



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MINUTES**

May 28, 2013

City Hall

6:00 P.M.

I) Call To Order, Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Howard called the meeting to order. Councilman Mills gave the invocation. Mayor Howard led the Council and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance. Let the record show that Mayor Howard, Councilman Mills, Councilman Middleton, Councilman Hutchins and Councilman Smith were all present. Also present were the City Attorney Tommy Coleman, City Clerk, Melinda Crook, Utility Director, Charles Jenkins and Fire Chief, Kenneth Jones.

II) Citizens And Delegations

III) Administrative Committee Reports

The Utility Director, Charles Jenkins, updated the Council on the Cedar Springs Hwy project. He stated that the pipe had been buried and that they are just waiting on the pump station at the present time. He stated that Blankenship Contracting has all of their material on sight and have started on the sewer line repairs in Southside. He stated that Oxford is completed and we are just waiting for them to complete their maintenance. He also stated that once they are running again they will be working on the paving on Ft. Gaines Way and Ft. Gaines St. for the CDBG project. He stated that they have looked at N. Church St. and East South Blvd and will be getting back with their recommendations. The Mayor stated that he had forwarded a copy of the updated budget, from MEAG, showing that the gap is closing on what had been projected. Mr. Jenkins informed the Council that there have been some changes with the ECG board. He stated that it is getting close to subscription time and that we have backed out of some items because of cost but that they have made some adjustments to cost. He informed the Council that he would like to keep some of the services that we had previously discussed dropping which are, analytical service, training, safety, state rules & regulations and engineering. He stated that there would be a savings to the City. He informed the Council that upon looking at his budget there had been an allotment for six months so he felt that \$40,000 could be moved from the MEAG budget. The Mayor asked that the information be presented at the next meeting for the budget adjustment.

IV) City Attorney's Report

Second Reading And Adoption Of Ordinance Regarding Enforcement Of The Building Code And The Health And Sanitation Code - A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by councilman Smith to adopt the Ordinance regarding enforcement of the building code and the health and sanitation code. The motion carried unanimously

Second Reading And Adoption Of Whistle Blower Ordinance - A motion was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to adopt the Whistle Blower Ordinance. The motion carried unanimously

First Reading Of Ordinance Re Regulation Of Events -The City Attorney explained that events such as these are becoming more popular and that the Dept. of Rev. states that alcohol sold at these functions are considered a sale. There was a first reading of the Ordinance regarding regulation of events.

First Reading Of An Ordinance Regarding Alcohol License Fee - The City Attorney explained that this Ordinance provides for the City to charge a non-refundable fee for the processing of an alcohol license application. There was a first reading of an Ordinance regarding alcohol license fee

Resolution To Void Waste Management Contract - The City Attorney explained that this Resolution was for the purpose of voiding the Waste Management Contract stating to them the reasons why the contract is being voided. A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve the Resolution to void the Waste Management Contract. The motion carried unanimously

Resolution Urban Development - Lisa Collins came before the Council to explain the Urban Development Plan. She stated that this is the first step in applying and receiving an opportunity zoning

status. She further stated that this will help pinpoint the areas for redevelopment. She stated that there are two steps and that it meets the DCA requirements for an Urban Development Plan and that it is ready to put into effect if the Council chooses to approve. She explained the two resolutions to the Council. She stated that the Resolution of Necessity just means that the Council understands that there are areas that need to be worked on. She then explained that, if the Resolution of Necessity was approved, there would need to be a hearing before the Council could approve the Resolution to adopt the Urban Development Plan. She informed that Council that this plan only concentrates on Commercial redevelopment. She stated that if the opportunity zoning status is approved the City will be eligible for CDBG Grants on a yearly basis instead of an every two year basis. She informed the Council that Early is no longer a tier 1 County. She stated that is important because of the job tax credits which could be offered to businesses if you were a tier 1 status. She went on to explain that if the opportunity zoning status is approved, by the end of 2013, than business in existence or a new business which might start and in which jobs are created, will be eligible to receive the \$3,500 job tax credit. There was then discussion between the Council and Lisa regarding the locations on the map provided.

Necessity - A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the Resolution of Necessity. The motion carried unanimously

Adoption - This item cannot take place until after the Public Hearing

V) City Clerk's Report

The Clerk stated that funds for the month of May have been extremely tight. She also informed the Council that she had forwarded a copy of the audit report to each of them to review and that if they have any questions to please get them to her for a response from the auditor because they were wanting to go ahead and submit the report to Dept of Audits and Accounts. Councilman Mills asked that she contact the auditors and ask them to hold submitting the audit until after June 7th so that he had time to review it and ask any questions.

VI) New Items Proposed By Mayor And City Council

Grinding agreement - Robert Murkerson gave a brief review of the proposal for the City to transport inert material to their location for the purpose of them grinding and recycling the material. He stated that they could start tomorrow. The Mayor stated that the material would be weighed before taken and that the City would be taking approximately 50 tons per month on a trial basis at the rate of \$22 per ton. Councilman Mills asked about the renewal process of the agreement. The Mayor stated that this agreement was from now until the end of the year.

Elections - There was discussion between the Mayor and Council regarding how the agreement was and was not being executed. Councilman Mills questioned whether the agreement had come before the Council for a vote and the City Clerk informed him that it had in April 2005. The Clerk informed the Council that the agreement was executed shortly after her arrival at the City and that she had been informed on what to pay out each month, but past that she did not have any other history of the agreement. The Probate Judge, Tonya Holley, informed the Council that she had been approached multiple time by then Mayor Hall and asked to take over the City Elections. She then informed the Council that once she had agreed they set a cost of \$500 per month. The Clerk informed the Council that the Chief Voter Registrar receives \$350 per month and two other registrars receive \$125 each per month. There was discussion between the Mayor, Council and Ms. Holley regarding changes which needed to be made to the agreement. Ms. Holley was asked to review the agreement and get back to the Council changes that she felt needed to be made. The Council stated to add the pay in the new agreement as well so that there were no further questions on this matter. A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills for a Resolution to continue paying the Probate Judge the amount of \$500 per month for Elections. The motion carried unanimously
A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills for a Resolution to continue paying the Chief Voter Registrar, in the amount of \$350 per month and the two voter registrars, in the amount of \$125 ea per month. The motion carried unanimously

VII) Executive Session

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to enter into the Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously

VIII) Public Comments

IX) Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills to adjourn the May 28th Special Called Meeting. The motion carried unanimously

Anthony Howard, Mayor