

CITY OF SYLVESTER, GEORGIA  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 101 N MAIN STREET  
MONDAY, JULY 20, 2020 @ 7:00 PM



The Honorable Charles Jones, Mayor (absent)  
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 (absent)  
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. **MAYOR CHARLES JONES - ABSENT**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
Councilman Giddens moved to approve the agenda and a second was offered by Councilman Dupree – *Motion Carries*
- V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
Councilman Dupree motioned to approve the minutes and was seconded by Councilman Jackson – *Motion Carries*
- VI. **SPEAKER APPEARANCES-NONE**
- VII. **PRESENTATION CODE RED – MARCI ERRAIR**  
Ms. Errair, 911 Director, noted that the City had Code Red before but it was not used to its full capability. The System provides innumerable notifications such as road closures, active shooter, weather alerts, water notices and much more. If a person is not at home, they can retrieve the message and even send a reply. Funding is sought from Sumner, Poulan, Warwick, Sylvester and the County. The County, 911, will be responsible for Code Red. She explained many ways it could be used even to target groups and individual departments. The breakdown of

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costs have not been defined. Mr. Hayes stated that communication is key and would be beneficial, but he needs more information. There is no limit on users. Mayor Pro Tem Johnson acknowledged that there was a consensus to allow the City Manager to handle Code Red.

Councilman Jackson moved to allow the City Manager to explore the details surrounding Code Red and was seconded by Councilman Giddens – ***Motion Carries***

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A) PENSION COMMITTEE SECRETARY CHANGE**

Mr. Hayes recommended that he be assigned as the Pension Secretary.

Councilman Jackson motioned to name Mr. Hayes as Pension Secretary and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

**B) PAINTING ELECTRICAL BOXES-KAREN SINGLETARY**

Ms. Singletary asked for permission to paint the electrical boxes at the Depot with a cost of \$300.

The Council advised the City Manager that this item was in his discretion.

**C) SPEED BUMPS REMOVAL – COUNCILMAN DUPREE**

Mr. Hayes stated that the speed bumps will only be removed in front of one residence.

Councilman Dupree moved to remove two speed bumps on West Lee Street and was seconded by Councilman Giddens – ***Motion Carries***

In the future, Mr. Hayes recommends drafting a policy to address speed bumps- will bring a policy back to Council.

**D) E) F) and G)**

**RESOLUTION NO: 2020-15 ADOPTION SECTION 3 POLICY**

**RESOLUTION NO: 2020-16 ADOPTION OF LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN**

**RESOLUTION NO: 2020-17 ADOPTION OF POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND  
PROGRAM DESIGN**

**RESOLUTION NO: 2020-18 ADOPTION OF HOMEOWNERS ELIGIBILITY  
REQUIREMENT**

Mr. Hayes briefed the Council on all of the above Resolutions regarding CHIP



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which requires specific guidelines and procedures be strictly adhered to and followed to benefit low income individuals. He also stated the Housing Task Force will be starting-up again. He commended Melissa for doing a good job working with the CHIP grant.

Councilman Jackson motioned to approve all of the above Resolutions relating to CHIP and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

**H) RESOLUTION NO: 2020-19 BANKING DESIGNATION**

Mr. Hayes recommend changes to reflect and add Hayes, Karen Sanders, and Carolyn Williams to the banking information. This will satisfy the banking requirement to have an Administrator.

Councilman Johnson motioned to approve the Resolution and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

**I) WEST PRICE STREET DETENTION POND**

Mr. Hayes is requesting to dredge West Price Street pond because many residents use it for fishing. It might be possible to use SPLOST funds. He asks for approval to dredge Price Street Detention pond, and funds are budgeted. Mr. Dupree asked if this area could be built-up to prevent flooding-it will be looked at.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson motioned to approve the West Price Street dredging and was seconded by Councilman Giddens – ***Motion Carries***

**J) WIRELESS ACCESS POINT INSTALLATION**

Mr. Hayes asked if the City may install Access Points for internet WIFI at the Depot, Woolard Center and Daisy Gamble. This will help kids who do not have access to internet at home. Mr. Johnson asked to look at Jeffords Park also. Mr. Jackson asked about Shipp Park.

