of some form of pop-up retail in Downtown Eatonton this holiday season. See attached sheet for an explanation of what pop-up retail can be. The Chamber of Commerce has agreed to support Main Street proceeding with this idea. More to follow.

Holding budget planning and work planning session on Wednesday night. Crystal Gaillard with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission coming to help facilitate.

Attended Regional Main Street Manager meeting in Perry on July 30.
Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Acquisition of Firefighter Turnouts
Attachment #2
Councilman Gorley advised meeting with Interim Fire Chief Hubert, City Administrator Sanders and a representative from NAFECO to discuss firefighter’s turnout gear. NAFECO presented a quote for 22 sets of turnout gear for $57,762.10. Also financing options are available with the first payment to be made within one year of purchasing. The turnouts presented met all the requirements with a 10 year life expectation. Several months ago the City applied for a grant to help purchase turnouts for the firefighters and should hear if we’ll receive an award by the end of September.

Administrator Sanders advised the options provided were through a lease purchasing program with Community Leasing Partners shown in attachment #2 in the agenda package.

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Walker to purchase the 22 sets of firefighter’s turnout gear in the month of October or November pending favorable lease purchase financing terms. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Proposed Resolution to allow the Placement of Certain Seasonal Decorations at Entrances to the Downtown District by Eatonton Main Street Attachment #3
Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Haley to approve the Resolution to allow the placement of certain seasonal decorations (hay bales) at entrances to the downtown district by Eatonton Main Street and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Proposed Resolution to Appoint a Poll Manager for the November 3, 2015 Municipal Election Attachment #4
Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Gorley to approve the proposed Resolution to appoint Mrs. Barbara Trubey-Jackson as Poll Manager for the Municipal General Election to be held on November 3, 2015 and authorize Mayor Reid to sign the resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Sign a Letter of Engagement with David Giddens, CPA for Auditing Services Attachment #5
Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to approve the proposed Resolution and authorize the Mayor to sign a Letter of Engagement with David Giddens, CPA for Auditing Services and other such supporting material as shall be necessary for the conduct of the annual audit for CFY 2015. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.
Proposed Resolution to Appoint Members to the Eatonton Housing Authority Attachment #6
Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Doster to approve the proposed Resolution in appointing 2 interim board members to the Eatonton Housing Authority until permanent board members are duly appointed and authorize Mayor Reid to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0. *City of Eatonton Housing Authority Interim Board members appointed: William Terry Reid and Randy Bowen.*

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Employee Classification of the Main Street Director
Councilwoman Doster discussed the job classification of the Main Street Director and informed Council that Mrs. Carrie Vanderver Director of Main Street will be moving in October. DCA advised the Mainstreet position should be filled by a City employee.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Haley to make the Main Street Director position a City employee to be in line with (DCA) Georgia Department of Community Affairs recommendations. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Proposed Resolution to Adopt City of Eatonton FY 2015 Budget Amendment #1 Attachment #8
Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to adopt the proposed Resolution Adopting the City of Eatonton FY 2015 Budget Amendment #1 in maintaining a balanced budget as required by O.C.G.A. §36-81. And also authorize Mayor Reid to sign the resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0. *Budget Amendment #1 $372,100*

Proposed Resolution to Adopt City of Eatonton FY 2016 Budget Attachment #9
Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Mangum to adopt the FY 2016 Budget as discussed tonight, Attachment # 8 and authorize Mayor Reid to sign the Resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0. *Adopted FY 2016 Budget $5,978,144*

Committee Reports:
Councilman Butts advised receiving an email in regards to installing a street light on Walnut Way and he asked for clarification on the location so that he could inspect the site.

Councilman Haley asked that City Marshal Dianne Veal continue to provide Council with an excel spread sheet of her current code enforcement cases.
Councilman Gorley expressed words of gratitude to Council for their support in approving the firefighter’s turnout gear and to the firefighters who put their lives on the line fighting fires for the City of Eatonton. Gorley also thanked Police Chief Lawrence for having officers present tonight at this meeting to provide security.

Councilwoman Stokes advised receiving a complaint on the tenant living on Candler Court and asked that law enforcement check out the complaint. Attorney Huskins advised a letter was mailed to the property owner to put the owner on notice of activities taking place on the property and that this property can be confiscated.

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

City Administrator Gary Sanders reported work on the Striping Grant continues. Crews were scheduled to finish replacing all of the regulatory street signs by this afternoon. The final portion of the work will be to paint the side streets.

City Administrator Sander advised being out of the office for training in Macon this Friday, August 21, and again next Wednesday, August 26 for a seminar in Jefferson.

Sanders advised the railroad started installation on the Sumter Street gate crossing but have not notified the City if the road will be closed during the installation.

Gorley asked that a sign be installed on Oconee Street near the home of Mr. Curtis Culp informing drivers of a blind driveway.

City Attorney Huskins advised receiving the appraisal on the request to abandon a portion of Agnes Jenkins Lane; this request was made by Pastor James Kilgore of New Life Outreach Christian Center. The next step is to get out letters to the surrounding property owners, in reference to closing the road. The project is moving along.

Mayor Reid asked if there was anything else to discuss for the good of the City. There being no more business to discuss; motion was made by Walker and seconded by Haley to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

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John Reid, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk