City of Eatonton Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 7, 2016 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
   Councilman James A. Gorley
   Councilman Charles R. Haley
   Councilman William Mangum, Jr.
   Councilwoman Alma Stokes

Elected Officials Absent:
   Councilwoman Teresa Doster

Staff Members Present:
   City Administrator, Gary Sanders
   City Attorney, Christopher Huskins
   City Clerk, Sarah Abrams

Mayor Walter C. Rocker called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Walter C. Rocker gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Butts and seconded by Mangum to approve the minutes of the last meeting with any necessary corrections. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0. Councilman Charles Haley abstained.

Public Comments: Duncan Criscoe – Eatonton Cotton Warehouse Business Permit
118 North Jefferson Avenue, Eatonton, GA 31024

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Mangum to hear from those wishing to speak. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Reading of the Rules for Public Comments: City Administrator Gary Sanders read the rules for Public Comments.
Mr. Duncan Criscoe advised Council he wanted to speak in reference to the old Eatonton Cotton Warehouse which is item 6D on tonight’s agenda and he would answer any questions Council has regarding allowing a permitted use of his business at 118 North Jefferson Avenue in the Downtown Business District. Mayor Rocker advised Mr. Criscoe he would be allowed to speak on the item when it comes up under New Business on the agenda.

**Old Business: None**

**New Business:**

FY2016 CDBG Project
Discussion of the Following Potential Conflict of Interest related to the County and City’s joint FY2016 EIP Application for Sewer Improvements to Benefit Legacy Housing, LTD.

Mr. Chip Walker, Mayor Pro-Tem of the City of Eatonton, is a Sales Associate of Legacy Housing, LTD. Legacy Housing is the business to be assisted by the EIP Grant Funds.

Mayor Pro Tem Walker advised he was employed with Legacy Housing and would abstain from voting in regards to the EIP Grant.

**FY2016 EIP Resolution and Section 3 Compliance Plan Attachment #6A**
Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Mangum to approve the FY2016 EIP Resolution and Section 3 Compliance Plan and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0. Councilman Chip Walker abstained.

**Proposed Resolution to Adopt a Policy for the Use of City Purchasing and /or Credit Cards by Elected Officials Attachment #6B**
Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to approve the proposed Resolution and adopt the Policy for the Use of City Purchasing and/or Credit Cards by Elected Officials and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign the resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

**Proposed Resolution to Ratify the Actions of the City Clerk and City Administrator in Signing a Pledge Agreement Attachment # 6C**
Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Haley to approve the Resolution ratifying the action of the City Clerk and City Administrator in signing a Pledge Agreement with Farmers and Merchants Bank and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.
Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Changes to Section 75-342 (Uses Allowed in DB Zoning District) of Chapter 75 of the Code of ordinances

Attachment #6D

Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Stokes that the following amendments to Chapter 75 of Code of Ordinances, City of Eatonton, Georgia are hereby proposed to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review and recommendation. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

1) To add the following definition to Sec. 75-4 (Definitions)

“Banquet/Reception hall mean an establishment which is rented by individuals or groups to accommodate private functions including, but not limited to banquets, weddings, anniversaries, religious services, and other such gatherings. Such a use may or may not include kitchen facilities for the preparation or catering of food. In some cases, a restaurant may be associated with a banquet/reception hall.”

2) To add the following use to Sec. 75-342 (Uses allowed):

“Banquet/reception hall”

Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Sign a Work Detail Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for 2016-2017 Attachment #6E

Motion was made by Mangum and seconded by Gorley to approve the proposed Resolution and authorize the Mayor to sign the Work Detail Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for 2016-2017. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Mayor Rocker expressed words of thanks to all City personnel for their hard work during the Dairy Festival.

Zoning: None

Committee Reports:

Motion was made by Councilman Walker and seconded by Haley to pay the bills if and when the fund becomes available. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Councilman Haley expressed his concerns about the Probation office located on South Jefferson Avenue and how it distracts from the town. Also, Haley discussed items in the auditors’ management letter and suggested Council hold a work session to go over the report in detail.

Councilwoman Stokes discussed City Marshal Veal’s case report on dilapidated businesses and residential properties.
Councilman Gorley expressed words of thanks to the Public Safety Departments in keeping everyone safe over the past weekend and during the Dairy Festival. Councilman Gorley advised Mayor Rocker and City Administrator Sanders of having public safety issues which need to be address in the community.

City Administrator Gary Sanders advised Council:

1. Peachstate Construction Company will begin work on Waterworks Drive tomorrow. We anticipate the project will take a week or two to complete. Renting the old Senior Citizens Center will resume as soon as possible.

2. The Local Maintenance Improvement Grant amount was released today. The City will receive $92,843 this year. Combined with the $71,185 that was escrowed last year plus the 30% required match, approximately $215,000 in paving projects, will be completed this summer.

3. Wednesday through Friday, Sanders advised being out of town, but can be reached by phone or email if council needs anything. Also, Monday, June 13 Sanders advised he would be serving another day on the Grand Jury with an understanding that this will be the last day of service for his term.

City Clerk Abrams advised Council, Thursday, June 17 through 24 she would be on vacation and one of the staff members would attend the Council meeting.

Council discussed sewer repairs being made to a section Dogwood Lane by Eatonton Putnam Water Sewer Authority.

Mayor Rocker asked if there was any other business to be discussed; there being none, motion was made by Haley and seconded by Walker to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote 6-0.

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Walter C. Rocker, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk