Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr. called the July 17, 2017 Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Invocation was given by Councilman Charles R. Haley.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Butts to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on July 3, 2017. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0. Councilman James A. Gorley was absent at the time of the vote.
Public Comments: Mr. George Dismeyer, Mrs. Virginia Linch, Mr. Jeffrey Zablow, Mrs. Sylbie Yon, Mrs. Mona Betzel, and Ms. Susan Larson – Butterflies and Blooms in the Briar Patch Habitat

Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Doster 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. George Dismeyer discussed the Butterflies and Blooms Garden that is located on the Aluminum Hill, across from the Zion Covenant Church and the advantages of having the garden located in Eatonton. Dissmeyer advised this garden will bring tourists to your community from around the world to visit to see the butterflies and take photos in a natural environment.

Mrs. Virginia Linch thanked all of the supporters who volunteered and helped with the Butterflies and Blooms in the Briar Patch project. Mrs. Linch advised the garden is a gift to the City from her husband and herself. Her goal was to increase the butterfly population by 2020. The garden is used as a teaching center to help us understand agriculture. Mrs. Linch advised this garden will have a positive impact on the City. Mrs. Linch thanked Council for offering to help move the garden to a permanent new location.

Mr. Jeffrey Zablow advised photographing butterflies in their natural habitat for over 20 years. There is no other garden between Maine and Florida like this garden.

Mrs. Sylbie Yon acknowledged Mrs. Virginia Linch and the volunteers’ hard work which they put into the Butterflies and Bloom Garden and the new insight she learned from the garden.

Mrs. Mona Betzel thanked Council for allowing Mrs. Linch and the volunteers an opportunity to voice their opinions tonight.

Ms. Susan Larson advised supporting the Butterflies and Blooms garden; it is a tourist attraction and an educational center.

All speakers addressing Council spoke in support of the Butterflies and Blooms in the Briar Patch Habitat located on the Aluminum Mill Hill at the Community Garden.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Proclamation Recognizing the Butterflies and Blooms in the Briar Patch Project, Mrs. Virginia Linch, and Project Volunteers Attachment #6A
Mayor Rocker read the Proclamation which recognized and acknowledged the contributions of Mrs. Virginia Linch and the volunteers of the Butterflies and Blooms in the Briar Patch Project to the City of Eatonton, Georgia and urged the citizens to join with them in recognizing the valuable services and leadership of Mrs. Linch and all those who have contributed to this great project.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Gorley to approve the Proclamation recognizing the Butterflies and Blooms in the Briar Patch Project and authorize all Elected Officials to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Mayor Rocker presented Mrs. Linch and volunteers with the Proclamation. A photo was taken of the group with Mayor Rocker.

**Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Establishment of a Butterflies and Blooms in the Briar Patch Habitat at the Briar Patch Trail Park Attachment #6B**

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Haley to approve the proposed Resolution formally inviting and authorizing the permanent establishment of a Butterflies and Blooms in the Briar Patch Habitat on the grounds of the Briar Patch Trail Park. The City is authorized to provide necessary and proper assistance related to the establishment of said habitat to the extent so authorized by Mayor or City Administrator, to include the relocation and installation of existing habitat structures and assets. Also, Mayor Rocker is authorized to sign the Resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Create an Advisory Committee Attachment #6C**

Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Mangum to approve the Proposed Resolution authorizing the Mayor to create an Advisory Committee and to name members to the Committee for the purpose of reviewing concepts, content, products, logos, media, and other items related to the City’s marketing and branding campaign being produced by Tytan Pictures, LLC and providing input and feedback regarding the same; and making recommendations as may be necessary to the Eatonton Downtown Development Authority and Council of the City of Eatonton for official action and approval. Also, authorize the Mayor Rocker to sign the Resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Proposed Resolution to Levy a Transportation Special Purpose Local Options Sales Tax Attachment #6D**

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Mangum to approve the proposed Resolution supporting the action of the Putnam County Board of Commissioners in initiating the process for a Transportation Special Purpose Local Options Sales Tax for Putnam County and agreeing to
levy such tax if approved by voters and authorized Mayor Rocker to sign the Resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Sign a contract with the Area Agency on Aging for SFY 2018 Attachment #6E**

Motion was made by Stokes and seconded by Haley to approve the proposed Resolution and authorize Mayor Rocker to sign a contract with the Area Agency on Aging for SFY 2018 and other such supporting material as shall be necessary for the proper execution of the contract. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

**Middle Georgia Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging Contract**

DHS Contract #42700-373-0000060371

Total Obligation: $175,446

Federal: $ 93,500

State: $70,946

Match: $11,000

**Zoning:** None

**Committee Reports**

Councilman Walker advised that in the next couple of days a Finance and Personnel Committee meeting will be scheduled. Also, Walker thanked Mrs. Linch and the volunteers for their work on the Butterflies and Blooms Garden located on Aluminum Mill Hill.

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 Doster advised that at the next scheduled meeting of the Zoning and Ordinance Committee they will look at a Yard Sale Ordinance.

Councilman Haley discussed the tire store next to City Hall may possibly be establishing a mosquito habitat because of the number of tries at their location. Haley asked if the City could deny a business license. Councilwoman Doster advised her Committee would meet and review the Tire Ordinance.

City Attorney Huskins advised a business license could be denied if the evidence supports our case.
City Administrator Gary Sanders reported:

The Pre-Construction meeting for the Streetscape project is scheduled for 10:30 AM on Monday, August 7 at the Hut. At the conclusion of this meeting, around 11:45 AM, we are planning a meeting with members of the public and affected business owners to share construction schedules and to answer questions.

Administrator Sanders advised he would attend the Regional Commission’s Leadership Program this Thursday, July 20.

Administrator Sanders advised Eatonton Main Street will be hosting a bluegrass concert this Saturday, July 22 from 4:00 PM-8:00 PM at the Event Stage. The rain location will be the Plaza Arts Center.

Mayor Rocker asked if there was any other business to be discuss. There being no further business, motion was made by Doster and seconded by Gorley to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

Council adjourned at 7:59 PM.

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Walter C. Rocker, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

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Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk