

CITY OF SYLVESTER WORK SESSION MINUTES
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2019 @ 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor William Yearata; Councilmen Randy V. Hill, Larry Johnson, Melvin Powell, Charles Jones; Jack Colby, Interim City Manager; Carolyn Williams, City Clerk; Kimberly Reid, Interim City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor William Yearata

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: Dr. Willie Mae Marlin

Mayor Yearata expressed the Council's sympathy and prayers to Mr. Hill during the passing of his brother; also welcomed Mr. Jones back from knee surgery.

1) SPEAKER APPEARANCES – NONE

DISCUSSION OF GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

2) EVENT APPLICATION – PASSION PARTY-DYNETTE JACKSON

Ms. Jackson requested extended hours for an event at Shipp Park from the Council. Mr. Johnson stated that she assured him that it was all girls, no music no DJ, an all-girl event. Mayor Yearata was concerned about the neighbors and noise. He also reminded the Council of setting a precedent that would make it hard to say no to the next person with the same request. Mr. Jones wanted the time clarified-extended until 10 PM. Mr. Powell added that this decision confuses PD, in relation to extended park hours. *Consent Agenda*

3) EVENT APPLICATION SW GA FELLOWSHIP FOUNDATION –W. COOPER

Mr. Cooper addressed the Council to have a PTSD Awareness Event, with care packages and wellness packages that they send to VA hospitals. They have 2 bands and booths will be set-up with brochures. An issue arose regarding use of the stage. A fee will be charged to reserve the stage. *Consent Agenda*

4) EVENT APPLICATION EASTER YOUTH SUNDAY BLAST-D. GREEN

Mr. Green explained that they were a group of fathers that wanted to do a community event on Easter Sunday from 9am to 7pm. They want to have bouncy houses, egg hunt and give away baskets. Free food and drinks will be available.

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Live clean music will be played at the event also. Mr. Green outlined many ideas they had for children in the future. There was a concern about music beginning at 9 o'clock in the morning since there is a church in the area. It was suggested that music be inside in the am and move to the outside in the afternoon. Mr. Powell wanted to know what age he was trying to reach. ***Consent Agenda***

5) EVENT APPLICATION REVELATION and DELIVERANCE-J. WALLACE

Ms. Wallace told the Council they help the homeless get off the streets. They will serve hotdogs, chips, drinks, and pass out flyers of their events. They will be asking for donations and also waive the fee. Mayor Yearata raised the fact that the City will incur expenses and it would set a precedent in waiving for some and not others. Attorney Reid pointed out that under the gratuities clause, some kind of fee should be paid. ***Consent Agenda***

6) EVENT APPLICATION ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT-IRENE P. HALL
PARK – DAVID BENTLEY, JR

Mr. Bentley informed the Council this event had been done for 7 years. They will have activities and music will be a blue-tooth speaker and microphone to cut down on noise. ***Consent Agenda***

7) FINANCIAL AUDIT – JOHN NESMITH

Mr. Nesmith presented the Council with highlights of the financial statements and the audit. He noted he had no problems or issues with any of the audit evidence he received during a 4-month time period. With the City receiving Federal grants, the monies must be used appropriately. He commended the staff for following the rules which translates to future grants. In summary, the audit went well from start to finish. The City of Sylvester received a 2018 score of “B” to define the financial health of the City.

8) GEORGIA CITIES WEEK- KAREN SINGLETARY

Karen Singletary shared with the Council that the schedule was about the same as last year, unless they wanted to make changes. Everyone was okay with the current schedule. Mayor Yearata inquired about WALB going to different communities. Ms. Singletary will check with the station to get details.

CITY OF SYLVESTER WORK SESSION MINUTES
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2019 @ 7:00 P.M.

9) CHANGE ORDER PARKING AREA PROPOSAL

Mr. Rakestraw said that he was asked to sketch-out the parking area, and in doing so he gained 32 parking spaces adjacent to City Hall and 12 on the West side near dumpsters. He highlighted areas that the City could be involved in. A decision will have to be made to address drainage problems. Mr. Powell asked for clarification of the total amount. There was much discussion regarding the first proposal and the second-curbing, sod, driveways, parking, dumpster relocation, etc. He is asking the Council to choose the handicapped parking area. The Mayor and Council were in favor of moving forward with the change. *Consent Agenda*

10) CITY HALL AUDIO/VISUAL/CCTV SYSTEM-GOFROE-JAMES BARKER

Mr. Barker and Lee Renfroe briefed the Council on the new systems that are being planned for City Hall. Mr. Renfroe has been instrumental in showing where cameras, sound system, projectors, monitors, and microphones should be located. He presented a proposal for the systems. As for recording, no software is in the proposal, but he can make a recommendation. Extra cables are installed for an additional camera to film meetings if desired, but it is not in the proposal. Several data cables and spaces for electrical receptacles were run to accommodate different styles of furniture. Mr. Barker stated that the servers will expire in January 2020, and will require new license agreements and upgrade. There will not be a "one button" switch that turns on everything at one time. Some parts have a 1-year warranty on parts and labor. Security cameras were also discussed. The elevator is waiting for the emergency phone line from AT&T. *Consent Agenda*

11) ANNUAL BUDGET CALENDAR

The Council was referred to the Fiscal Year June 30, 2018 Financial Report presented by Hudson and Nesmith.

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY

- Had 2 nuisance abatement hearings last week, awaiting order
- Will continue to move forward with 2 hearings per month if desired
- Cemetery markers are not readable. There are no set standards for type of markers, and would like feedback from Council on type of metal markers
- She will include language in the Ordinance to suggest that the markers should be of a permanent nature for long-term weathering
- A 90-day limit to install permanent marker will be in Ordinance

CITY OF SYLVESTER WORK SESSION MINUTES
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2019 @ 7:00 P.M.

INTERIM CITY MANAGER

- Thanked everyone who participated in Career Day, huge success
- Thanked Seabrook Drive customers for their patience with water issue

WARD – 1

- Mr. Powell asked what happened to the approved cut-off valve for Seabrook Drive
- Roman explained this is a routing problem with the valve. Mayor Yearta suggested that this issue be addressed in the CDBG grant, so our industrial customers will not be affected

WARD 2 – NONE

WARD 3 – NONE

WARD 4 – NONE

MAYOR

- There is potential development on Hwy. 82 by Mr. Carter for single and multi-family rentals. He wants to know if he develops property, will city pave road. Everyone was in agreement, and will be officially agreed upon at a later date

The meeting was duly adjourned by Mayor at 8:35 PM.

William J. Yearta, Mayor

Carolyn Williams, City Clerk