



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
CITY HALL**

AUGUST 7, 2018

6:00 P.M.

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

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

II) APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the minutes from July 3, 2018 as presented. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present

III) CITIZENS AND DELEGATIONS

IV) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Will Geer – Audit Report

Will Geer came before the Council to present the 2017 audit report. He reviewed specific reports from the audit. He went through the statement of net position and statement of activities. He informed the Council that the overall the City was in a positive position. The Mayor asked that the audit report be posted to the City's website now that it had been presented.

V) CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney, Tommy Coleman, introduced Gary Lamar, a new member of the law firm.

Second Reading and Adoption of Planning Commission Ordinance

Kenneth Jones informed the Council that the Ordinance had been approved by the Planning Commission with the change of \$50.00 compensation to \$100.00 compensation. A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Crozier to table the adoption of the Planning Commission Ordinance for further review. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

First Reading of Ordinance Authorizing B&Bs As A Conditional Use

The City Attorney, Tommy Coleman, stated that B & B's were not considered when the Ordinance was initially adopted. He stated that a B & B would be added in the R1 Zoning and that it would need to be presented to the Planning Commission. He then read the Ordinance to constitute a first reading of the Ordinance Authorizing B & B's as a conditional use.

First Reading of Municipal Court Clerk Ordinance

The City Attorney, Tommy Coleman explained and read the Ordinance therefore constituting a first reading of the Municipal Court Clerk Ordinance.

VI) CITY CLERK'S REPORT

The City Clerk presented the Council with financial reports. She informed the Council that she did not have an update report for this meeting. She then informed the Council that a payment had been received from FEMA in the amount of \$55,000. She also informed the Council that the new software would be going live toward the end of the month.

VII) NEW ITEMS PROPOSED BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

The City Attorney updated the Council on the TAVT agreement. He stated that the agreement had been finalized and explained the repayment arrangement that was in the agreement. A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the TAVT agreement with the Tax Commissioner. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

City Marshal, Jim Copp, came before the Council to present a proposal for tasers. He stated they are less lethal. He informed the Council that the purchase was on a finance plan with the first year \$1,032 and \$840 for the next four years for a total of \$4,392. A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the purchase of tasers for the Marshal's department. The motion carried with Councilman Middleton, Councilman Thornton and Councilman Crozier voting "YEH" and Councilman Hutchins voting "NAY."

EMC Engineering Services Service Agreement

The Mayor went through the proposal from EMC for additional services that could be necessary to move forward. He stated there would need to be more easements at a cost of \$4,750, Nationwide permit for \$4,500 and stream buffer variance for \$4,500. The Mayor recommended this be tabled for better clarification of necessity for work. A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Crozier to table approval of the EMC service agreement. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present

Craig Hughes updated the Council on the Fire Department/Government Center. He stated that the slab had been poured and that block was being laid. He believes that they are ahead of schedule and that the roof should be on in a couple of months. He stated all is going well. Councilman Hutchins what Craig's title was to which the Mayor answered that Craig was the Project Manager.

The Mayor stated that Craig was working on a bid packet for resurfacing project of 1.33 miles of Church St. from Chattahoochee St. to the MLK 62 Bypass.

Councilman Hutchins questioned if numbers could be displayed on the projector when being present, such as the audit. The Mayor stated that displays could start the following month.

VIII) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Travis Wimbush questioned the Council regarding the yard debris charge/garbage increase. He also asked if men/women signs and tissue dispensers could be put at the bathrooms at the Jeanette King Memorial Park. He questioned Craig Hughes employment and the policy of the use of City vehicles by non-employees. He then commented on body cams for the City Marshal for their protection as well as citizens. The Mayor address his questions and that he could get a copy of the vehicle use policy, if available, at City Hall.

A citizen requested placing leaves in bags to put out for pickup. The Mayor explained about the inert pits and how these items have to be handled.

Charlie Sol spoke to the Council about a recent news conference with WALB. The Mayor explained what he had spoken about in the news conference and how everything he spoke of was not stated. Mr. Sol also spoke of safety vest.

Ms. Mildred Mells spoke of not being able to see the items placed on the projector, to which the Mayor stated paper agendas would be available at the next meeting.

Brother Jason commended the City quick work by the electric department and the Marshal's office condemning houses. The Mayor stated how difficult the decisions are regarding condemnation but that Ordinances and City laws need to be followed.

Tony Thompson questioned a stop sign that was down at Advanced Auto and shopping center parking lot. The Mayor stated that this was private property and would need to be addressed with the property owner.

Alice Hutchins thanked the Council for the work that had been put into the Jeanette King Memorial Park.

IX) ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to adjourn the August 7th City Council meeting. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

Anthony Howard, Mayor