

CITY OF SYLVESTER, GEORGIA
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 101 N MAIN STREET
MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020 @ 7 PM



The Honorable Larry Johnson, Ward 4, Mayor Pro Tem (present)
The Honorable Walter Dupree, III, Ward 1 Councilmember (present)
The Honorable Isaac Jackson, Jr., Ward 2 Councilmember (present)
The Honorable Mark Giddens, Ward 3 Councilmember (present)
Autron Hayes, City Manager (present) • Carolyn Williams, City Clerk (present)
Lester Castellow, City Attorney (present)

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER – MAYOR PRO TEM LARRY JOHNSON**
- II. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE – DR. WILLIE MAE MARLIN**
- III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilman Giddens moved to approve the agenda and a second was offered by Councilman Dupree – *Motion Carries*
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Jackson motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Councilman Giddens – *Motion Carries*
- V. **SPEAKER APPEARANCES**

Wade Littleton, Fatboys BBQ, is considering expanding his location to a property in the county that needs to be annexed into the City. He also requires City services. Mr. Hayes noted that it may take a pump station. Mr. Johnson suggested that the Engineers look at the proposal and give their recommendations. Mr. Wade was thanked for his desire to grow his business in Sylvester.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A) **ORDINANCE NO: 2015-08 SUPPLEMENTED ADOPTION**

Attorney Castellow explained that he was asked by Mr. Hayes to draft Resolutions for referendums for Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages. A referendum was passed in 2015 for distilled spirits sales with consumption

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on the premises but was not followed up by an Ordinance. This Ordinance perfects the record and is consistent with what has been done in the past.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson motioned to approve Ordinance No: 2015-08 and dispense of the second reading by unanimous consent and it was seconded by Councilman Jackson – ***Unanimous Consent- Motion Carries***

B) RECREATION CENTER REQUEST – PASTOR’S LUCAS AND MCDONALD

In his address to the Council Pastor Lucas stated that they had been feeding children every summer for the last three years. Their desire is to prepare hot meals on Wednesday from 5:00 -8:00 at the Rec Center. They are partnering with Ms. Dylinski and is assured of funding. All guidelines have been met for the facility and food preparation. Councilman Jackson highly favored allowing use of the Rec for this program. It will last until school begins, feeding 200-300 kids, with social distancing practiced, and following CDC guidelines.

Councilman Jackson motioned to approve the use of the Recreation Center and a second was offered by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

C) SPLOST PROJECT LIST

Mr. Hayes stated a meeting was held with the Commissioners regarding the SPLOST project list submission. He recommends keeping projects very broad. He outlined a list of potential projects. He suggested the idea of a Municipal Complex. Total projects totals 2.6 million dollars with flexibility.

Councilman Giddens moved to approve the SPLOST project list and it was seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

D) MUNICIPAL COURT FINE SCHEDULE

Mr. Hayes reported that the City sets fees and fines in Municipal Court. The Chief compared fines with neighboring cities and found Sylvester to be the lowest. She suggested a minimal increase to take effect July 1. Mr. Hayes recommends approval of increased fines for Police Dept.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to approve the increase of fines for the Police Department and a second was offered by Councilman Jackson – ***Motion Carries***

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E) CODE ENFORCEMENT FEE/FINE SCHEDULE

Mr. Hayes informed Council that he had directed Mr. Adams to begin writing citations to impose punitive damages for offenders. Mr. Adams is also asking for an increase in fines. With his comparison study, he will stay in a medium range. The fees have not been changed in years, and would like the increase to be effective July 1.

Councilman Jackson motioned to allow the increase in fines for Code Enforcement and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

F) RESOLUTION NO: 2020-10 – GEFA LOAN

Mr. Hayes stated the above Resolution authorizes the proper signatures to execute the loan documents. The City will be eligible for principal forgiveness up to a half- million dollars because of the Plan First Designation. He recommends approval of the Resolution.

Councilman Jackson moved to approve the Resolution and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

G) RESOLUTION NO: 2020-08 –BUDGET ADOPTION

Mr. Hayes expressed to Council that the budget is 1.7 million dollars less than last year. The PCA will be a flat rate throughout the year. There will be no increase in solid waste fees for residents. Zoning applications will be mildly increased. More cuts maybe pending and recommends approval.

