



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
CITY HALL**

**JULY 2, 2019**

**6:00 P.M.**

**I) Public Hearing – Rezoning 1011 Damascus St**

Building Official Mark Hawkins gave a short explanation on the rezoning request at 1011 Damascus St. He stated that the rezoning would be from R1 to R2 to allow for manufactured homes due to the ones in place needing to be removed due to black mold. He stated that in the Planning Commission the motion had died due to a lack of second.

The hearing was opened to public comments.

Mr. Lee addressed the Council and public stating that he wants the option to be able to put in one or two mobile homes if he chose to. He stated that he has owned the property for 20 years and that these properties had been vacant for two years and that he had previously rented the property. He stated that it was the previously owner who had initially installed the mobile home, that it had been put in more than 10 years ago and is in a mess to clean up.

William Davis, 1316 Damascus Hwy, addressed the public and Council stated that he opposes another mobile home going into this location. He stated that he had 11 individuals who also were opposing this issue. He briefly went through the history of the property and stated that no one has lived in this location for at least six years. He went on to speak of the Ordinances in place, then issues with the Butch Moore trailer park, homeowners in the area, the difference between rental properties and owned properties and then the property values due to rental properties.

With no more public comments the public hearing was called to a close.

**II) Call To Order, Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge Of Allegiance**

Let the record show that Mayor, Anthony Howard, called the meeting to order. Let the record show that Mayor, Anthony Howard, Councilman Frank Thornton, Councilman Charles Middleton, Councilman Al Hutchins and Councilman James Crozier (via Telephone) were all present. Also present was the City Attorney, Flyn Coleman and City Clerk, Melinda Crook. Brother Jason gave the invocation. Mayor Howard and the Council led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III) Approve Minutes**

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the Minutes from the June 4<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

#### **IV) Citizens And Delegations**

Ms. Barbara Reddick with the SWGRC addressed the council about changing the zoning ordinance allowing housing/loft apartments in the CBD. She presented a memorandum of agreement between the SWGRC and the City of Blakely to allow the RC to work with us on amending our zoning ordinance to allow the lofts. A motion to approve the agreement was made by Councilman Al Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Charles Middleton. Motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

#### **V) Administrative Committee**

Police Chief Will Caudill updated those present on police activities for the month.

Craig Hughes updated those present on city financials and various ongoing projects.

Rezoning Application - Samuel Lee. A motion to not change the zoning was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Crozier. The motion carried with Councilmen Middleton, Crozier and Thornton voting Yeh and Councilman Hutchins voting Nay.

A motion to approve the alcohol license for LaQuevia Sheffield at 1079 N Church St was made by Councilman Thornton and seconded by Councilman Middleton. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmen present.

Building Official Mark Hawkins presented a variance request for homes being rebuilt as part of the North Ave CDBG. The lots are small and do not provide for the full 35 ft set back. A motion to approve the variance was made by Councilman Crozier and seconded by Councilman Middleton. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmen present.

Adam Askew updated the Council on the new NPDES Permit.

#### **VI) City Attorney's Report**

Second Reading & Adoption Of General Election Ordinance

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the Election Ordinance changing the dates for qualifying to August 19<sup>th</sup> -August 23<sup>rd</sup>. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present

Headstart Lease Agreement

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the Headstart Lease Agreement. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present

Pole Attachment & License Agreements with Verizon & Cingular

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the Pole attachment & license agreements with Verizon & Cingular Cellular negotiated by ECG. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present

#### GDOT Gateway Agreement

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the GDOT Gateway Agreement. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present

#### **VII) City Clerk's Report**

City Clerk Melinda Crook presented the Council with financial statements and updated the Council on the audit progress.

#### **VIII) New Items Proposed By Mayor And City Council**

##### Appointments to DeSoto Trail Regional Library Board

A motion to reappoint Andy Smith and to appoint Charlotte McClendon to the Library Board was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmen present.

Mayor Howard recognized Roger Beckley & his wife for their great job on the Firework Festival.

Mayor Howard updated the Council on Fiber to the Home.

Councilman Hutchins brought up an issue with some trees at the Butler Avenue pond. Mayor Howard informed him that we had gotten a quote to rent the equipment and he had told Stephen to proceed.

#### **IX) Public Comments**

Commissioner Sol addressed the Council regarding housing issues.

Dr. Sheila Tiner spoke to the Council regarding rats at the old Holman barn.

Brother Jason asked the Council to extend the due date of the bills to the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Judy Brank addressed the Council regarding the house on Oklahoma Street.

#### **X) Adjournment**

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

---

Anthony Howard, Mayor