



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
CITY HALL**

**NOVEMBER 1, 2016**

**6:00 P.M.**

**I) Call to Order, Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge Of Allegiance**

Mayor Howard called the meeting to order. Those present were Mayor Howard, Councilman Hutchins, Councilman Thornton, Councilman Middleton, Councilman Crozier, Attorney Tommy Coleman and Trudie Evans. Mr. Tony Thompson gave the invocation. The Mayor led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II) Approve Minutes**

A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Crozier to approve the October 4<sup>th</sup> and October 19<sup>th</sup> minutes with the correction to the section regarding the E911 Budget on the October 4<sup>th</sup> minutes. That section should reflect that Randolph County was to pay 150,000.00 and Stewart County was to pay 140,400.00. Motion carried unanimously.

**III) Citizens and Delegations**

**IV) Administrative Committee Reports**

**Adam Askew – Lift Station Control Panel** - Adam Askew presented the Council with 2 quotes for a new control panel at the Housing Project lift station. One quote was from Dean Electric in the amount of \$8,750.00 and the second quote was from Xylem in the amount of \$9,326.92. A motion to approve the quote from Dean Electric in the amount of \$8,750 was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Thornton. The motion carried.

**Planning Commission - Beth Wasdin** — Kenneth Jones addressed the Council regarding a burned mobile home at 71 South Central owned by Beth Wasdin. He explained that the home had burned on July 10<sup>th</sup> and that Ms Wasdin had been sent a letter giving her 60 days to appeal his recommendation that the mobile home be torn down or moved from the lot. Ms Wasdin did file an appeal, but not within the 60 day time limit. Mayor Howard stated the Mr. Jones should follow the ordinance in this situation.

**Technology Director Report** – Jason Gauntt updated the council on several projects. He stated that the make ready for FTTH project required 13 distribution points and 6 of those points are now complete. He also stated that the contractor would be starting on Friday. He also stated that the underground crew was currently working in Blakely Commons, then they will move to Tanglewood, then they would have a couple of other locations to finish up. The work should be complete inside the next 3 weeks.

Jason updated the Council on the E911 project, stating that Windstream had pulled and spliced in cables and that the project is moving. He also stated that Clay County was voting that night to join our 911 center.

Jason touched base on the Tantalus system, stating that project is basically complete; we just need to re-locate a few repeaters. We are still working with CSI on an integration program to completely automate the process.

**V) City Attorney's Report**

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton to approve the Ordinance Creating a City Marshal Position. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thornton. The motion carried unanimously.

There was a first reading of the Budget Ordinance.

**VI) City Clerk's Report**

City Clerk Melinda Crook was absent due to unexpected illness of her husband. Financial reports were handed out; any questions regarding the reports can be addressed when she returns. The budget adjustments and amendments were presented by Mayor Howard with a recommendation to approve them as presented. A motion to approve the budget adjustments and amendments as presented was made by Councilman Crozier and seconded by Councilman Middleton. The motion carried.

**VII) New Items Proposed By Mayor and City Council**

Approval of bids for surplus equipment – As several City employees had bid on the surplus equipment Mayor Howard asked Attorney Coleman his opinion. Mr. Coleman stated that as the employees were not policy makers there was no issue with them bidding on the equipment. A motion to approve awarding the bids for surplus items to the highest bidder as presented was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Hutchins. The motion carried.

**VIII) Public Comments**

Ms. Leticia Tinson of 33 Palmetto addressed the Council regarding traffic at the intersection of Jesse Johnson, Lancelot and Palmetto. She stated that cars are coming around the curve too fast and there have almost been several accidents. She is concerned that a car is going to come into her yard and damage her home. Mayor Howard questioned Attorney Tommy Coleman regarding our liability if we put poles on the right of way to protect Ms Tinson's property. Mr. Coleman stated that it should not be a liability. Mayor Howard stated that we will look into the situation.

Mr. Vincent Stovall addressed the Council regarding speeding and the placement of speed bumps in Blakely Commons. Mayor Howard reminded Mr. Stovall that the City does not own those streets and we will let the city attorney see what we can do legally.

Charlie Sol spoke against speed bumps, stating that they slow down rescue vehicles as well and that people are going to find a way to speed anyway.

Ms. Anna Sewell stated that she appreciates what the City did on her street. She agreed with Mr. Sol that people just slow down for the speed bumps and then speed right back up when they get past it. She stated that small low cars do scrub on these new style speed bumps. She also questioned the repair to a pothole at the intersection of Butler, North Church, and North Avenue.

**IX) Adjournment**

There being no further business a motion to adjourn the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Hutchins. The motion carried unanimously.

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Anthony Howard, Mayor