Councilman Giddens moved to approve the Resolution to Adopt the Budget and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

H) RESOLUTION NO: 2020-11 – MEAG VOTING DELEGATES

This Resolution designates a member of the City as a voting delegate. Mr. Jackson is the voting delegate and Mr. Hayes is the alternate.

Councilman Dupree motioned to approve the Resolution for MEAG voting delegates and was seconded by Councilman Jackson – ***Motion Carries***

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I) RESOLUTION NO: 2020-12 – REFERENDUM TO ALLOW SUNDAY SALES OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The City is not in a position to compete on Sunday with other restaurants. This Resolution will give our restaurants the tools to compete. Mr. Johnson noted that this could have an economic impact on the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution No: 2020-12 to present the referendum to allow Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages and was seconded by Councilman Jackson – ***Motion Carries***

J) RESOLUTION NO: 2020-13 – REFERENDUM TO ALLOW SUNDAY PACKAGE SALES OF BEER AND WINE

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to approve Resolution No: 2020-13 to present the referendum to allow Sunday package sales of beer and wine and was seconded by Councilman Jackson – ***Motion Carries***

K) SYLVESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT/WORTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE DRUG TASK FORCE

Mr. Hayes asked for approval to initiate an IGA with the Worth County Sheriff's Office and the Sylvester Police Department. The governing board will be the Chief, Sheriff, and other members. It will be good supplemental help for both agencies. He wants to start the discussion, and report back to Council with results. Mr. Johnson is in favor of the task force because he feels the right people are in place to execute the unit.

Councilman Giddens moved to allow the City Manager to move forward with discussion of the IGA and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

L) APPOINTMENT OF RECREATION BOARD MEMBER – COUNCILMAN DUPREE
Mr. Hayes asked for approval of Councilman Dupree to the Recreation Board.

Mr. Jackson moved to approve Mr. Dupree's appointment to the Recreation Board and was seconded by Mr. Giddens- ***Motion Carries***

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M) DDA APPOINTMENT – JENNIFER BAN

Ms. Jean Brooks recommends Jennifer Ban be appointed to the DDA Board. Mr. Hayes Recommends Council to follow Ms. Brooks’s candidate for appointment.

Mr. Johnson offered a motion to appointment Jennifer Ban to the DDA Board and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – Motion Carries

N) 90-DAY MORATORIUM-SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

Mr. Hayes stated the City Attorney is drafting an Ordinance to address the subdivision placement of infrastructure within the City. Mr. Hayes want it to be clear in the Ordinance that the Developer pays for all the infrastructure. The City Attorney said the Ordinance will be ready within the 90-day window.

Councilman Johnson moved to approve the 90-day moratorium on subdivision applications and was seconded by Councilman Giddens –*Motion Carries*

VII. CITY MANAGER REPORTS

- He will be looking at Police Department fleet and report back to Council
- Will be meeting with Council on Aging regarding Senior Center and will report back to Council

VIII. CITY ATTORNEY

- He was planning to look over moratorium but had time restraint

IX. REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Councilman Dupree asked Mr. Adams where we stood on dilapidated houses. Mr. Adams explained the status of the property in question. Mr. Johnson wanted to know if more teeth could be in this process. Mr. Adams said what he does is what most cities have. Attorney Castellow and Mr. Adams will examine the procedures in place. Attorney Castellow suggested a tax incentive program that is controversial, but effective. Mr. Dupree asked about stray dogs. Mr. Adams said he had met with the Humane Society and will try to combat issues. Must notify 911 and City Hall so a paper trail will be generated.

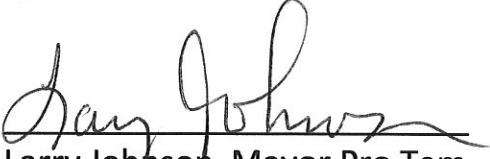
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X. EXECUTIVE SESSION (NONE)

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jackson motioned to adjourn and a second was offered by Councilman Dupree-
Motion Carries

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson duly adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM.


Larry Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem


Carolyn Williams, City Clerk

