



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
CITY HALL**

APRIL 3, 2018

6:00 P.M.

- I) CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** The Mayor, Anthony Howard, called the meeting to order. Let the record show that the Mayor, Anthony Howard, Councilman Frank Thornton, Councilman James Crozier and Councilman Al Hutchins were all present. Councilman Charles Middleton was not present. Let the record show that City Attorney, Hayden Hooks and the City Clerk, Melinda Crook were also present. Tony Thompson gave the invocation. The Mayor led the Council and public in the Pledge of Allegiance
- II) APPROVE MINUTES**
A motion to approve the March 6, 2018 minutes was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Crozier. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.
- III) CITIZENS AND DELEGATIONS**
Wallace O’Neal – Primary Care of SW GA – invoices for moving gas & water lines
Mr. O’Neal briefly spoke to the Council regarding the background of Primary Care and the expansion with a grant. He spoke of the unanticipated items of moving the gas and water lines and that these unexpected costs were not incorporated into the grant. He questioned if a consideration or waiver could be given by the Council regarding these fees. The Mayor stated that he felt the Council would be willing to work with them on this matter. A motion was made by Councilman Thornton and seconded by Councilman Crozier to get material and 3rd party cost between \$2,800 and \$3,000. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present. The Mayor asked Mr. O’Neal to see the Clerk for the actual cost
- Jerome Johnson – request for pool table**
Mr. Johnson was not present. The Mayor briefly explained what Mr. Johnson is requesting, the license differences, hours of operation and alcohol permissions. There was discussion on if Mr. Johnson could hold both licenses.
- IV) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**
No Items
- V) CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT**
Resolution sexual harassment / conflict of interest
A motion to approve the resolution regarding sexual harassment and conflict of interest was made by Councilman Crozier and seconded by Councilman Thornton. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.
- VI) CITY CLERK’S REPORT**
The City Clerk informed the Council of her hard drive failure and that the Mayor and herself did not financial reports provided that were not accurate. The Clerk briefly updated the Council on some of the outstanding projects and that the audit would be commencing soon.

VII) NEW ITEMS PROPOSED BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Howard recognized City Marshal Jim Copp for completing POST certification. The Mayor read the certificates that Jim had received toward fulfilling the items required by the Council in receiving his promotion to City Marshal. He stated that Jim would be working on the Building Official portion soon. There was discussion on other requirements Jim may need to meet.

Matt Hammond gave a brief report on Fiber customers, installs and revenue. He stated they are currently looking at TV & Voice over IP and pricing on HWY 27.

The Mayor stated some clearing on our property and that the appraisal had been received. He then informed the Council that the \$1,000,000 CDBG Grant application had been submitted and that everything was being done, especially the audit, to not miss the Grant this year. He reminded the Council this Grant had the housing component. He informed the Council that the Fire Dept. pre-construction meeting had been held and that permission to proceed had been received and work should commence on April 23,

Matt Hammond briefly went over the WiFi at the Civic Center and would coordinate with Councilman Hutchins and Councilman Thornton on pricing.

Councilman Crozier brought up the Golden Triangle membership, at \$250 per year and that the City can appoint a person to the board which is due the next month. Councilman Crozier then recognized Mr. Paul Fryer who works with Congressman Sanford Bishop.

VIII) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Travis Wimbush if the City now has a Police Dept with the City Marshal position to which the Mayor stated the City does not. Travis questioned if the City would be purchasing property to build a jail, to which the Mayor stated there was no intention on getting into the jail business. Travis questioned if there was an Ordinance regarding buildings with no power, to which the Mayor stated that was part of the Property Nuisance Ordinance. Travis questioned fence on Sawyer property and the price on the Civic Center WiFi.

Joseph Willie Powell informed the Council that he is from Pennsylvania and that since coming to Blakely has felt welcomed in the Community. He informed the Council that he/the church is developing an all-natural farm and working on solar energy projects. Councilman Crozier informed Mr. Powell of monies that may be available and to check with Mr. Fryer from Sanford Bishops office.

Charlie Sol questioned the Council regarding the port-a-johns at Washington Park. He asked if there was a plan to make anything permanent. Councilman Hutchins and the Mayor stated that the City may redesign the present restrooms to accommodate.

Priscilla George questioned if the Sheriff and City Marshal the same entity. The Mayor explained that the City Marshal is in place to enforce all the City Ordinances.

IX) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Councilman Crozier made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thornton. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

Anthony Howard, Mayor