City Council Meeting
Monday, July 21, 2014 at 7:00 pm
Eatonton City Hall, 201 North Jefferson Avenue, Eatonton, Georgia 31024

Present:
  Mayor John Reid
  Mayor Pro-tem Harvey (Chip) Walker, Jr. (Absent)
  Councilman Alvin Butts
  Councilwoman Teresa Doster
  Councilman Charles R. Haley
  Councilman William Mangum, Jr.
  Councilwoman Alma Stokes
  Councilman James A Gorley

Staff Members Present:
  City Administrator, Dan Elmore
  City Administrator, Gary Sanders
  City Attorney Chris Huskins
  Assistant City Clerk Barbara Trubey (Jackson)
  Police Chief William K Lawrence

Mayor John Reid called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Invocation: Prayer given by Mr. Forrester Waller of St. John AME Church.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Stokes and seconded by Councilman Haley to adopt the minutes of the last meeting with any necessary corrections. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Public Comments:
Janet Kelhoffer – Working to help meet DCA requirements
Loraine “Rainey” Gallagher- DCA Tech help

Motion was made by Doster and seconded by Haley to hear from all who signed the Public Comments Roster. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Mrs. Janet Kelhoffer expressed her desires for Council to do whatever they can to take care of the necessary steps needed to meet the DCA requirements in reference to repurposing the old Day Care building.

Ms Loraine “Rainey” Gallagher also expressed her concerns over the response from DCA and asked the Council to do all they could to help.
Old Business:
Discussion of DCA Response to Repurposing Request and Possible Action
Attachment #2
Motion made by Councilwoman Doster to accept whatever additional assistance from DCA that could be provided. Second made by Councilman Haley. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

New Business:

Mainstreet Report
Carrie Vanderver Eatonton Main Street Director/Project Manager presented the following report to Council:

Eatonton Main Street Report
July 2014

Trash cans have been received and placed downtown in two locations on N. Jefferson.

Spoke at Kiwanis Meeting June 26.

Updated vacant properties listing in Peck's Theater Window.

Movies in the Briar Patch July 26! Posters distributed around town, advertised in papers and on social media, Informational article in Messenger 7.17

Main Street steadily recruiting vendors for Briar Patch Arts festival.

Facade Grant given for Peck's Theater. Work (pressure washing) started 7.15. Painting of concrete and trim to follow. Design Committee selected paint colors.

Attended, advertised and documented (social media) ribbon cutting for Briar Patch Trail Park.

People's Bank Community Clean Up Day scheduled for Saturday October 11, 10:00am - 2:00pm. Main Street and GICH partnering with bank to help recruit volunteers and other delegated tasks.

Holiday Event Dates established: Christmas Open House, November 14 (stores open until 7) & November 15 (regular business hours). Christmas in the Briar Patch, December 6 - event times to be finalized beginning of August.

Bobby Dykes reported Eatonton Auction House closing doors in Eatonton. Possible store moving in to replace very soon. Final auction scheduled for Friday, July 25 and Saturday, July 26 (depending on items remaining).
Toni Davis' new store, Simply Beautiful, will host Grand Opening Event on Saturday, July 26 from 1:00pm - 6:00pm. Store is located at 117 S. Jefferson.

Main Street and DDA scheduled to attend Georgia Downtown Conference August 20-22.

Co-hosting Trip Advisor informational meeting with Chamber Toursim (as EPTAH Tourism Committee) for merchants and attractions in September. Date still TBD.

Just a reminder about Social Media Accounts: Eatonton Main Street Instagram (@EatontonMainStreet), Twitter (@EatontonMainSt) and Facebook (Eatonton Mainstreet) also active. Please like, follow and share our posts to help market Downtown Eatonton

