



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**JULY 6, 2017**

**CITY HALL**

**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 James Crozier, Councilman Frank Thornton, Councilman Al Hutchins and Councilman Charles Middleton were all present. Also present were the City Attorney, Hayden Hooks and the City Clerk, Melinda Crook. Pastor Michael gave the invocation. The Mayor Anthony Howard 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 three sets of Minutes from June. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present

**III) CITIZENS AND DELEGATIONS**

**IV) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Business Analysis, Aymee Weaver, reported to the Council that there are 36 fiber customers. She stated that revenue to date is \$2,986.00, which averaged to \$97.24 per customer. She informed the Council that we have had quite a lot of calls after the insert in the bills and what is being told to the customers when they do call.

E-911 Deputy Director, Jim Copp, informed the Council that presently the 911 center is taking in about 1900 calls per month per the three Counties. He updated the staff count full/part time. He gave a brief bio on three employees, April Craft, Jasmine Williams and Krystal Levatt, who he wanted to recognize for their accomplishment of achieving further certifications. He then informed the Council of some further certifications they are looking into for their staff. The Mayor stated that the Council is proud of the employees recognized and the entire staff at E-911.

**V) CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

**Second Reading And Adoption Of General Election Ordinance**

City Attorney, Hayden Hooks, briefly went back over the Election Ordinance, giving the dates of qualifying, the cost to qualify and the posts (District 2, Post 1 and District 1, Post 1) up for election this year. A motion was made by Councilman Crozier and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the Election Ordinance. The Mayor restated, just to confirm that the date to qualifying would begin was August 21<sup>st</sup>. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

## **VI) CITY CLERK'S REPORT**

The City Clerk presented the Council with financial reports. She also informed the Council that the audit had been submitted after some error had been corrected. She informed the Council that the DCA financial report had also been submitted so that we stayed in compliance. She informed the Council that she had questioned the Tax Commissioner regarding decrease in TAVT income but had not heard anything back at this time. The Clerk informed the Council that the fence at Howell Park was going up and that basketball goals and soccer goals would be going in soon. She also stated that the bathroom would be worked on a little later in the year.

## **VII) NEW ITEMS PROPOSED BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

### **Gateway Property**

The City Attorney, Hayden Hooks, stated that there seemed to be a slight disconnect between the environmental engineers and the project engineers. She stated that it had been proposed to have monthly conference calls for all involved so that there would be no further disconnects or "he said/she said" and so that everyone could work in real time. She stated that the CE report had still not been submitted so some pieces could still not move forward. Councilman Crozier added that we would know when this piece was completed due to the City having to sign off on this. She commented on a property agreement having to be completed so that it went in accordance with their standards. Councilman Crozier stated that there was regular communication up until November of last year. He also stated that there had been communication with the DOT board. There was then discussion on the pieces that were needed next so that this could go forward which was mainly about the design plan portion. Councilman Crozier stated that he had been assured that everything in the field had been done that needed to be done to get this project 100% completely planned and designed out. Ms. Hooks stated that, according to one representative, information had not been received.

The Mayor asked the Sheriff if there was anything additional he would like to add to the Public Safety report. He stated that there wasn't unless any of the Council had questions. The Mayor then asked the Council if they had questions and there were none.

Councilman Crozier thanked the Sheriff and staff for their assistance on June 29<sup>th</sup> with the fireworks.

Councilman Hutchins questioned if anyone had heard anything back from DOT regarding HWY 27 and the 62 Bypass due to there being another accident at this location. Councilman Crozier stated that he and the Mayor had been in contact with DOT but that there are a lot of studies that they need to do. He also stated that they had offered suggestions to DOT.

## **VIII) PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Patricia Davis, 245 Mulberry Lane, stated that she had a few incidents she would like addressed. She stated that last week at house 209 a pit bull had been tied up in the front yard. She went through the steps she had taken regarding this tied up dog and asked what if this dog bit someone. She stated how the owners had lied about the dog and being tied up. The Mayor questioned if she had dates as to when she called. She stated that it had been early in the day the previous Wednesday or Thursday and that she had eventually called City Hall. She stated that she had been told that everything was under control. She stated that Rachel Keen was the owner of the house. She commented on cars parked on both sides of Mulberry Lane and it is already narrow. She stated that kids are playing in the middle of the road all times of the day and night. She stated that the police came but they come down as far as the

kids. She spoke of the club Sugar Shack and its operations. She also spoke about the speed bumps on Mulberry Lane and why are they placed at the beginning of the road and not some further down her way. She also asked why they took up the no parking signs. Councilman Hutchins asked if she requested speed bumps down at her end. He then informed her that she needed to get a petition from the citizens at her end. She questioned the dead end sign and how people come in and turn around or park and have conversations. She stated that she called about fireworks and didn't know that they could be put off at all time. She was informed that this was legal but that there is a time that excessive noise should be stopped. She stated that a car parked blocked her mailbox and her mail couldn't be delivered.

The Mayor recognized Celia Bostwick for being appointed the interim Chamber President. Ms. Bostwick stated that she was glad to be in attendance.

**IX) ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton to adjourn the July 6th City Council Meeting. The motion carried unanimously by Councilman present.

---

Anthony Howard, Mayor