

CITY OF SYLVESTER, GEORGIA
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 101 N MAIN STREET
MONDAY, OCTOBER 05, 2020 @ 7:00 PM



The Honorable Charles Jones, Mayor (present)
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 (virtual)
Autron Hayes, City Manager (present) • Tenneisha Smith-Cushion, Deputy Clerk, (present)
Lester Castellow, City Attorney, (present)

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER – MAYOR CHARLES JONES

Councilman Mark Giddens – Virtual

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE – Charles McDonald

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Hayes asked for the agenda to be amended to add Holley Gym Property.

Councilman Johnson motioned to add the above items to the agenda and a second was offered by Councilman Jackson – *4-0 Motion Carries*

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Dupree moved to approve the minutes and Councilman Jackson seconded *4-0 Motion Carries*

V. SPEAKER APPEARANCES – NONE

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A) City Internet System Technical Services Agreement

Mr. Hayes introduced Marvin Golden, a representative of NTS, to explain details of the proposed contract. Mr. Golden spoke briefly on creating a cyber system that allows citizens to work from home and businesses. He also informed the Council that they would be responsible for pooling resources to make the

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venture successful. They will soon begin “make ready” for the poles, with the City having an advantage by owning their poles. In comparison to other Cities, Mr. Hayes asked about the advantages and disadvantages of broadband for the City of Sylvester. Mr. Golden noted that to present, everything has been done right and they would devise a sound business model. Mr. Hayes made known that the goal was to provide services comparable and affordable to the public. Mr. Hayes recommends approval of the contract with NTS.

Councilman Johnson motioned to approve the NTS agreement and a second was offered by Councilman Jackson – *Motion Carries 4-0*

B) HALLOWEEN EVENTS

Mr. Hayes seeks direction from Council for Halloween events. Council Johnson suggested the normal street closures by the City, and allow citizens to conduct their own festivities for Halloween.

Councilman Johnson moved to close the normal streets and allow citizens freedom to conduct their own festivities, and a second was offered by Councilman Jackson – *Motion Carries 4-0*

C) CHRISTMAS PARTY

Mr. Hayes sought guidance from Council regarding the Annual Employee Christmas Party. Mayor Jones favors discontinuing the party for this year due to COVID regulations. All Council agreed to allow the observance of Christmas by their respective departments.

D) ECG YEAR END SETTLEMENT FY 2020

Mr. Hayes briefed Council that ECG had a year-end settlement of \$11,211.92, and recommends 100 percent be assigned to the education, training and development fund.

Mr. Jackson motioned to approve the funds for training and it was seconded by Councilman Johnson – *Motion Carries 4-0*

E) JOINT GA. TECH EDRP APPLICATION

Mr. Hayes asks for approval from Council to submit a joint GA TECH research project application between the City and the County.

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Councilman Jackson moved to approve the joint GA TECH application and a second was offered by Councilman Dupree – *Motion Carries 4-0*

AMENDED AGENDA ITEM: HOLLEY GYM PROPERTY

Mr. Hayes noted that the Holley property is prime real estate acquired by the City. For public input, he recommends an advisory committee be formed with the appointment of a citizen from each Ward, the Mayor, and City Manager.

Councilman Jackson motioned to approve the advisory committee and was seconded by Councilman Dupree – *Motion Carries 4-0*

VII. CITY MANAGER

- Financials are steady
- Airport bids came out, starting with work at airport
- Be aware of SPLOST referendum

VIII. CITY ATTORNEY- NONE

IX. REMARKS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL- NONE

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION - NONE

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Jackson motioned to adjourn and a second was offered by Councilman Dupree – *4-0 Motion Carries*

Mayor Jones duly adjourned the meeting at 7:21 PM.


Charles Jones, Mayor


Tenneshia Smith-Cushion, Deputy Clerk