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

Elected Officials Absent:
  Councilman Alvin Butts

Staff Members Present:
  City Administrator, Gary Sanders
  (Late) City Attorney, Christopher Huskins
  City Clerk, Sarah Abrams
  Main Street Manager, Andrew Simpson

Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr. called the January 16, 2018 Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Invocation was given by Councilman Charles R. Haley.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Doster and seconded by Councilman Haley to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2017 Council meeting. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilman James A. Gorley abstained because he did not attend the meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Haley and seconded by Councilwoman Doster to approve the minutes from January 2, 2018 Council meeting. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Councilman James A. Gorley abstained because he did not attend the meeting.
Public Comments: None

Reading of the Rule for Public Comments: Omitted

Old Business: None

New Business:

Resolution to Amend the Balanced Budget for CFY 2017 Attachment #6A
Motion was made by Councilman Haley and seconded by Councilman Gorley to approve the Resolution amending the Budget to reflect actual collections and disbursements of the Hotel-Motel Tax and to maintain the Balanced Budget for CFY 2017 as required by the Georgia Code. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Proposed Ratification of Mayor Signing Certification for Extension of Existing Service Delivery Strategy Attachment #6B
Motion was made by Councilwoman Doster and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Walker to approve and ratify the action of the Mayor in signing the Certification for Extension of Existing Service Delivery Strategy. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Proposed Authorization for Mayor to Sign a Sublease Agreement Between the Plaza Arts Center and the Eatonton-Putnam Chamber of Commerce Attachment #6C
Councilwoman Reid asked if there is a stipulation in the City’s lease with the Plaza Arts Center requiring subleases to be approved by Council and asked if this process could be eliminated. Attorney Huskins advised the City owns the building and pays the insurance and has an interest in the tenants. Mr. Sanders advised that the lease between the City and the Plaza Arts Center does contain a provision relating to subletting and will confirm the requirements.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Mangum to authorize Mayor Rocker to sign the Sublease Agreement between the Plaza Arts Center and the Eatonton-Putnam Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Discussion and Possible Action on Establishing a Consolidation Study Committee
Mayor and Council discussed the possibility of establishing a consolidation study committee. Mayor Rocker advised he was opposed to such a committee.

Councilman Gorley advised he concurred with the Mayor because this consolidation will impact all citizens in the City and in the County.

Councilwoman Reid advised this is serious business and she has concerns and all Council members must have input. Councilwoman Reid reported attending Middle Georgia Regional Commission meeting on last Thursday and the County was present and discussed consolidation
with the Commission. Councilwoman Reid asked when will the City have a conversation with the Regional Commission.

City Administrator Sanders reported delivering the TA request letter to Ms. Laura Mathis, Executive Director of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission. The Regional Commission has since approved the request and will be scheduling a meeting with Council to discuss details regarding the scope of the study and timeline.

Councilman Gorley advised talking to other elected officials from consolidated governments and not all are happy with their consolidation. Let us work to make the City of Eatonton a great City.

Councilman Haley advised we should have a joint work session with Putnam County and the Middle Georgia Regional Commission. Councilman Haley advised he is tired of paying taxes; by consolidating the governments we can save money. Let us get to work on the study.

**Committee Reports**

Mayor Pro-Tem Walker asked to hold a Finance and Personnel Committee meeting on Thursday at 3:00 PM.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Walker and seconded by Councilwoman Doster to pay the bills if and when the funds become available. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Councilwoman Doster reported that signs have been placed on the Aluminum Mill Hill property advertising that a convenience store and gas station are coming soon.

Councilwoman Reid advised the flu season is among us.

Councilman Gorley expressed words of thanks to Mayor and Councilmembers for their expression of sympathy following the death of his mother.

City Administrator Gary Sanders reminded Council of the upcoming Mayor’s Day Conference this Friday, January 19 through Monday, January 22 in Atlanta.

City Administrator Sanders advised we are monitoring the weather this evening and early tomorrow morning. A winter weather advisory has been issued for Putnam County that is in effect until 10:00AM tomorrow morning. Accumulations of up to one inch of snow are possible.

In response to a couple of questions on the matter, the Putnam County T-SPLOST collections will begin on April 1.

City Attorney Huskins asked if Council approved the minutes from the December meeting. Attorney Huskins was advised the minutes had been approved.
Mayor Rocker asked if there was any more business to be discussed before we adjourn. Being no further business, motion was made by Councilman Walker and seconded by Councilman Haley to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.

_________________________________
Walter C. Rocker, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk