

CITY OF SYLVESTER, GEORGIA
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 101 N MAIN STREET
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2018, 7:00 P.M.



The Honorable William "Bill" Yearta, Mayor (present)
The Honorable Randy Hill, Ward 2, Mayor Pro Tem (present)
The Honorable Melvin Powell, Ward 1 Councilmember (present)
The Honorable Charles Jones, Ward 3 Councilmember (present)
The Honorable Larry Johnson, Ward 4 Councilmember (present)
Autron Hayes, City Manager, (present) • Carolyn Williams, City Clerk (present)
Kimberly Reid, Interim City Attorney (present)

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor William Yearta

INVOCATION GIVEN BY: Dr. Willie Mae Marlin

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1) SPEAKER APPEARANCES

Mr. McPhaul with BFHS wanted to know if beer was permitted at the Bark in the Park Event. Mr. Hayes will check into it, Councilman Powell asked that this item be placed be placed on the Work Session Agenda.

Ms. Hall asked the Council if the previous Sylvester Boys and Girls Club needed to be changed to the present JW Holley Youth Club. Mr. Jones stated that the previous appropriation was voted on for the Girls and Boys Club. The Mayor asked the Council to take this request back to the Work Session.

The motion was made by Councilman Jones to take back to Work Session and it was seconded by Councilman Johnson – ***Motion Carries***

Mr. Harris asked the Council had the proposal he presented at the last meeting been considered. The Mayor responded that it had not been but would be looked at later.

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2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- i) Regular Council Meeting – July 16, 2018
- ii) Public Hearing Minutes – August 6, 2018
- iii) Work Session Minutes – August 6, 2018

Councilman Johnson offered a motion to approve the Minutes and it was seconded by Councilman Jones – ***Motion Carries***

3) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- i) Event Application – Homecoming Parade – Karen Singletary
- ii) Event Application – Splish Splash Story time – Leigh Wiley
- iii) Event Application – Community Cook-off – David Bentley, Jr.
- iv) Event Application – Bark in the Park – Shelly McPhaul
- v) Event Application – Georgia Peanut Festival – Karen Rackley/Wendy Kennedy
- vi) Contract for Economic Development Services
- vii) Resolution No: 2018-09 – Conduct of Public
- viii) Ordinance No: 2018-04 – Millage Rate
- ix) GMEBS Amendment Agreement

Councilman Hill offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and it was seconded by Councilman Johnson

Discussion: It was suggested by Councilman Powell to remove Item 7 from the Consent agenda to have the effective date as August 21, for the Public Resolution.

Mr. Hill amended his motion to remove Item 7 and show the new effective date and it was seconded by Mr. Johnson – ***Motion Carries***

GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

4) CITY MANAGER RESIGNATION LETTER

Mr. Hayes asked the Council to accept his resignation letter effective September 10. He had some family issues and did not want to play politics.

A motion was made by Councilman Hill to accept the resignation effective September 10 and it was seconded by Mayor Yearta.

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DISCUSSION: Mr. Powell pointed out that he was not aware of family issues, and that after tonight, he be relieved of his duties. Mr. Powell amended the motion to pay Mr. Hayes through September 10. Mr. Hayes said he could move the resignation to September 1, if it pleased the Council. Mr. Hill stated that he saw no reason to move it up, since his plan was to remain until September 10. Mayor Yearata stated Mr. Hayes should make the decision, as he had already done.

The above motion was voted and approved with Councilman Johnson abstaining from the vote – ***Motion Carries***

5) SDS / T-SPLOST

Mayor Yearata discussed the T-Splost first and said there must be an agreement with the County that affects how the funds are distributed. It is a local County sales tax in addition to Splost that stays in our county to fund projects in the County and City. Our share would be about 28.5%, based on population. The Mayor approves of the T-Splost, but has some concerns. If there is no agreement in place, the City will get a lot less funds. Mr. Jones stated that he did not like taxes, but he thought it should be done. Attorney Reid shared that the county can do it alone, but it is desired by the General Assembly that an agreement be in place. It was suggested to bring it to the Work Session

The Mayor would like to see fire districts established and noted that there is a mutual aide agreement in place with the County. The City has an excellent ISO rating of 3, and no County funds support the City's fire budget. Mr. Powell stated that we do not get any services from the County for the funds the City contribute. It was decided that the City stand firm in that we do not pay for unincorporated areas of fire protection. Attorney Reid said mediation is possible and DCA may have Mediators for these types of issues. Three areas were decided: The City wants fire districts, exclusion from any taxes relating to county unincorporated fire protection, and no to tax assessor.

Mr. Powell offered a motion to submit E-911, fire protection, and not fund tax assessor to the County for SDS and it was seconded by Mr. Hill – ***Motion Carries***

6) RFP – CITY ATTORNEY SERVICES

Mr. Hayes suggested that the City Attorney Proposal be extended. It was decided by Council to set the date for October 31st.

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Mr. Johnson motioned to accept the October 31st date for the RFP for the City Attorney and it was seconded by Mr. Hill – ***Motion Carries***

The motion was amended by Mr. Powell to send the search to the City Clerk – ***Motion Carries***

7) CITY MANAGER SEARCH

Mr. Hayes asked if they wanted to do a 60 or 90-day search for City Manager, and use the same template as last time. He wanted guidance from Mayor and Council as to whether they were ready to publish. An end date of the second week in November was chosen.

ALL IN AGREEMENT

8) CROCKETT STREET SPEED BUMPS – MELVIN POWELL

Mr. Powell asked the Council to allow Public Works to install speed bumps on Crockett Street, between Main and Isabella.

Mr. Powell offered a motion to allow Public Works to install speed bumps between the streets named above and it was seconded by Mr. Johnson – ***Motion Carries***

CITY MANAGER

- Next month during Work Session Ms. Johnson and UGA will be here to give the finalization of the pay-study. Mr. Hayes is asking for approval of the study, but not implementation of the scale.

WARD 1

- Mr. Powell wanted the notice of the Town Hall meeting be sent out on the light bills.
- Suggested that we go back to smart readers.
- Asked Mr. Hayes when will the assessment of the PD be completed.

WARD 2

- Mr. Hill had a complaint about the music at the HH Woolard Center. Suggested in the future that it be shut down.

WARD 3 – NONE

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WARD 4

- Asked City Manager to get with the Attorney to get an agreement with The Community Garden. Asking Interim Attorney to take a look at our liability and follow the same boundaries voted on by Council. The Garden should follow the same guidelines as a community event.

MAYOR

- Would like to look at lowering the speed limit on cul de sacs to 25 MPH.
- Would like for the Splash Park to be handicap accessible, and possibly a handicap parking space.

The Mayor duly adjourned the meeting at 8:07 PM – ***Unanimous Consent***

William Yearta, Mayor

Carolyn Williams, City Clerk