

CITY OF SYLVESTER, GEORGIA
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 101 N MAIN STREET
MONDAY, MAY 07, 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)
Hayden Hooks, Attorney (present)

WORK SESSION MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor William Yearta

INVOCATION GIVEN BY: Dr. Willie Mae Marlin

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1) SPEAKER APPEARANCES

Eric Hatcher told the Council that Mr. Hayes informed him that his contract with the City for the access channel would be discontinued. Mr. Hatcher stated that he had three good years and many great kids had come through his studio. He stated that he understood their decision from a business standpoint, but would like to renegotiate a new contract. The Mayor thanked him for his service and told him the City wanted to get the schools involved, and there were budget constraints.

DISCUSSION OF GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

2) FARMERS MARKET – JOHN L GREEN

Mr. Green shared with the Council that he was displeased with how the Market opened. In the past there were games for kids, there is no manager, no promotion and no sponsors. He stated that the Market opened four years ago, and this was his heart. There was a pretty good crowd for Saturday. He stressed that they needed a manager and sponsors, and that he would like to be a part of the manager selection. Mr. Green praised the Main Street

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Manager, Karen Singletary, for her dedication to the Market on Saturday and said that she learned a lot. He suggested to the Council that a Microphone be placed on the podium so that the elder citizens would be able to hear the Council.

3) EVENT APPLICATION – AMY GRADDY (REMOVED FROM AGENDA)

4) EVENT APPLICATION – TAMMIE JACKSON

Ms. Jackson asked the Council for approval of an event to promote unity to held at Jeffords Park on Mother’s Day, May 13. It is free to the public and will honored they will serve the city through song and bring the community together. She is working with the Health Department for food preparation requirements. **PLACE ON CONSENT AGENDA**

5) INSURANCE UPDATE – AMANDA HENDRICKS

Ms. Hendricks said there was unhappiness with the present insurance. She was looking at three other brokers and presently working with two of them. Mayor Yearta asked if we could change, and she said that we had no contract with brokers and could change anytime. There are many problems and not getting responses from the current broker. She has made other brokers aware of what the City wants and they will cover all-dental and vision. We must give a 90-day notice to change plan, and will go to a January start date. Ms. Hendricks was thanked for her informative update

6) MEAG CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Mr. Hayes said this Amendment allows MEAG to do in-house opinions on projects. The Mayor said that at their last meeting this was decided as a way to save money because now engineers were in-house. The second part of the amendment was about the bond covenants, and allows money to be moved between projects, which was not possible before. **PLACE ON CONSENT AGENDA**

7) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – ANIMAL PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Mr. McPhaul said a copy of the yearly agreement was sent to the City for signatures. The County is paying for the county and the Cities are paying for the city’s animal control. Basic animal control is provided by funds from the City, other services are funded by Fundraisers. Mr. McPhaul stated that they really appreciated what the City did for the BFHS. **PLACE ON CONSENT AGENDA.**

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CITY MANAGER

- Isabella Streetscape Phase II 95% complete, asphalt overlay begin in 10 days
- Transit Depot and Streetscape, bid opened March 29 with 3 bids, will rebid project out again
- Still waiting for Landscape beautification grant maintenance agreement
- MLK drive was surveyed for lamps and light posts
- Water System improvement 100% complete
- Billing software 95% complete, and will add an additional item
- 2018 CDBG application has been submitted waiting funding announcement
- Pinestreet Sidewalk bid opening May 31
- Met with State at Holley Gym to procure state funding for renovation
- City Hall on schedule-James give update:
Project is going on schedule and is in demo stage. Has run into two problems with water and termites. Termites are a major problem in several areas of the building and being treated by Termite company. Many sections of termites are being uncovered and company is giving estimate of cost. They recommend taking out plaster wall to investigate damage. A change order might be necessary, and will get quote. In order to get warranty, the termite company must treat. There are storm water drainage problems that are being addressed. He is very pleased with company doing renovation. Mayor asked Mr. James to thank contractor for being conscientious about the building.
- Met with PSC- went over issues with natural gas system, will give final recommendation

WARD 1

- Mr. Powell was exploring options for a gate for the Splash Park

WARD 2

- Mr. Hill had an issue ditches and creeks are full of vegetation and it is almost hurricane season

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WARD 3

- NONE

WARD 4

- Mr. Johnson is requesting to remove the reverse warning device from the ATV application. The Ordinance should be amended to reflect change. The City Manager said it will be put on the agenda to be voted on.

MAYOR

- The Mayor is seeking a change to the City's Utilities Policy. He noted that not everyone has a lease, and we should make it more customer friendly. Mr. Hayes will make a recommendation to amend the policy.

The Mayor asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. Motioned by Mr. Johnson to go into Executive Session for the purpose of litigation, and seconded by Mr. Jones.

Motion Carries

Executive Session convened at 7:55 pm

Mr. Powell offered a motion to reconvene Regular Session at 8:10 and it was seconded by Mr. Hill – ***Motion Carries***

Mayor Yearta duly adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm. ***UNANIMOUS CONSENT***

William J. Yearta, Mayor

Carolyn Williams, City Clerk