



BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 5, 2012

CITY HALL

6:00 P.M.

I) Public Hearing Tanglewood Project to amend preliminary plan

The Mayor called the Public Hearing to Order. There were no Public comments. A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Middleton to adjourn the Public Hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mayor Howard called the meeting to order. Councilman Mills gave the invocation. Mayor Howard led the Council and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance. Let the record show that Mayor Howard, Councilman Mills, Councilman Hutchins and Councilman Middleton were all present. Let the record show that Councilman Smith was not present. Also present were City Clerk Melinda Crook and Fire Chief Kenneth Jones.

III) Approve Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve the May 1st and the May 24th minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

IV) Citizens and Delegations

Kevin Morris – Water Tank Rehab Well #4 - Mr. Morris presented the Mayor and Council with a written proposal on rehabbing the tank at Well #4. His proposal contained pictures of the tank to showing the Council the state in which this tank is at the present time. He informed the Council that he had spoken to the Mayor and was aware of the present financial situation the City was having and therefore, if the Council accepted his proposal his company would be willing to finance the project and service agreement with no interest. Mr. Morris presented the two financing proposals, in the amount of \$661,638.00, to the Mayor and Council. The first proposal had the City paying \$170,335 per year, for the first three years, with the rehab taking place after the third year. The remaining balance of the service agreement would be paid over the next 7 years with payments from \$19,659 per year, in the fourth year to \$23,473 in the tenth year. The second proposal had the City paying 10 equal yearly installments of \$66,164 with the rehab being completed in the fifth year. Mr. Morris also presented a price of \$103,782, for 10 year financing, for a maintenance agreement for the water tank behind City Hall. There was discussion between the Mayor, Council and Mr. Morris about the state of the water tank at well #4. There was also discussion about getting Utility Services to relook at the water tank behind City Hall being that they had recently rehabbed that tank. Councilman Mills informed Mr. Morris that because of the amounts and size of the project the City had to ask for other quotes on this project.

Mrs. Eve Willis-Request that the lights around the square be kept on year round- Mrs. Eve Willis addressed the council requesting that the decorative lights around the square be kept on year round. Mayor Howard informed the Council of the costs associated with the upkeep of those lights. Councilman Mills calculated some figures and informed Ms. Willis that if the merchants were willing to assist the City with around \$6,000 towards the lighting cost the Mayor and Council would readdress leaving the lights on year round but until that time the City could not afford the full cost.

Meredith Whitehead – Rezone – Redbud St - Mrs. Whitehead addressed the council requesting that she be allowed to go through the re-zoning process again, this time to rezone the property to R-1. Ms. Whitehead was informed that due to Councilman Smith not being in attendance with Council could not vote on this issue due to the Ordinance stating that she would need a 2/3 majority vote.

V) Administrative Committee Reports

Bids for truck for Street Dept: Two bids for a truck for the Street Department were received and opened. A bid from Thompson Pontiac in the amount of \$20,797 and a bid from Hattaway Motor in the amount of \$18,485 were opened by the Council. There was discussion about the fund for the truck and the Council was informed that the funds would be from the SPLOST account and that it had been placed in that budget for 2012. A motion was made by Councilman Hutchins and seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the bid from Hattaway Ford. The motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission – Tanglewood Project A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the re-zoning request for Tanglewood on Liberty Street.

VI) City Attorney’s Report

Resolution Approving Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan: A motion to adopt the resolution approving the pre-hazard mitigation plan was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution Purchasing Policy: A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the resolution amending the purchasing policy. The motion carried unanimously.

Intergovernmental Agreement with County for Fire Services

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills to approve the intergovernmental agreement with the County for fire services with a wording change to item #4. The motion carried unanimously.

E911 Intergovernmental Agreement A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to table the E911 intergovernmental agreement due to funding received from Calhoun County not being worded in the agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution Approving Renewal of Quest Fore Agreement A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills to approve the Resolution approving renewal of Quest Fore agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

Second Reading of the Golf Cart Ordinance. There was a second reading of the golf cart Ordinance. A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton to adopt the golf cart ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

VII) City Clerk's Report

Financial reports were handed out and the council was informed that the Clerk has moved \$100,000 into the operating account. The Clerk also informed the Council that she had included the yearly revenue and expenditure comparison reports that she had told them she was working on at the May 24th meeting. The Clerk informed the Council that the Utility Director had asked that she present the suspension of the sale of vacation time by the employees for a one month period. The Clerk informed the Council that the average additional expenditure of salaries, because of the sale of vacation, was approximately \$7,000 per month. There was discussion between the Mayor, Council and Clerk regarding this matter. A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton to suspend the sale of vacation until further notice. The motion carried unanimously

VIII) New Items Proposed By Mayor and City Council

Travel policies The Council requested another copy of the draft presented by the Mayor. Councilman Mills commented that he did agree with the Utility Director regarding the meal expense possibly being too low due to some areas where meetings are held.

An application to temporarily close city street was presented to the Council. A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the application taking out items #9 & 10. The motion carried unanimously.

Dog pound extended days before euthanasia and cut hours. A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the extension of days the City keeps animals before euthanizing to 5 business days (excludes weekends) from 4 calendar days. The motion carried unanimously

The Mayor asked the Council if they were in agreement to ask for no less than 46% in the LOST negotiations, which is the City's portion according to population. There was some discussion between the Mayor and Council. a motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills to approve the Mayor to ask for 50% of LOST tax monies. The motion carried unanimously

The Mayor brought to the council a Resolution from MEAG for voting delegates at the upcoming meeting in Ameila Island. He informed the Council that the previous delegates were Charles Jenkins and the alternate was Ric Hall. He then informed the Council that he would not be attending the meeting and asked which of them would like to be the alternate. Seeing as none of the Council had plans to attend the meeting, but an alternate was needed Councilman Mills agreed to become the alternate. A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve Charles

Jenkins, Utility Director, as the voting delegate and Councilman Torre' Mills as the Alternate. The motion carried unanimously

The Mayor informed the Council that Christie Haynes, the Chamber Director, had sent an e-mail regarding the cost of the fireworks for this year. He then informed the Council that the County had approve the fireworks in the amount of \$4,500. A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the firework amount of \$4,500 with the City paying ½ and the County paying ½. The motion carried unanimously

IX) Public Comments

Ms. Cooper requested the City place ads in the paper on animals at the City Animal Shelter. Councilman Mills informed Ms. Cooper that the Chamber agreed to help us in this matter by putting information on their website.

Ms. Thomas came before the Council representing a non-profit organization requesting use of the Civic Center free of charge for community youth and senior citizens activities. Councilman Mills informed her that she would need to check with City Hall regarding the dates that she was requesting and provide paperwork for their non-profit organization. A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve their use of the Civic Center free of charge. The motion carried unanimously

X) Executive session

A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills to change the position of Animal Control Officer to part-time moving from 40hrs per week to 30hrs per week and stopping all other benefits. The motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton to accept the resignation of Indigent Defense Attorney, Marla Chambliss, and to appoint Hoyle "Trey" Mclendon III as the new Indigent Defense Attorney. The motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Councilman Mills and seconded by Councilman Middleton to take legal action against Barry Hall of Governmental Enterprises. The motion carried unanimously

XI) Adjournment

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Middleton and seconded by Councilman Mills. The motion carried unanimously.

Anthony Howard, Mayor