

CITY OF SYLVESTER, GEORGIA  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 101 N MAIN STREET  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2019, 7:00 P.M.



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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 (absent)  
The Honorable Larry Johnson, Ward 4 Councilmember (present)  
Jack Colby, Interim 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**

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**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Upon motion by Councilman Johnson to approve the agenda and seconded by Councilman Hill – *Motion Carries*

**1) SPEAKER APPEARANCES**

Bob Middleton was present and is interested in the City Attorney position. He commented that he was there to sit-in on the meeting. He represents a number of MEAG cities, and have helped Sylvester with PSC work. He wanted to introduce himself, and will submit his proposal when they are due.

**2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- i) Council Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2019
- ii) Work Session Minutes – February 4, 2019

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

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**3) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- i)** Event application – Shatereian Walker
- ii)** Rams Alumni Event Proposal – Chiquita Greene
- iii)** 2019 Main Street Work Plan – Karen Singletary
- iv)** GMA Lease Supplement
- v)** Resolution No: 2019-03 GMA Supplemental Lease Program
- vi)** Amendment No 3 ECG Intergovernmental Contract
- vii)** Resolution No: 2019-04 – ECG Intergovernmental Contract
- viii)** RFP City Manager

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

**GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS**

**4) RESOLUTION NO: 2019-05 – CDBG APPLICATION**

Mayor Yearta explained that this was already discussed in the Public Hearing and asked for a motion to approve the CDBG Application.

Councilman Powell offered a motion to approve the CDBG Application and it was seconded by Councilman Johnson – ***Motion Carries***

**5) ZONING REQUEST – MONA BROTHERS**

Mayor Yearta stated that this was the request from Ms. Brothers that was heard in the Public Hearing and asked for a motion to accept zoning request

Councilman Johnson offered a motion to accept the request with the recommendation of the Zoning Board be initiated, and was seconded by Councilman Powell – ***Motion Carries***

**6) INSURANCE UPDATE – COURTNEY HOWELL**

Courtney Howell and Noel Williams were present to address changes and questions regarding insurance. In plan year 18-19 the issue was how the network was set-up. The most problems were providers not taking card and requiring large up-front co-pays. He said they will be leaving reference base pricing and moving to CIGNA. The Plan Design did not change regarding deductibles. The total plan cost will be a maximum increase of 30%, but may be a little below depending on claims. They assured the Council they shopped every carrier, and got the best plan they could find for the City. Mr. Powell addressed claims, and

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they will look into a wellness plan for the City and bring back information

**7) RELEASE, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of SATISFACTION and INDEMNITY AGREEMENT with MELANIE RODRIGUEZ**

Attorney Reid requested an Executive Session to discuss litigation on proposed release and vote be taken in open session.

Councilman Powell motioned to convene to Executive Session to discuss the release, and the motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson – ***Motion Carries***

**EXECUTIVE SESSION 7:25 PM**

**REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED 7:40**

Councilman Powell motioned to accept Executive Session minutes as read and was seconded by Councilman Johnson – ***Motion Carries***

Councilman Johnson offered a motion to accept the Rodriguez settlement agreement and it was seconded by Councilman Hill – ***Motion Carries***

**CITY ATTORNEY**

- Court will be on Monday for nuisance abatements and will meet with Mr. Adams
- Anticipate next court dates will be set for mid-March
- Received revised IGA from City for the proposed joint drug unit; will review

**CITY MANAGER**

- Colquitt County issued their 60-day notice for suspension of program
- Denise Bozeman is saving the City money
- Will meet with school next week to get local access channel moved over
- Drive-thru window construction will begin end of week
- Travelers did their annual assessment and was pleased with their findings
- Airport is progressing nicely, Charlie and crew doing good job
- Senior Living Help want to list their link on the City's website
- Would like input from Council on Rakestraw diagram

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- Mayor Yearta discussed refurbishing the parking lot, and will create parking. It will be decided whether it need to be re-bided, and the Council will look at the cost

**WARD – 1**

- Mr. Powell wanted to clarify that if the public purchased their driveway pipe, the city would install at no cost
- He asked if inmates could grind stumps on right-of-way, rent or purchase stump grinder
- 2020 Census count-want the city to take lead. GMA has upcoming classes. Would like money budgeted for hiring workers for count
- Would like for City Manager and City Attorney to look at Cemetery Ordinance and make needed changes
- Municipal Court recorder is down and this is unacceptable

**WARD – 2**

- Mr. Hill wanted to know if City Hall was still on schedule for completion

**WARD – 3 (absent)**

**WARD – 4 NONE**

**MAYOR**

- Mayor Yearta believes with the projects everything will really look good
- He appreciates the Council putting forth the resources to do City Hall
- There are 3 new restaurants coming downtown

The Mayor duly adjourned the meeting at 8:01 PM – **Unanimous Consent**



  
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William Yearta, Mayor

  
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Carolyn Williams, City Clerk