



## Blakely City Council Minutes

October 4, 2022, City Hall, 6:00 P.M.

- I. Call To Order, Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge Of Allegiance  
Let the record show that Mayor Travis Wimbush call the meeting to order. Mayor Travis Wimbush, Councilmember Margaret Davis, Councilmember Ray Jarrett, Councilmember Al Hutchins and Councilmember Brad Clenney were all present. Also present was City Attorney Tommy Coleman and City Clerk Melinda Crook. There was a moment of silence. Billy Powell gave the invocation and led the Mayor, Council and Public in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Mayor's Spotlight  
The Mayor stated that Bobby Freeman was this month's Mayor spotlight. The Mayor spoke on Bobby's work around the City, in the Street Dept, when the Tiger was down for repair. The Mayor spoke on the fact that Bobby never complained and spoke of the areas in the Street Dept that Bobby learned from the previous supervisor Charlie Wade.
- III. Approve Minutes  
A motion was made by Councilmember Hutchins and seconded by Councilmember Davis to approve the minutes from the Work Session, Regular Session and September 16<sup>th</sup> Special Called Meeting. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmembers present
- IV. Citizens And Delegations - Nobody was present
- V. Administrative Committee  
Will Caudill – Updates  
Chief Caudill gave the monthly report running through the different call stating that the total was 1015 total calls. Chief Caudill briefly spoke on recent shooting. The Mayor asked Chief Caudill about the new speed detection devices and asked if the information collected could be added to the monthly report. Chief Caudill explained how the speed detection devices operate. Chief Caudill then spoke on the Faith in Blue function coming the following weekend. He then gave a brief rundown of the weekend of events.  
  
Matt Hromalik - E911 Updates  
Lequiesha Mincey gave the September monthly report. She stated that there was a total of 4,256 calls
- VI. City Attorney's Report  
Resolution – GMA financing for the sweeper



## Blakely City Council Minutes

The City Attorney Tommy Coleman briefly explained that this resolution and documents are for a street sweeper financing and are the same as the City has approved and completed before. A motion was made by Councilmember Clenney and seconded by Councilmember Jarrett to approve the GMA Financing Resolution for the Nighthawk Street Sweeper. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmember present

### Tower Agreement

The City Attorney Tommy Coleman spoke on the tower agreement. He stated that this agreement is dividing the maintenance cost seven ways between four entities (the City, the County, Life Brite and School Board). A motion was made by Councilmember Davis and seconded by Councilmember Hutchins to approve the Tower Agreement between the County, City, Hospital and School. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmembers present

The City Attorney Tommy Coleman briefly explained that the Ordinance was to add a \$75.00 fee for alcohol license renewals and that this fee would encompass the background check and administrative fees. He then read the new Ordinance constituting the first reading.

The City Attorney Tommy Coleman spoke on changes that are being made to the alcohol license Ordinance. He stated that once complete and presented to the Mayor and Council a work session could be held to review and make any other changes.

The Mayor questioned the City Attorney Tommy Coleman about the use of force incidents due to a workers comp bill the City received. Tommy Coleman stated that meant the insurance company probably settled.

### VII. City Clerk's Report

The City Clerk presented financial reports to the Mayor and Council. She then gave a power point presentation of the financials for the public. The City Clerk informed the Mayor and Council that the budget process was beginning.

### VIII. New Items Proposed by Mayor and City Council

#### Flu clinic October 18<sup>th</sup> 8:30am

The Mayor informed the Council that the Health and Wellness committee had met that morning and had proposed that each employee who received the flu shot would have their name put into a drawing for a \$100 to come from the Health and Wellness Grant the City had received.

The Mayor informed the Council that the City had been awarded the 2022 CDBG Grant which was the one that had been applied for in 2021 on Cedar Springs Rd for sewer improvements. He



## Blakely City Council Minutes

stated that the project costed at \$1,775,211 and the City's leverage match and inkind is \$775,211.

The Mayor asked the Council to allocate \$25,000 of the ARPA grant funds to take care of dilapidated property/houses to get into compliance. He requested that the City Attorney Tommy Coleman draw up an agreement to be utilized in this process. A motion was made by Councilmember Clenney and seconded by Councilmember Davis to approve the use of the ARPA grant funds as requested by the Mayor. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmembers present

The Mayor informed the Council that the renovations on the Civic Center are close to being completed, hopefully by the end of October. He then requested that the policies and rental cost be reviewed by the Councilmembers for possible changes in polices and cost.

Councilmember Hutchins questioned the ditch on Jesse Johnson and if the City could do work that needed to be done. The Mayor explained that the work could be done better with the mini excavator presently in the USDA loan/grant process. The Mayor stated that it is currently being cut with the Tiger but will be safer to do any other work with the mini excavator.

Councilmember Hutchins invited the Mayor and Council to SWGRC in Camilla on the last Thursday in the month. He stated that the GA candidates will be present and that date is October 27<sup>th</sup>.

The Mayor spoke on the purchase of new jackets for the City employees. He stated they would be like the current windbreakers/jersey lined. He requested the Council consider allowing part time employees to be included along with the Mayor and Council. He stated the cost would be \$49.00 for sizes S-2X and \$54.00 for 3X-5X. The Mayor stated that Police, Fire and E911 get a different jacket as first responders A motion was made by Councilmember Davis and seconded by Councilmember Clenney to approve the purchase of City jackets per the Mayor's request. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmembers present

The City Attorney explained to the Mayor and Council that a bid had been presented from GMA for the purchase of the property for the Utility Complex in the amount of \$24,010. He stated that this was the only bid submitted. He also explained that this was part of the Bricks and Mortar program. A motion was made by Councilmember Clenney and seconded by Councilmember Davis to accept the bid submitted by GMA for the land purchase in the amount of \$24, 010. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmembers present



## Blakely City Council Minutes

### IX. Public Comments

Celia Bostwick thanked Billy Powell, Supervisor of the Street Dept, for putting up “Keep Beautiful” signs. Celia then questions if it was correct that City employees are not charged for the Civic Center rental to which Councilmember Hutchins state that was correct. She spoke on a possible cap on how many the employees are allowed to get the center at no cost. She stated that this could take away funds from other rental venues. She then questioned the sale of the Utility Complex property to which the City Attorney Tommy Coleman gave a little more explanation.

Exie Smith spoke on the Civic Center and requested that the Mayor and Council consider putting cost changes in place in January of next year and consideration on a cost increase.

### X. Executive Session - Personnel

A motion was made by Councilmember Hutchins and seconded by Councilmember Clenney to enter into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmembers present.

A motion was made by Councilmember Davis and seconded by Councilmember Clenney to return to regular session. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmembers present

A motion was made by Councilmember Davis and seconded by Councilmember Clenney to approve the pay increase for probationary period completion for Billy Powell from \$22.00 to \$26.00 for taking over the Street Dept. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmembers present

The Mayor presented to the Council a proposal on an automatic tarping system for a trailer at the landfill. The Mayor stated that the County had approved this at their meeting the previous evening. He stated that the cost was around \$10,000 which is a split with the County. A motion was made by Councilmember Davis and seconded by Councilmember Hutchins to approve the automatic tarping system for a trailer at the landfill as presented by the Mayor. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmembers present

### XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilmember Davis and seconded by Councilmember Hutchins to adjourn the October 4<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. The motion carried unanimously by Councilmembers present

---

Travis Wimbush, Mayor