

## **MINUTES**

### **FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**JULY 2, 2018**

#### **CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Howard gave the invocation. Present for the meeting was Mayor Eric Wilson, Councilmembers Mike Dodd, Julius Stroud, John Howard, Chris Hewett, and Melvin Lawrence. Also present was City Attorney, Bobby Melton, and City Manager, Janice Hall.

Councilman Greg Goolsby was absent; therefore, all unanimous votes will be five (5) for (Dodd, Stroud, Howard, Hewett, and Lawrence).

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Hewett; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Stroud; approved unanimously

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING**

Motion by Mr. Stroud; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Hewett; Mayor Wilson pointed out that the minutes need to be amended to include the public comments made during the meeting. Mrs. Hall stated the minutes will be amended accordingly. The motion to approve the amended minutes carried unanimously.

#### **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH SCHNABEL ENGINEERING TO PERFORM 7Q10 FLOW RATES ON TOWN CREEK**

Mrs. Hall reviewed that the flow rate study is in response to the Consent Order from the EPD relating to copper discharge from the Northeast Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mrs. Hall stated that performing the 7Q10 flow rate on Town Creek will evaluate the flow to ensure that the EPD is utilizing the current conditions and flow of the creek. Mayor Wilson reviewed that Utility Partners is working on several options for remediation of the copper and Hofstadter and Associates is working on options as well.

Motion by Mr. Dodd; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Hewett; approved unanimously

#### **APPROVAL OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH MONROE COUNTY FOR SPLOST**

Mrs. Hall reviewed the information provided in council's packet which includes the agreement submitted from the county attorney along with proposed projects for the new SPLOST. Mrs. Hall stated that all areas in the agreement that show {insert amount} with the amounts handwritten are the amounts that the county has proposed to estimate for the 2018 referendum for the SPLOST. The amounts will be finalized and entered into the agreement before it is presented to Mayor Wilson to sign. Mrs. Hall stated that the note in the margin is her notation that a specific timeframe for the city funds to be dispersed needs to be added to the agreement.

Motion by Mr. Stroud; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Dodd; approved unanimously

#### **APPOINT VOTING DELEGATE FOR GEORGIA PUBLIC WEB**

Mrs. Hall stated that the current voting delegate for Georgia Public Web is Mr. Dodd and if he remains the voting delegate nothing needs to be submitted to GPW. Mr. Dodd stated that he has been the voting delegate for many years and has never been involved with GPW. Mr. Dodd recommended that the City Manager be the voting delegate.

Motion by Mr. Dodd to change voting delegate to City Manager; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Stroud; approved unanimously

#### **RESOLUTION FOR HOUSING AUTHORITY**

Mr. approved by City Council and the Housing Authority regarding the bond issue for the Macon/Bibb County Housing Authority to rehab several properties around the state including one in Forsyth which is Piedmont Apartments. Mr. Melton stated that Monroe County Commissioners are concerned that the Macon/Bibb Housing Authority needs more specific authority as to what they can do in Monroe County and Forsyth. Mr. Melton stated that the resolution was received from Monroe County Commissioners.

Motion by Mr. Howard; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Lawrence; approved unanimously

### **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES - \$333,431.29**

Mrs. Hall reviewed invoice totals by department for a grand total of \$333,431.29. Mrs. Hall stated \$28.99 of invoices are from Dodd Builders Supply

Motion by Mr. Hewett; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Stroud; approved with four (4) votes for (Stroud, Howard, Hewett, and Lawrence) and one (1) abstention (Dodd)

### **APPROVAL OF REQUISITIONS GREATER THAN \$5,000**

- a. Allan Vigil Ford – 2018 F150 for fire department - \$28,854
- b. Georgia Hydrant – valve insertion at cemetery tank - \$6800
- c. Calibration Controls – flocculator shaft repair - \$8613.31
- d. Pete Ragula – repairs to lift station at Holiday Inn - \$6264.34
- e. Goforth Williamson – RWTP #3 pump repair - \$19,885

Motion by Mr. Hewett to approve all requisitions as presented; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Stroud; approved unanimously

### **REPORTS**

#### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Mrs. Hall offered the following report:

