



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

FEBRUARY 7, 2012

CITY HALL

6:00 P.M.

I) CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, ROLL CALL

Mayor Howard called the meeting to order. Pastor Jared Buchanan gave the invocation. Mayor Howard led the Council and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Mayor Howard, Councilman Middleton, Councilman Mills, Councilman Smith, Councilman Hutchins, Utility Director Charles Jenkins, Department Head James Allen and Trudie Evans

II) APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve the January 3, 2012 minutes. The motion carried.

III) CITIZENS AND DELEGATIONS

DAN BOLLINGER – RDC – REAPPORTIONMENT

Mr. Bollinger addressed the Council regarding reapportionment of the voting districts based on data from the 2010 US Census. He explained if we entered into a contract with the RDC that they would evaluate if the City of Blakely fell into the 5% rule and needed reapportionment. If reapportionment is not needed there will be no charge, if we do qualify for reapportionment then the RDC would do the work and bring the Council some options on the reapportionment. The cost of this service would be \$1,500.00.

A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Middleton to enter into this agreement for reapportionment with the RDC. The motion carried.

DONALD CARVER ELECTRIC CITIES OF GEORGIA

(a) ELECTRIC CITIES 101

Mr. Donald Carver and Mr. Darrell Ingram did a presentation for the Council on Electric Cities of Georgia. They discussed the history of ECG and the various services they provide.

(b) RESERVE STABILITY FUND

As part of their discussion they brought to the Council the creation of a Reserve Stability Fund by the ECG board. This fund would be used to offset unforeseen costs to ECG. They requested that ECG be allowed to keep all or

part of the amount due to be refunded to the City of Blakely in that reserve fund. The total amount due back to us is \$16,439.72.

A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to committ 50% of our refund to the Reserve Stability Fund. The motion carried.

NANCY WRIGHT – EARLY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORP

Mrs. Wright addressed the Council regarding the Early County Community Development Corp. and some of the things they have accomplished in the community. She invited the council members to a grand opening on February 24 & 25. She would like to speak in depth with the council regarding ways the City might be able to work with her organization.

MICHAEL MCNEAL(TTL) & PAUL SIMONTON – LANDFILL

Mr. Simonton and Mr. McNeal addressed the Council regarding the methane monitoring system at the landfill. At this time they want to get all the fans working and continue monitoring the wells. They will evaluate their findings for the next 3 months before making a recommendation to the Council. They do want to purchase a new methane monitor and have James Allen check the readings daily. The Council approved the purchase of the monitor.

HENRY MILLS - USE OF CIVIC CENTER

The Council agreed to let the Washington High School Alumni use the Blakely Civic Center for the fee of \$50.00.

POLY ENGINEERING

Mr. David Davis and Mr. Jeff Jones addressed the Council regarding the history and qualifications of Poly Engineering and some of the local projects they have been involved with.

IV) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

BEER & WINE LICENSE FOR RAMESHBHAI PATEL

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Smith approve the beer and wine licenses for RAMESHBHAI Patel pending the results of his livescan search from Department of Public Safety. Let the record show that Councilman Mills abstained. The motion carried.

BIDS FOR MOWER – STREET DEPT

3 bids for the mower for the street department were opened by the Council. They were as follows:

- Wells Tractor Company in the amount of \$11,500.00
- Sunsouth LLC in the amount of \$13,250.00
- Tractor & Equipment Company submitted 2 bids one for a 2.5" cut in the amount of \$14,167.05 and one for a 4" cut in the amount of \$15,270.50

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve the lowest bid of Wells Tractor Company providing the equipment meets all the required specifications. The motion carried.

Let the record show that the Council agreed that the bid process would be that if the lowest bidder did not meet the specifications the bid would go to the next lowest bidder that did meet the specifications.

BIDS FOR TIRES FOR THE TRANSFER STATION LOADER

3 bids for the tires for the transfer station loader were opened by the Council. They were as follows:

- SETCO in the amount of \$18,642.80
- Tractor & Equipment Company in the amount of \$8,367.88
- Southeastern Commercial Tire in the amount of \$17,900.00

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve the lowest bid of Tractor & Equipment Company providing the tires meet the required specifications. The motion carried.

V) CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

RENEW INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONTRACT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the contract for law enforcement cooperation. The motion carried.

RENEWAL OF COURT SQUARE DEVELOPMENT RESOLUTION AND CONTRACT

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills to approve the resolution and contract for Court Square Development. The motion carried.

HEADSTART LEASE

Mr. Coleman discussed the Headstart lease with the Council. It was his recommendation to write a letter to them to have them re-draft the lease. The Council agreed with his recommendation.

VI) CITY CLERK'S REPORT

City Clerk Melinda Crook was not present due to GMA training. She had previously emailed revenue and expense reports to the Council. If they have any questions they are to contact her when she returns.

VII) NEW ITEMS PROPOSED BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR PRO TEM

Councilman Hutchins made a nomination of Councilman Middleton for Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Howard called for any further nominations. None were presented. Councilman Hutchins made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Councilman Mills.

A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Mills to appoint Councilman Middleton as Mayor Pro Tem for the year 2012. The motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY REFUND

Mayor Howard informed the Council that we have received the check for the Public Safety refund and explained where it would show in the revenue and expense reports.

PUBLIC SAFETY USE OF JAIL CONSTRUCTION FUNDS

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the use of the jail construction funds for the construction of a fence and gate on the jail property. The motion carried.

APPOINTMENT TO PLANNING COMMISSION, PROCLAMATION FOR WALLACE CLEVELAND

Mayor Howard read into the record a proclamation honoring Mr. Cleveland for his service on the Blakely Planning Commission. Mayor Howard explained that there were now 2 vacancies on the Commission and asked for the Council to appoint replacements.

A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Mills to appoint Charlie Sol to a 4 year term on the Blakely Planning Commission. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Smith to appoint Janet Payton to a 4 year term on the Blakely Planning Commission. The motion carried.

CITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Mayor Howard discussed the purpose for which this board was created and the fact that their purpose has been fulfilled. He asked the Council to consider dissolving the Authority. The Council agreed to have Mr. Coleman prepare a resolution dissolving the City Development Authority for the next meeting.

TAX SPECIALISTS SALES TAX AGREEMENT

The council agreed to table this agreement until the next meeting allowing time for Mr. Coleman to review the contract and to get clarification on some of the wording regarding their fees for the service.

USDA GRANT

Mayor Howard discussed his conversation with Mrs. Wanda Hudson regarding a USDA grant for the purchase of vehicles for the Department of Public Safety. Mrs. Hudson had suggested that we go ahead and file application for the grant even if we opt to wait on purchase of vehicles pending outcome of the upcoming Sheriff's election. As part of the application she needed a form signed by the Mayor and Council. The form was signed by all present.

LETTER FROM BLAKELY CABLE

Mayor Howard passed to the Council for their information a letter from Chuck Deloach. Mayor Howard's response to Mr. Deloach will be for Blakely Cable to have a consultant submit a formal proposal to the Council.

VIII) PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

IX) ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills. The motion carried.

Anthony Howard, Mayor