



Blakely City Council Minutes

March 2, 2021, City Hall, 6:00 P.M.

I. Call To Order, Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge Of Allegiance

Mayor Wimbush called the meeting to order. Mayor Wimbush, Council Member Davis, Council Member Jarrett, Council Member Clenney and Council Member Hutchins were all present. Also present were City Attorney Flin Coleman and Assistant City Clerk Trudie Evans. Council Member Davis gave the invocation. The Mayor and Council led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approve Minutes

A motion was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Hutchins to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2021 Work Session and Regular Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

III. Citizens And Delegations

John Thro – solar panels – item was discussed in the work session.

Daniele Williams – Easter event

Ms Williams addressed the Council regarding an Easter event to be held at the Ray Knight Complex. She asked the City to help promote the event. A motion was made by Council Member Hutchins and seconded by Council Member Clenney to help with the Easter event.

IV. Administrative Committee

Chief Will Caudill updated the Council on police activity for February.

Matt Hromalik updated the Council on E911 activity for February.

Mark Hawkins –

Alcohol License for By Pass Mini Mart. A motion to approve the alcohol license for By Pass Mini Mart was made by Council Member Jarrett and seconded by Council Member Davis. Motion passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

Mr. Billy Glass is stepping down from the Blakely Planning Commission. Council members were asked to think of a replacement nomination and to bring those nominations to the April meeting for discussion. A proclamation honoring Mr. Glass's years of service was read by the Mayor.



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V. City Attorney's Report

Mr. Coleman presented a City of Ethics resolution. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Jarrett. Motion passed unanimously by all council members present.

Mr. Coleman also notified the council that the law suit against the City in the hall vs Higginbotham/City of Blakely case had been dismissed. He stated that the opposing attorney had filed an appeal.

VI. City Clerk's Report

Financial statements were given to the Council. As Mrs. Crook was absent, council members were advised to see her when she is back in the office if they have any questions regarding the finances.

VII. New Items Proposed By Mayor And City Council

Appointment to Housing Board

Ms. Katherine Speight had sent a letter to the Council requesting the appointment of Angela Johnson as a tenant representative on the Housing Board. This would be to replace Ms. Sanjanetta Bryant who is no longer a tenant. A motion to approve the appointment was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Hutchins. Motion passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

A motion was made by Council Member Jarrett to approve the purchase of the firearms as presented by Chief Caudill in the work session. Council Member Clenney seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

Mayor Wimbush updated the council about the GovDeals sale of surplus equipment. The first sale was a success and we will be gathering other surplus items for the next sale.

Mayor Wimbush informed those present that the CHIP grant application process will be proceeding. The next portion will consist of phone interviews with citizens.

He also informed everyone that Hall's Drug is now offering Covid vaccines and other locations in town will be offering them soon.

Mayor Wimbush noted that 7 homes have been demolished as part of the 2018 North Avenue



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Mayor Wimbush brought up the fact that Washington Park has been re-opened but the Jeanette King Park has not. He stated that we now had chemicals and a fogger to disinfect the playground equipment. A motion was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Clenney to re-open the Jeanette King Park. Motion passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

Mayor Wimbush presented Chief Caudill with his certificate for being the employee of the month for February. He also announced the Bill Hutchins is the employee of the month for March.

The Mayor also informed those present that the new code enforcement officer will be starting on March 4th.

Chief Caudill brought up some police vehicles that will be on the surplus list. He had someone from a neighboring municipality that is interested in the light bars from a couple of the vehicles and he asked permission to list the light bars separately from the vehicles on the surplus sale. A motion was made by Council Member Hutchins and seconded by Council Member Davis to declare the light bars as surplus. Motion passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

VIII. Public Comments

Sheila Tiner addressed the council regarding street flooding on Jessie Johnson, potholes on East South Blvd and about people cooking and selling food from their homes with no business license or health inspection.

Richie Smith addressed the council regarding the safety of holding Peanut Proud during the Corona Virus pandemic.

Charlie Sol spoke in answer to Mr. Smith's concern stating that people had a choice whether to attend Peanut Proud or not and that was a question for each person to decide.

Celia Bostwick addressed the council regarding the Community Wide Clean Up that will be held March 20th. She stated that litter is a huge problem in Blakely and Early County and their mission was to help not only pick up the litter but also to educate and create a spirit of community pride. She thanked the City and specifically Charlie Wade for their help.



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IX. Executive Session

A motion to enter into executive session was made by Council member Hutchins and seconded by Council member Jarrett to enter into executive session.

A motion to exit executive session was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Jarrett.

Upon coming back into regular session, a motion to sell the 2 lots on the corner of Grove and Columbia, the Murdock Street property and the Shrine Club was made by Council Member Davis and seconded by Council Member Clenney. Motion passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Hutchins and seconded by Council Member Davis. Motion passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

Travis Wimbush, Mayor