



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
CITY HALL**

JUNE 5, 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 present. Councilman Charles Middleton was not present. Let the record show that the City Attorney, Tommy Coleman and the City Clerk, Melinda Crook were also present. Councilman Al Hutchins gave the invocation. Mayor Howard led the Council and public in the Pledge of Allegiance

II) APPROVE MINUTES

A motion to approve the May 1st and May 4th minutes was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Frank Thornton. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

III) CITIZENS AND DELEGATIONS

None

IV) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

City Marshal, Jim Copp presented a business license application for Ladonnis Thomas to allow for an outdoor garage at 1097 N Church Street. He stated several areas that the Building Official had concerns. It was also stated that the application was not complete. A motion was made by Councilman Thornton to table the application. The motion was seconded by Councilman Al Hutchins. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present

V) CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

There was a first reading of the planning commission ordinance.

The City Attorney, Tommy Coleman, stated that there was a joint Planning Commission but was abolished from the City Code. He stated that it needs to be put in the City Code due to the Planning Commission that is currently in place. He stated that there were some changes that would be incorporated in the new Ordinance. He also stated that the Planning Commission would need to have a hearing on this Ordinance before the Council can do a first reading. A motion was made by Councilman Crozier and seconded by Councilman Thornton to forward this Ordinance to the Planning Commission for consideration. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

There was a first reading of an ordinance amending the alcohol ordinance allowing for Sunday sales of alcohol. The City Attorney, Tommy Coleman, stated that with the passing of the Sunday Sales of Alcohol for package stores and distilled spirits for restaurants that sell at least 50% food he was presenting this Ordinance. He then stated that he had found several errors that needed to be corrected. Councilman Crozier questioned when sales would take effect, to which Mr. Coleman stated it would take effect upon Ordinance adoption. With the Council agreeing the City Attorney then had the First Reading of the Sunday Alcohol Sales Ordinance to make any necessary corrections before the second reading takes place.

VI) CITY CLERK'S REPORT

The City Clerk presented the Council with monthly financial reports. She then went through the project update list.

VII) NEW ITEMS PROPOSED BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

A Pole Attachment License Agreement with the school system was presented. The City Attorney, Tommy Coleman, stated that this was a standard agreement. Craig Hughes stated that this was being presented due to the Electric Department finding attachments on City poles by the school between the Elementary and High Schools. Mr. Hughes stated that these attachments had been in place for 10/12 years. He also stated that he had met with the Superintendent. He then stated that there were about 26 poles in questions and the cost would be about 500.00/600.00 per year. There was discussion regarding the action needed to be taken. The Mayor then clarified that Craig was trying to finish up how much was owed in back and how much would be owed, yearly, going forward, to which Craig stated that was correct. The Mayor then stated that the school system wants to keep the fiber up in case of future use. A motion was made by Councilman Thornton and seconded by Councilman Crozier to approve the Pole Attachment for the School System regarding this issue. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present

Craig Hughes updated the Council on the Fire Department/Government Complex Center. He stated that rain has messed them up a little and that they are about 10% complete. He stated that most of the footers had been dug and that everything is looking good so far.

Name For Park On Plant Street - Ms. Mia Pittman came before the Council to speak regarding the naming of the Park on Plant St. She thanked the Council for the work on the City Park. She stated that the idea for the park had come from Ms. Jeanette King, who had expressed concerns for the youth of Blakely. She stated that Ms. King has visions of several parks around the City. She then stated that unfortunately Ms. King had passed away before this project was implemented so she therefore wanted to request that the park be named the Jeanette King Memorial Park. A motion was made by Councilman Thornton and seconded by Councilman Crozier to name the park on Plant St. the Jeanette King Memorial Park. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

VIII) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Robert Henderson stated that he did not want to complain but wanted to comment on the appearance of the City. He stated debris pickup has not improved and questioned why. The Mayor stated that there were some staff shortages and turn overs in staff. He stated that it was not all staff related. He also stated that more debris was being put beside the road and explained the Ordinance on debris and what is and is not allowed to be placed along side the road. He stated that this is being addressed by the City Marshal's office. Mr. Henderson then stated that E. South Blvd. is sinking again, and ruts are starting. He then commented on old

cars in yards, to which the Mayor stated that the City Marshal's office is back working on this issue.

Mr. Tramon Mills addressed the Council stating that he was a rising Senior in Hall University in Washington, DC. He stated that he can travel to Oxford University to further his course of study in the field of Arts. He informed the Council of how he got into this field. He stated he is having a difficult time raising the funds for this trip and would like to request funding for this trip. The Mayor praised Mr. Mills on his accomplishments but that the City itself, as government agency could not directly donate funds. He then stated that he could come by First State Bank for a donation and that some of the other Councilman may be able to get in touch with other organizations that may be able to help as well.

Mr. Tommy Wright came before the Council for clarification of the districts regarding the Planning Commission. The City Attorney explained what had happened with the Ordinance and what now needs to happen.

Ms. Meredith Whitehead questioned the Council regarding the old/junk car issue. The City Marshal, Jim Copp spoke to Ms. Whitehead and the public present regarding the debris and old/junk car Ordinance and how these items should be handled and ways that the City will be trying to get this information out to the public.

Councilman Crozier recognized Mr. Paul Fryer, from Sandford Bishop's office.

IX) Executive Session

A motion to enter executive session was made by Councilman Crozier and seconded by Councilman Hutchins. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

No actions were taken upon returning to Regular Session

X) ADJOURNMENT

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

Anthony Howard, Mayor