Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr. called the June 19, 2017 Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Invocation was given by Councilwoman Teresa Doster.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Butts to approve the minutes of the last meeting which was held on June 6, 2017. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.
Public Comments:

Reading of the Rules for Public Comments was omitted.

Old Business: None

New Business:

**Discussion and Possible Action on Changing the Date of the July 4, 2017 Council Meeting (Independence Day)**

Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Walker to change the Tuesday, July 4, 2017 Regular Council meeting to Monday, July 3, 2017 due to the Independence Day holiday. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

**Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Sign a Work Detail Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for 2017-2018 Attachment #6B**

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to approve the proposed Resolution and authorize the Mayor to sign a Work Detail Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for SFY 2018. Also, the Mayor is authorized to sign letters and such other supporting and collateral material as shall be necessary for the proper execution and implementation of the agreement as may be required. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0. **$79,000 contract for two work details.**

**Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Sign Amendment #3 to the Area Agency on Aging Contract for SYF 2017 Attachment #6C**

City Administrator Sanders advised the City received notification from Middle Georgia Regional Commission that an amendment to the SYF 2017 Area Agency on Aging Contract is required to reflect adjustments made due to the Regional Commission’s current projected number of home-delivered meals to be served through June 30, 2017.

Motion was made by Stokes and seconded by Doster to approve the proposed Resolution and Authorize the Mayor to sign Contract Amendment #3 between the Middle Georgia Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging and the City of Eatonton for SYF 2017 and other supporting material as shall be necessary for the proper execution of the amendment. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.
Budget Funds Source Summary – SFY 2017-03

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Source</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
<th>Federal Amount</th>
<th>State Amount</th>
<th>Local Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Congregate Meals Title 111 C-1</td>
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<td>-0-</td>
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<td>Total Funds This Contract</td>
<td>94,450</td>
<td>56,631</td>
<td>31,154</td>
<td>6,665</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proposed Resolution to Establish a Mileage Reimbursement Rate *Attachment #6D*

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Walker to approve the proposed Resolution establishing a formal policy regarding the reimbursement of actual and necessary travel expenses, incurred and related to City of Eatonton Employees and Elected Officials, that have been authorized to use their private vehicles for travel in the course of official City business at the current standard mileage rate as published by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Reimbursement will be made for the actual miles traveled and reported on the City’s Travel Expense Form. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Proposed Resolution to Extend a Current Level 1 Freeport Exemption

City Attorney Chris Huskins advised the Georgia Code allows for different levels of Freeport Exemptions. The County submitted a Level 1 Freeport Tax Exemption for Fulfillment Centers referendum to the voters and it approved. Haband Company, Inc. which is a fulfillment center is receiving tax exemption already which the law did not allow for under the old tax code. The State now allows for fulfillment centers to receive this tax exemption. Haband has asked to keep this their tax status until the City put this on a referendum to the voters. The Freeport referendum can be held in conjunction with the November General Election in November, 2017

Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Doster to approve the Resolution to extend the existing Level 1 Freeport Tax Exemption utilized by Haband Company, Inc. until such time that the City can present to the electors of the City of Eatonton a referendum providing the new Freeport Tax Exemption for Fulfillment Centers. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.
Zoning Hearing

Appeal of Eatonton Planning and Zoning Commission Decision Regarding a Side Yard Setback Variance at 409 West Marion Street by Dr. Joe Preston. Presently Zoned R-1. [Map E006, parcel 109] Attachment #7A

City Administrator Sanders advised that Dr. Joe Preston is here to appeal the decision of the Zoning Board regarding his request for a side yard setback variance at 409 W. Marion Street, Eatonton, GA.

City Administrator Sanders read the rules for Public Hearings Comments.

Mayor Rocker asked Dr. Preston to present his appeal.

Dr. Joe Preston asked Council for a side yard setback variance at 409 W. Marion Street. Presently zoned R-1. [Map E006, parcel 109] He advised requesting a 17-foot variance, which would be 3 feet from his right-side property line to construct an 8x12 storage shed. Eatonton Planning and Zoning Commission approved a 10-foot variance off the property line. He advised being unable to place the shed in the rear of the property due to a creek which floods when it rains or on the left-side of his property due to a slope which prevents the shed being placed there. His neighbor Mr. Ross Martinez, at 417 W. Marion Street provided a written letter advising having no objection to the placement of an 8x12 storage shed being placed within 3 feet off their common property line.

Dr. Preston advised he was asking Council to consider and approve his request. Also, there is an older shed on the property which is grandfathered. Council discussed removing the old shed and replacing it with the new shed. Ms. Lisa Jackson advised having to follow the current zoning guidelines in Chapter 75-62C. She also advised that there is a need for a variance, but only the 10 foot variance already approved by the Zoning Commission. She would have no basis for defending the approval of the requested 17 foot variance or for denying future requests with this precedent. Aesthetics do not meet the standard of granting variances. After much discussion, motion was made by Doster and seconded by Haley to table this request for Ms. Jackson to research questions asked about replacing the old shed. Those voting for the motion were Doster, Walker and Haley. Those opposed: Stokes, Butts, and Mangum. Motion fail due to not receiving a majority of the votes.