Councilman Dupree moved to approve the Access Point installations and a second was offered by Councilman Jackson – ***Motion Carries***

**K) MARY ALICE SHIPP SENIOR CENTER (RENAME)**

Mr. Hayes informed the Council that the South West Georgia Council on Aging activities are canceled for the foreseeable future. He recommends renaming the Center “Mary Alice Shipp Multipurpose Building.”

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Councilman Jackson motioned to approve the renaming of the Shipp Center to the Multipurpose Building, a second was offered by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson-  
***Motion Carries***

**L) MARY ALICE SHIPP BUILDING USAGE**

Mr. Hayes recommends using the Multipurpose Center as a rental. Family Connections will be moved from Daisy Gamble and Men United will do a lease with the City on the building.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson motioned to approve the Multipurpose Building usage by the Organization and as a rental, and was seconded by Councilman Jackson – ***Motion Carries***

**M) DEPOT RENTAL USAGE**

Mr. Hayes asks approval to market the back of the Depot as a rental. Ms. Singletary stated she has been approached several times about renting the Depot. Mr. Johnson added that it will be good for Downtown and the DDA. The area of usage will be from the Council Chambers to the porch. Court could possibly be held at City Hall.

Councilman Jackson moved to market the Depot as a rental and was seconded by Councilman Giddens – ***Motion Carries***

**N) DESIGN SERVICES FIBER TO THE HOME NETWORK**

Mr. Hayes is asking approval to move forward on the Design Phase of the Fiber to Home Network. The Design will be done for Mayor and Council to examine and review the prospective areas of service. He named several businesses that already have the City Internet Service, with no complaints or issues.

Councilman Giddens moved to approve the Design Phase of the Fiber to Home Network and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

**O) EXTRATERRITORIAL CITY UTILITIES LOCAL LEGISLATION**

Attorney Castellow proposes to amend the Charter to allow extension of utilities outside the City limits. Local legislation will alleviate any future issues with extraterritorial authority.

Councilman Giddens motioned to approve local legislation to extend utilities



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or services outside the City limits, and a second was offered by Councilman Jackson – ***Motion Carries***

**P) CITY CLERK APPOINTMENT CHANGE HOME RULE AND**

**Q) SALARY ADJUSTMENT GOVERNING AUTHORITY HOME RULE**

Attorney Castellow clarified the two items listed above referencing Home Rule changes. He noted that a notice must be published first, and two readings.

Councilman Jackson moved to authorize the City Attorney to draft publication and advertise to start Home Rule proceeding, seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

**IX. CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

- COVID 19 Police Chief recovering
- Sewer Lines installed at Rec Building

**X. CITY ATTORNEY - NONE**

**XI. REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL – NONE**

**XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 7:55 PM**

Councilman Jackson moved to convene an Executive Session to discuss land acquisition and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – ***Motion Carries***

**REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED 8:04 PM**

After discussion of land acquisition, no official action was proposed or taken.

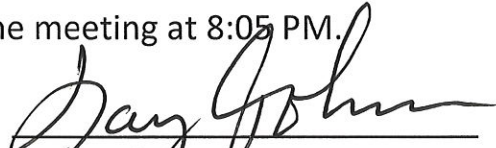
Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to accept the Minutes as read in Executive Session, and a second was offered by Councilman Jackson – ***Motion Carries***


**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Jackson motioned to adjourn and a second was offered by Mr. Dupree ***Motion Carries – Unanimous Consent***

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Mayor Pro Tem Johnson duly adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM.

  
Larry Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem

  
Melissa Curry, Acting City Clerk

