

CITY OF SYLVESTER WORK SESSION MINUTES
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, AUGUST 06, 2018 @ 7:23 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor William Yearata, Councilmembers Melvin Powell, Randy V. Hill, Charles E. Jones, Larry Johnson; Autron Hayes, City Manager; Kimberly Reid, Interim City Attorney; Carolyn Williams, City Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor William Yearata

1) SPEAKER APPEARANCES

Pastor Judy Hall addressed the Council to let them know they were moving forward with the JW Holley Youth Club. They have their 501C3 status from the state. Meetings are held every second Wednesday at the Housing Authority. A proposal has been submitted to the City. She outlined many programs that would be offered such as tutoring, homework assistance, intramural sports, meals, arts, crafts, etc. It will be a well-rounded safe program, to help kids be successful. Mr. Johnson reminded Ms. Hall that this was originally going to be a Girls and Boys Club, but now it is called JW Holley Youth Club. It was changed because it was too costly to be under Girls and Boys Club. The City Attorney suggested that the earlier motion be amended to reflect the new name of JW Holley Youth Club, Inc.

DISCUSSION OF GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

2) WATER AND ENERGY SAVINGS – MELVIN HARRIS

Mr. Harris commended the City on how the City has grown. He brought sample kits that Georgia Power gave to the elderly to monitor their power usage with guaranteed results. Mr. Harris said there were grants available to assist in energy conservation. He wanted to know if the City could assist him in implementing this program in Sylvester. Mr. Powell asked if he would be willing to go out with Tyree and him to do energy audits.

3) EVENT APPLICATION – HOMECOMING PARADE

Mr. Hayes asked for approval of the application for the WC Rams to have the Homecoming Parade October 4th at 6:30 pm. *Place on Consent Agenda*

- 4) EVENT APPLICATION – SPLISH SPLASH STORY TIME – LEIGH WILEY
Mr. Hayes recommended approval of the application from the Library to use the Splash Park for Splish Splash Story time. *Place on Consent Agenda.*

- 5) EVENT APPLICATION – COMMUNITY COOK-OFF /DAVID BENTLEY
Mr. Bentley was absent, but this application was recommended for approval. *Place on Consent Agenda*

- 6) EVENT APPLICATION-BARK IN THE PARK – SHELLY MCPHAUL
Ms. McPhaul thanked the Council for their support and said that this was a multipurpose event. She is requesting that the fee for the Hut be waived. They will clean it and return it in good condition. *Place on Consent Agenda.*

- 7) GEORGIA PEANUT FESTIVAL – KAREN RACKLEY/WENDY KENNEDY
Ms. Rackley stated this was a big event and thanked the Council for their support. There will be a Georgia Peanut Festival Pageant held at the new high school auditorium August 25th. She highlighted all the events that will take place during the festival, with the road closings being the same. *Place on Consent Agenda*

- 8) CONTRACT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
Mayor Yearta stated that this contract was required by law and it is completed every year. *Place on Consent Agenda*

- 9) RESOLUTION NO: 2018-09 CONDUCT OF PUBLIC
It was stated that this Resolution pertained to the conduct of the public and the Council during meetings. *Place on Consent Agenda*

- 10) RFP CITY ATTORNEY SERVICES
Mr. Hayes asked for permission to send out the proposal for a city attorney to seek interested individuals to provide legal services to the City. *Will place on Agenda as separate item-not consent*

- 11) ORDINANCE NO: 2018-04 – MILLAGE RATE
The City Manager and staff recommends that it remain at the same rate of 7.253. The date will be changed to November 20th. *Place on Consent Agenda*

12) MEDIACOM RATE INCREASE

Mr. Hayes stated to the Council that Mediacom was obligated to inform the City of their rate increase.

13) COMMUNITY GARDEN

The City Manager thought it necessary, with the attorney present, to discuss the situation with the Community Garden. It was discovered that there was construction at the garden and there was no agreement in place, and the City is liable. He is asking for parameters to be set in place before events or construction takes place on the site. The interim attorney suggested that policies be put in place to address this situation.

14) GMEBS AMENDMENT AGREEMENT

Mr. Hayes said this was the amendment to the agreement of the Georgia Municipal Employee Benefit System to align the City with current areas and he recommends approval by Council. *Place on Consent Agenda*

CITY MANGER-AUTRON HAYES

- Requested Executive Session

WARD 1

- Mr. Powell was concerned about finance. Some projects were approved to come from reserve, but they were taken from the general fund. Now, we have problems from this move. It is causing purchasing problems. Mr. Powell would like for Cecil to get monies from reserve that was pre-approved so that the City can pay the bills and maintain our good credit. Mr. Johnson said that monies were voted on for MLK, but not distributed.
- Mr. Hayes said he was not aware of the funds coming from reserve for MLK.
- Mr. Powell would like for the City Attorney to look into voting for certain monies to be moved. Can the Mayor and City Manager cash in CD without vote of Council.

WARD 2

- Mr. Hill commended the city workers for a job well done with the fishing rodeo and the Night Out Against Crime.

WARD 3

- Mr. Jones stated that the City Crews did an excellent job on the fishing rodeo and there were many people participating.

WARD 4

- Mr. Johnson would like to amend our resolution to allow Ms. Stephens to approve Peddler's licenses for some individuals, so they can continue to do business.
- Mayor Yearta stressed that it is set up to prevent vendors from just setting up and taking business away from the local businesses.

Mr. Johnson offered a motion to move into Executive Session for Personnel and it was seconded by Mr. Hill-*Motion Carries*

The Council returned from Executive Session at 9:22 pm

The meeting was duly adjourned by Mayor at 9:23 pm. *Unanimous Consent*

William J. Yearta, Mayor

Carolyn Williams, City Clerk