Proposed Resolution to accept Contract for Judicial Alternatives Attachment #3
Motion was made by Councilman Gorley and seconded by Councilman Butts to accept the resolution and approve the Judicial Alternatives Contract and authorize the Mayor to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Proposed Resolution to name Rock Eagle Gas Line Contractor Attachment #4
Motion was made by Councilman Butts and seconded by Councilwoman Doster to accept the gas contract with D. Lance Souther, Inc. to extend the natural gas line along U.S. 441 toward Rock Eagle and other areas deemed economically feasible. Also giving Mayor John Reid authorization to sign contracts, letter and other supporting and related document as necessary to accomplish the goals of this resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Request from Eatonton-Putnam Arts Foundation to install a Sign at the Plaza Attachment #5
Mrs. Nancy Marshall spoke to Council on behalf of this request for approval for the installation of this sign.
Motion was made by Councilman Butts and seconded by Councilman Gorley to allow the installation of the Permanent Signage and also to authorize Mayor Reid to sign the resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Proposed Resolution to apply for Employee Health Promotion Grant. Attachment #6
Motion was made by Councilman Haley and seconded by Councilwoman Stokes to approve the application for a Health Promotion Grant and authorize Mayor Reid to sign the resolution. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Proposed Resolution to accept Gift of Real Property. Attachment #7
Motion was made by Councilman Gorley and seconded by Councilwoman Stokes to Accept the Gift of Real property parcel E006566 located at 124 MLK Jr. Drive and for other purposes also and authorize Mayor Reid to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.
Proposed Resolution to apply for an LMIG EEE Grant from the Ga. DOT. 
Attachment #8  Motion was made by Councilman Mangum and seconded by Councilman Haley to apply for this grant which will help maintain streets and drainage problems caused by severe drought followed by torrential rains and authorize Mayor Reid to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Proposed Resolution to allow the Chamber to place a GEO Cached Log Book in Pine Grove Cemetery. Attachment #9 
Motion was made by Councilman Haley and seconded by Councilwoman Doster to allow the placement of a Geo-cache Log in the Pine Grove Cemetery to promote bicycle tourism in the Downtown area and also authorize Mayor Reid to sign. Motion carried with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Committees Reports:

Mayor John Reid thanked Mr. Elmore for all he has done for the City.

Councilman Gorley made a motion to pay bills when necessary and it was seconded by Councilman Haley.

Councilman Butts acknowledged he would not be able to come to the City Administrator’s Retirement Party but wished Mr. Elmore the best.

Councilwoman Doster asked Mr. Paul Simonton to give an update on the progress at the parking lot. Mr. Simonton commented on the fact that there are poles to be removed and we are waiting on Georgia Power to get that done. He also thanked Mr. Elmore for all he has done.

Councilman Haley also announced Rooty Creek clean-up on Friday and asked all to come and participate. He also asked Mr. Huskins about the status on the Charlie Weeks property clean up. Mr. Huskins replied he would speak with Ms. Adams and find out.

Councilwoman Stokes expressed condolences to the families needing it.

Councilman Gorley stated that 130 fire hydrants had been taken care of, which is the first step toward possible reduction of our fire rates. Also he announced that Policeman Pickens will be taking a position as Investigator in the near future. Councilman Gorley commented on the loss of a sister-in-law with the family. Gorley discussed an accident on New Street near Butler Baker School and asking if a guard rail could be placed there to help or maybe installation of signs to warn drivers about the sharp curve.

City Administrator Mr. Dan Elmore reported:
He expressed his condolences to Ms Stokes, Mr. Walker (absent) and Clerk Sarah Abrams (absent) on the losses in the families.

The Rooty Creek Clean Up is on July 25 from 9-noon. 4-H is coordinating this
effort. The City will pay for the dumpster and remove the tires that are removed from the stream. This was a part of the original grant application as in kind from the City a couple of years back. The Oconee RC&D, the agency that sponsored this initial grant, will apply for another 319 grant to do more Rooty Creek clean up in the August grant cycle. You will hear more about this as it comes together.

We are working to get the necessary easements for the gas line to Rock Eagle.

Budget ads for the 2014 cleanup amendment and the 2015 budget are scheduled to be in the paper this week. There will be Public Hearings on the 2014 clean up amendment and the 2015 budget scheduled before the August 5th Council meeting.

We are waiting for the Tax Digest. The budget does not contain a millage increase for next year.

May’s Budget Status report is at your place.

He stated that since this was his last Council meeting, he wanted to thank the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Eatonton since 2005.

City Administrator Gary Sanders asked everyone to come to the Retirement Party for our City Administrator Dan Elmore on July 30th, at 2:00 p.m.

City Attorney Huskins thanked City Administrator Elmore.

Assistant City Clerk, Barbara Trubey offered condolences to each family.

No further business, Motion was made by Councilwoman Doster to adjourn and Councilman Haley seconded. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

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John Reid, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Barbara Trubey-Jackson
Assistant City Clerk