



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
CITY HALL**

JULY 3, 2018

6:00 P.M.

D) CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Let the record show that Mayor Anthony Howard called the meeting to order. Mayor Howard, Councilman Frank Thornton, Councilman Al Hutchins and Councilman Charles Middleton were present. Councilman James Crozier was not present. The City Attorney, Tommy Coleman and City Clerk, Melinda Crook were also present. Councilman Al Hutchins gave the invocation. The Mayor led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II) APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the June 5th and June 19th minutes. The motion carried by Councilman present

III) CITIZENS AND DELEGATIONS

IV) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Gabe Jordan – Alternate Source Demonstration Proposal – Landfill

Landfill/Sanitation Supervisor, Gabe Jordan, came before the Council to inform them of issues with the Landfill groundwater monitoring. He stated that Cobalt has exceeded standards. He informed the Council that Methane has spiked due to the inert pit closure and that the EPD believes that the Methane is causing the Cobalt issues. He stated that EPD is requesting additional data to state that the Cobalt issues are due to natural occurrence. He stated that the City needs to prove natural occurrence or see if there has been a mistake in monitoring. He then informed the Council of the progressive steps that can be taken. He also stated that he had already informed the County of this issue and what will need to happen. Councilman Hutchins questioned which wells had this issue, to which Gabe stated it was in the wells on the backside of the landfill. Gabe presented a proposal to the Council for retesting and additional wells if needed. The proposal with wells included, if needed, was \$22,890. A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Thornton to accept the proposal up to \$22,890 to start the process. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

V) CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

MEAG Bond Validation

The City Attorney, Tommy Coleman, stated that this did not require Council action but was just to inform the Council that several months ago MEAG issued bonds and that this

was just a legal necessity regarding the bonds which would require documents be signed by the Mayor and Attorney

VI) CITY CLERK'S REPORT

The City Clerk presented the Mayor and Council with financial reports. She then went through a project update report on the 12" water project, retention pond, Gateway project, software project and audit. She informed the Council of a Conference call with GDOT regarding the Gateway project and that there would need to be some additional easements for construction. She informed the Council that the audit and DCA report has been completed and submitted by June 30th and that as of right now the software Go Live was still on track. She also updated the Council on the Jeanette King Memorial Park progress getting prepared for the dedication on July 7th.

VII) NEW ITEMS PROPOSED BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

The Mayor read a dedication of a flag that was flown in Afghanistan, by Harry White, in honor of the Citizens of the City of Blakely. He stated that the encased flag would be housed in City Hall for public viewing

Craig Hughes informed the Council that the Fire Department/Government Complex would take approximately 12 months to complete but that presently they were slightly ahead of schedule. He stated that the slab was set to be poured the next week and at that point things should move quickly and that everything is looking good at this point.

The City Attorney, Tommy Coleman, updated the Council on the Gateway land purchase. He stated that they were hoping to wrap up the next week but that there some issue due to some of the property being transferred into an estate and would have to be transferred out of the estate.

Mr. Coleman informed the Council of a new law that required that any proposal for bid over \$10,000 would now need to be placed on the Georgia Procurement Registry as well as in the local advertising organ.

VIII) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ben Taylor requested permission from the Council to put up a tent for revival inside City limits. The Mayor stated that there was a piece of City property they could possible use. Mr. Taylor stated that would need about 5 days.

Travis Wimbush questions plans for the old Blakely Freezer Locker. There was discussion about the possible use for the Technology Department but not firm decision has been made. He then stated that presently the City Marshal's offices are located in the house on the property. Mr. Wimbush then questioned if other forms of communication could be made regarding Special Called Meetings. The Mayor stated that we could place notice on the City's FB page.

It was questioned if the Civic Center could be renamed and dedicated to Melzie and Eddie Mae Mosley.

Jack Sanders stated that on Saturday June 9th a bad storm came through and there were electrical issues when a tree fell on a house and tore down lines. He stated that the City's Electrical Department did a great job restoring power under adverse conditions. He also stated that Fire Department was there to offer their help as well and he wanted to express his gratitude to the Electric Department, E-911, Fire Department and Council for all that they do.

IX)ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton to adjourn the July 3rd City Council meeting. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

Anthony Howard, Mayor