Mayor Rocker advised Council to table the decision to give Ms. Lisa Jackson, Director of Planning and Zonings Commission an opportunity to research the zoning issues.

After additional discussion and clarification of the previous motion, a Motion was made by Haley and seconded by Doster to table Dr. Joe Preston zoning request at 409 W. Marion Street regarding a side yard setback for a storage shed. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Committee Reports
Councilman Walker expressed words of gratitude and congratulations to law enforcement officers on the hard work and outstanding job they done on assisting the Sheriff Department, and other law enforcement agencies last week when the prisoners escaped in the County.

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 6-0.

City Administrator Gary Sanders reported:

- The GMA Annual Convention in Savannah will begin this Friday, June 23. He would be attending the convention Sunday, June 25 through Tuesday, June 27.

- Eatonton Main Street is sponsoring a Bluegrass concert this Saturday, June 24 from 4:00 pm -8:00 pm featuring the Piney Woods and the Suggins’ Brothers at the event stage at the City Center parking lot.

- City Administrator Sanders advised that the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System GMA Workers’ Compensation Self-Insurance Fund Georgia Interlocal Risk Management Agency (GMEBS) has requested the City to appoint a proxy for the Annual Membership Meeting which will be held on Monday, June 26, 2017 in Savannah, Georgia.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Walker to add Appointment of GMEBS Proxy to the agenda. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Haley to allow Mayor Rocker to sign the GMEBS Annual meeting proxy appointing Mayor Boyd Austin, Chairman as agent and proxy for the Annual Meeting to be held on Monday, June 26, 2017 in Savannah GA. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

City Clerk Abrams reminded Council members to file their Personal Financial Disclosure Report with her by Friday, June 30, 2017. The last day to file is Saturday, July 1, 2017.

**Executive Session: acquisition and disposal of property**

Motion was made by Councilman Harvey Walker, Jr.

That this Mayor and Council now enter into closed session as allowed by Chapter 14 of Title 50 of the Georgia Code and pursuant to advice by the City Attorney, for the purpose of discussing the following: acquisition and disposal of property. Motion Seconded By: Councilwoman Teresa Doster. Motion Approved.

Those voting in favor of the motion for closure: Council Members Harvey Walker, Jr, Alvin Butts, Teresa Doster, Charley R. Haley, William Mangum and Alma Stokes. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.
Motion was made by Councilwoman Doster and seconded by Councilman Walker to return to Open Session. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Councilman Walker and seconded by Councilwoman Teresa Doster that the following resolution be accepted and approved. Motion carried by an unanimous vote of 6-0.

Resolution by the Council of the City of Eatonton, Georgia
BE IT RESOLVED by the Eatonton City Council as follows: At the meeting held on the 19th day of June 2017, the Council entered into executive session for the purpose of discussing acquisition or disposal of property. At the close of the discussions upon this subject, the Council did vote to re-enter into open session and herewith takes the following action in open session:
(1) The actions of the Council and the discussions of the same regarding the matter set forth for closed session purposes are hereby ratified.
(2) Each member of this body does hereby confirm that to the best of his or her Knowledge based upon the advice of the City Attorney, the said subject matter of the meeting and of the closed session portion was devoted to matters within the specific relevant exception(s) as set forth above.
(3) The Mayor, or the presiding officer, is hereby authorized and directed to execute an affidavit, with full support of the members of this Council, in order to comply with O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b).
(4) The affidavit shall be included and filed with the official minutes of the meeting and shall be in a form as required by the statute, which shall be substantially as follows:
Approved this 19th day of June, 2017

Attest
_________________________________  ______________________
       City Clerk             Walter C. Rocker, Jr. Mayor

Open Session
In Open Session, no action was taken by Council.

Mayor Rocker asked if there was any other business to be conducted for the good of the City. There being none, motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to adjourn. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

_________________________________
Walter C. Rocker, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

_________________________________  
Sarah E. Abrams, City Clerk
CITY OF EATONTON

Before an officer duly authorized to administer oaths appeared Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr., who, after being duly sworn, deposes and on oath states the following:

(1) I am competent to make this Affidavit and have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.

(2) Pursuant to my duties as Mayor, I was the presiding officer of a meeting of the Eatonton City Council held on the 19th day of June, 2017. A portion of said meeting was closed to the public.

(3) It is my understanding that O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b) provides as follows:

When any meeting of an agency is closed to the public pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section, the person presiding over such meeting or, if the agency’s policy so provides, each member of the governing body of the agency attending such meeting, shall execute and file with the official minutes of the meeting a notarized affidavit stating under oath that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law and identifying the specific relevant exceptions.

(4) The subject matter of said meeting, or the closed portion thereof, was devoted to matters within exceptions to public disclosure provided by law. Those specific relevant exceptions are identified as follows: Meeting to discuss or vote to authorize negotiation to purchase, dispose of or lease property as provided in Georgia Code section 50-14-3(b)(1)(B).

This affidavit is executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b) and; is to be filed with the official minutes for the aforementioned meeting.

This 19th day of June 2017

__________________________________________
Mayor Walter C. Rocker, Jr.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

This ______day of ________, ________

__________________________________________
Notary Public

Seal