- Regional Commission dues for 2019 will be \$5270; 2018 dues were \$5362
- GMA accepted and awarded city as renewed City of Ethics and we were recognized at the recent GMA convention
- Navendar Kaur has submitted all paperwork for a beer & wine package license for 37 S Jackson St; will begin advertisement and return for public hearing
- Preliminary figures have been received for property tax to set millage rate; no significant change in the numbers
- Received application from Ingram Entities for loft apartments above Minori's; will take before P&Z for approval of new use and remodel and will also need approval to permanently block a portion of the sidewalk on Jackson for new fire/emergency exit stairs from 2<sup>nd</sup> floor; will go before P&Z on 7/23, then advertise and come before council for public hearing
- Received application from Tommy & Mary Edith Vaughn for rezoning of property between Village Oaks Apartments and Evergreen subdivision from residential to Highway Business; will go before P&Z on 7/23 then advertise and come before council for public hearing
- Referendum for Sunday Brunch Law signed and submitted to Election Board to be included on the November ballot
- Working with Mr. Melton and Regional Commission on annexation of two county properties – Justice Center and Recreation Complex; must have formal petition from county for city to move forward and Regional Commission is preparing that for the county to submit to us; Justice Center would allow for additional court proceedings to be held at the Justice Center and Recreation Complex would allow for one voting location for city residents whether a city or county/state election which will hopefully keep down confusion with city elections
- Informed all of the Welcome Center signs on the utility poles at each corner of the Welcome Center building; will be installing some of the wayfinding signage soon around the square
- Fireworks tomorrow night – events begin at 5:00 pm and fireworks at 9:30 pm at the Monroe County Recreation complex
- Wednesday is a holiday so reminder that this will affect the garbage pickup as well. City offices will be closed on Wednesday.

Additional Comments/Questions from Council

- Mayor Wilson asked for an update on the Splashpad. Mrs. Hall reviewed additional problems that are being experienced at the Splashpad. As best we can determine at this point, the motor was either hit by lightning

because motor is burnt and we are getting a replacement which should be received tomorrow and installed as quickly as possible.

- Mr. Howard asked about the annexations being reviewed and if the Ad Hoc Annexation Committee should have been involved. Mayor Wilson stated that the Ad Hoc Annexation Committee has been very active and council has approved a 10-year annexation plan but these request come from the county commissioners. The Justice Center is included in Phase 1 of the Annexation Plan but the Recreation Complex is not included until Phase 4 (10 years out). Mayor Wilson stated that we will look at annexation of these two properties separately from the previously approved 10-year plan to get these expedited.
- Mr. Howard stated that he has received several reports that people using the Splashpad are not taking care of it. Mr. Stroud stated that he has witnessed kids climbing on the features. Mayor Wilson stated that he stopped by the Splashpad in Duluth on his way back from Savannah and reviewed some of the things that he saw there. Mr. Stroud asked for additional signage. Mr. Hewett asked about installing cameras and Mayor Wilson stated we would need internet for wifi and it is not available in the park.
- Mr. Stroud reported several large piles of debris in his neighborhood that have been there for a couple of weeks
- Mr. Hewett reported that the utility pole at Dr. Stan Hickman's office on North Frontage Drive has a large tree growing beside it and needs to be weeded as well.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

Mr. Melton reviewed information that he has received from MEAG regarding refinancing of bonds and MEAG requires all cities to file responses through their attorney.

Motion by Mr. Stroud to approve; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Hewett; approved unanimously

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Wilson reviewed classes he attended at the GMA Annual Convention last week and reminded everyone that the MEAG Annual Meeting is next week.

#### **ADDITIONAL COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mr. Howard reviewed classes he attended at GMA last week and commended the electric department for their quick work in restoring power last week.

Mr. Hewett reported that he has visited the golf course and will have a list from the Golf Board that needs to be handled by the city.

Mr. Lawrence reviewed classes he attended at GMA last week and stated that he has almost 300 hours of training and has attained the highest level of certification.

Mr. Dodd reviewed classes he attended at GMA last week and stated that we need to work on a capital improvement plan. Mr. Dodd also reviewed the speech given by Governor Deal at the awards luncheon on Monday where he stated that jobs are coming to Georgia.

Mr. Stroud reviewed classes he attended at GMA last week. Mr. Stroud stated one of the classes reviewed the vulnerability of cities where cyber-attacks are concerned. Mr. Stroud reviewed information presented during one of the session by the city of Jackson regarding blight and how they have handled cleaning up several properties in their city.

Mr. Melton stated that the City Attorney session he attended at GMA also covered blight and the city of Griffin has a good program. Mr. Melton stated the session also included other cities that have been hit with ransomware. Mr. Lawrence asked Mr. Melton his advice on how to handle blight and Mr. Melton responded that blight could be handled in sections and that the best way is to enforce city ordinances. Mr. Howard stated that when enforcing the city ordinances, city council needs to support the Mayor and City Manager as they will be the ones on the front lines getting the complaints. Mr. Stroud stated that we need to look at commercial as well as residential.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (MAYOR WILSON TO REVIEW RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS)**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Don Daniel asked that the flocculator is that council approved. Mayor and several Councilmembers gave definitions as to their understanding that the flocculator stirs and prevents settling. Mr. Daniel was not satisfied with their information and stated that his readers would want to know what a flocculator does. Mrs. Hall stated that she will get a technical definition from the project manager tomorrow and send it to Mr. Daniel.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No executive session was needed.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by Mr. Hewett; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Stroud; approved unanimously to adjourn at 7:04 pm.

Submitted by:

Janice L. Hall, City Manager