City of Eatonton Council Meeting

Monday, June 15, 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 William Mangum, Jr.
  Councilwoman Alma Stokes

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

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

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

Mayor John Reid called for a Moment of Silence for the Invocation.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Butts to adopt the minutes from last meeting with any necessary corrections. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Public Comments:  None

Reading of the Rules for Public Comments:  Omitted

Old Business:  None

New Business:
Main Street Report

Main Street report submitted by Carrie Vanderver, Eatonton Main Street Director/Project Manager
Finished GDEcD Leadership program with Gary Sanders, Lisa Jackson and Adam Swymer.

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.

Attended Main Street Marketing webinar.

Attended Main Street Historic Preservation training at the Hay House in Macon. Heard presentation from the president of New Town Macon. Two board members, Carillon Orban and Julie McCullough, also attended.

Hosted lecture by Joseph Smith on Architectural Preservation with the Historic Preservation Commission for National Historic Preservation Month.

Hosted inaugural Fifth Friday in the Briar Patch with downtown merchants. Next event on July 31.

Hosted round table discussion on Community Events. Next discussion on Pop-up Retail to be held August 6.

Hosted first movie of the 2015 Movies in the Briar Patch. Next event on July 11 - Space Jam.

Thank you to Joe Hawkins for getting us set up with the stage and trash cans for our downtown events!

Working on some collaborative projects with different organizations. Ex: combining and enhancing walking tour brochures with Chamber of Commerce; and working on vacant storefront beautification project with Briar Patch Arts Council.
Proposed Resolution to Ratify the Action of the Mayor in Applying for the 2015 Health Promotion Grant Attachment #2
Motion was made by Walker and seconded Doster to approve the proposed Resolution ratifying the actions of the Mayor in applying for the 2015 Health Promotion Grant from Georgia Municipal Association. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Appointment of a Proxy for the GMEBS, Workers’ Compensation Self-Insurance Fund and GIRMA Annual Meeting Attachment #3
Motion was made by Stokes and seconded by Walker to approve the Annual Meeting Proxy which allows the boards of trustees to represent the City interest in its absence on any issue which may require a vote of the membership at the annual meeting of the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) Retirement Fund, GMEBS Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust, GMEBS Life and Health Insurance Fund, GMA Workers’ Compensation Self-Insurance Fund and the GMA Property and Liability Fund (GIRMA) annual meeting on Monday, June 26, 2015. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Proposed Resolution to Accept a Bid Response from Middle Flint Council on Aging for Providing Meals for the Congregate Meals Program Attachment #4
City Administrator Sanders advised receiving only one bid to provide meals for the Congregate Meal Program. The bid period commenced on May 7, 2015 and closed on June 8, 2015 at 10:00AM. Middle Flint Council on Aging submitted the only bid to provide meals. The price submitted for a meal was $3.50 per client and $6.00 for private payers.

Mayor Reid, Council members and City Attorney Huskins then discussed some of the language in the Resolution that authorized the Mayor to sign off on contracts, letters and other supporting documents related to accepting the bid response from Middle Flint Council on Aging.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Butts to approve the proposed Resolution accepting the bid from Middle Flint Council on Aging to provide meals for the Congregate Meal Program and authorize Mayor Reid to sign contracts, letters and other supporting and related documents as necessary to accomplish the goal. Motion carried by a vote of 4-1. Those voting in favor of the motion: Council members Butts, Doster, Stokes, and Walker. Those voting against the motion: Councilman Mangum.

Committee Report:
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 5-0.

Councilwoman Doster reported the Zoning and Ordinance Committee met on June 9 to review and update the Historical Preservation Code. City Attorney Huskins is reviewing the changes that were recommended.
Mayor Reid advised the City ISO Rating moved from a rating of 7 down to a 4. Home owners can expect to see lower insurance premium, which will help off set their property tax. Councilman Walker expressed words of congratulation to Interim Fire Chief Eugene Hubert on achieving this ISO rating of 4. Councilwoman Stokes thanked the Mayor for starting the process. Interim Fire Chief Hubert thanked Council for their in help in getting the necessary fire equipment to make this possible. Hubert advised the ISO Rating could drop to 3 after reports are filed in March.

Mayor Reid advised receiving a letter from the county requesting to hold a SPLOST meeting on Friday, June 19, 2015 in the County Administration Building at 9:00 AM. SPLOST #7 ends 2017.

City Administrator Gary Sanders reported conducting interviews for the Director of Senior Services position on Thursday, June 11th and he advised a decision will be made soon to fill the position. Grant funding for the position will be available beginning July 1, 2015. Administrator Sanders advised Council the Budget Status Report for March is at their seat and the April’s report will be available at the next Council meeting. Work on the FY 2016 Budget will continue over the next few weeks; please review the proposed budget draft and submit addition/changes as soon as possible.

City Attorney Christopher Huskins updated Council on the preceding of the REDLG Loan. Huskins advised all is going well and Kevin Brown has drafted a letter which is being reviewed for submission.

Mayor Reid reminded Council members to submit their Personal Financial Disclosure Statement which is due June 30th.

Mayor Reid asked if there was any other business to be conducted for the good of the City.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to adjourn. Motion carried by unanimous vote of 5-0.

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John Reid, Mayor

ATTEST:
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Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk