

CITY OF SYLVESTER, GEORGIA
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 101 N MAIN STREET
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2020 @ 7:00PM



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)
John Hayes, City Manager (present); Carolyn Williams, City Clerk (present)
Lester Castellow, City Attorney (present)

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1) **CALL TO ORDER – MAYOR PRO TEM LARRY JOHNSON**

2) **INVOCATION – DR. WILLIE MAE MARLIN**

3) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4) **SWEARING IN – JOHN MARK GIDDENS – WARD 3 COUNCILMAN**

With family and friends in attendance, Mr. Giddens was sworn in as the Ward 3 Councilman. Mr. Giddens immediately took his position on the podium as the newest member of the Council.

5) **COVID 19 CONCERNS-DR. BLACK / ER DIRECTOR-PHOEBE PUTNEY MH**

Dr. Black gave an in-depth discussion on the Corona Virus. Many questions were answered about the virus. He presented a PowerPoint that was very informative and much needed at this time of crisis. The audience was grateful for the opportunity to talk and ask questions directly to the Dr. He was thanked for giving of his time to come and speak to the Council and the community. Mr. Black gave instructions to Funeral Directors regarding family gatherings for funerals. He asked them to postpone services.

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6) SPEAKER APPEARANCES

Pastor Luke, Greater New Birth and his Administrator, addressed the Council with information pertaining to feeding children while schools are closed, approximately 2 weeks. They have 400 lunches ready to serve and they also have maps of delivery zones and coordinators for the sites. They have PPE. They are asking for any assistance available. Mr. McDonald will reach out to the BOE for food they are not using.

7) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

8) EVENT APPLICATION-LIFELIGHT 20 YR MEMORIAL-JEFFORDS PARK GARY HARREL

Mr. Harrel is planning a fundraiser to purchase a bench in remembrance of the Lifelight crew that perished on July 24, 2000. He also requests to use the stage area for a live band and bouncy houses for the kids. He is asking for use of the park July 24th and 25th.

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

9) TO APPROVE JOHN MCPHAUL – SWGRC NON-PUBLIC MEMBER

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson stated that this position was vacant, and asked for a motion to approve Mr. McPhaul.

Councilman Dupree moved to approve the appointment of Mr. McPhaul and was seconded by Councilman Jackson – *Motion Carries*

10) BEER/WINE APPLICATION – EZ CORNER 01-GEETABEN PATEL

Councilman Jackson motioned to approve the Beer/Wine application and a second was offered by Councilman Dupree – *Motion Caries*

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11) GEORGIA CITIES WEEK – KAREN SINGLETARY

Ms. Singletary is planning to have an event for April 19 to the 25th for Cities Week-Tree Planting, Mock City Council (school is out), Employee luncheon, Legislative Luncheon, Governmental Tour has been moved to May 1. She would like to have a concert on Friday. Saturday will be the 17th Annual Sylvester Clean-Up.

12) RESOLUTION NO:2020-04-GEORGIA CITIES WEEK-KAREN SINGLETARY

Councilman Dupree offered a motion to approve the events for Cities Week as well as the Resolution for Cities Week and it was seconded by Councilman Jackson – *Motion Carries*

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson introduced Resolution No: 2020-06 Declaring State of Local Emergency for the City of Sylvester.

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

13) RESOLUTION NO:2020-02 – GMA SUPPLEMENTAL LEASE

Mr. Hayes stated this is a master lease thru GMA that facilitates purchase equipment.

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

14) RESOLUTION NO:2020-03-BANKING AUTHORIZATION

Mr. Hayes stated that this Resolution allows Ms. Sanders to have online access to accounts to perform her job.

Councilman Dupree moved to approve the banking Resolution and a second was offered by Councilman Jackson – *Motion Carries*

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15) RESOLUTION NO:2020-05 – MGAG VOTING DELEGATES

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson stated that it was necessary to select a voting and alternate delegate for MGAG. Councilman Jackson and Giddens volunteered for those positions.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson motioned to approve the two delegates and it was seconded by Councilman Dupree – *Motion Carries*

16) EDGE DEVELOPMENT-STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS – Mr. Hayes

Mr. Hayes explained that this was a plan by ECG to help with strategic planning. They will provide on-site educational services and training. There are several training programs outlined that may be beneficial to Cities. The program costs \$30,000, and we currently have about \$14,000 at ECG that would off-set the cost. It was recommended to bring this back to Council at a later date.

17) ITEMS FROM:

CITY MANAGER

- The Election will be May 19
- Replaced about \$50,000 in pumps for South Pond, now North Pond facing same issue
- Jeffords Park-looking at raising stage, mulch, and playground equipment and other enhancements

CITY ATTORNEY – NONE

WARD – 1

- Thank Tyree and his team for handling work order-great job

WARD - 2

- Bad situations in project area. Will discuss in Personnel

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WARD – 3-NONE

- Would like everyone to work together

WARD – MAYOR PRO TEM-NONE

Upon Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and a second by Councilman Dupree it was voted to convene an Executive Session to discuss Personnel-
Motion Carries

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 8:10

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED: 10:15


Mr. Johnson moved to accept the minutes as read in Executive Session and seconded by Mr. Dupree - ***Motion Carries***

Councilman Giddens moved to dismiss Mr. Hayes and a second was offered by Councilman Jackson – ***4-0 – Unanimous Consent – Motion Carries***

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson duly adjourned the meeting at 10:20 PM
Unanimous Consent




Larry Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem



Carolyn Williams, City Clerk