



**Blakely City Council
Minutes**

August 11, 2015

County Administration Building

5:00 P.M.

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

The Mayor, Anthony Howard, called the meeting to order. The Mayor thanked the County Commissioners and Chair for attending as well as the members of the Recreation Department Board. Let the record show that the Mayor, Anthony Howard, Councilman Al Hutchins, Councilman Charles Middleton, and Councilwoman Margaret Wimberly were all present. Councilman Smith was not in attendance. Also let the record show that the City Clerk, Melinda Crook and County Administrator were also present.

II) Recreation Department Update

The Mayor started the discussion by questioning the Rec. Dept. Board about vacancies on the board. The Rec. Dept. chair, Callie Thompson, stated that the seat previously held by Garrett Bennett. The Mayor asked the board to forward, to the Council, any suggestion they might have to fill this vacancy due to this being a City seat. The Mayor then discussed how it was felt, that due to hearing complaints over the last 12 to 18 months, the Rec. Dept. had gone off track. He stated how it was felt that the complaints should have been going through the board or the director's attention not coming to his or the County's attention. He then touched based on the bylaws. He stated that it was felt that the complaints were due to a lack of oversight by the board and director. He mentioned that the lack of meetings by the board was a problem and that a way needed to be looked into for the public to register complaints. The board stated that the meeting area at the old building was really bad and they felt unsuitable for the public. The County Chair stated that if they called to check on the availability of the County meeting hall they could use it so that the public could be present. There was further discussion back and forth between the Council, County and Board. The Mayor then discussed with the board an incident involving State Police. The board gave an explanation of the incident. The Mayor then reassured the board that the County and City did not want to micromanage the board or Rec. Dept. There was discussion between the entities about personnel policies, fees charged, other misc items and State Law guidelines on the different sports. There was also discussion on the conditions of the building behind the landfill.

III) Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to adjourn the August 11th Special Called meeting. The motion carried unanimously

Anthony Howard, Mayor