

WILLIAM B WHITLEY,  
MAYOR  
DAVID L. MINCEY, JR.,  
CITY ATTORNEY  
VICKI WAINWRIGHT, CLERK

**CITY OF BUTLER**  
P.O. BOX 476  
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COUNCIL:  
EDWARD GUINN,  
MAYOR, PRO-TEM  
CHAS GASSETT  
GLENN HARRIS  
AMANZIE JENKINS  
DEBORAH WILLIAMS

**Council Meeting**  
**April 14, 2015**

**Present**

Mayor Barry Whitley  
Deborah Williams  
Glenn Harris  
Amanzie Jenkins  
Chas Gasset  
Vicki Wainwright  
*Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn was absent.*

**Media Present**

Taylor County News  
Flint Cable TV

**Invocation** – Mayor Barry Whitley

**Old Business:**

**Minutes:**

Motion made by Council-Woman Deborah Williams, seconded by Councilman Glenn Harris to approve the minutes of the March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 council meeting. Vote was unanimous.

**New Business:**

**Resolution for Coach Matt Troutman and the TC Lady Vikings:**

The Mayor and Council presented Coach Matt Troutman and the Taylor County High School Lady Vikings a resolution commending their great achievement by winning the Class A Championship and having an undefeated season as well as Coach Troutman's 851<sup>st</sup> win. City Clerk Vicki Wainwright read the resolution and Mayor Whitley presented the framed resolution to Coach Troutman. A member of the Lady Vikings thanked the Mayor and Council for the resolution. Coach Troutman stated that every recognition that the Lady Vikings receive is well deserved as they are hardworking on the court and in the classroom.

**City of Butler Texting Resolution:**

Public Works Director David Windham told the Mayor and Council that the County had recently adopted a texting resolution and the City feels that they should do so as well. The City Attorney has reviewed the resolution/ordinance and made it a little more strict, adding a \$150.00 fine as well. The question was asked if this is just for City employees. Attorney David Mincey responded that this will be a city ordinance, which applies to all

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employees, all citizens, and anyone who passes through the City of Butler's city limits. He asked for a motion to adopt this resolution/ordinance. A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by Councilman Chas Gasset. The vote was unanimous.

### **Hay Contract Bid:**

Public Works Director David Windham told the Mayor and Council that the advertisement for bids on the LAS hay baling contract ran in the paper for the past three weeks and that the bids were due at City Hall by noon on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Only one bid was received. He opened the bid, which was from Zack Posey. The bid is for \$10.00 per bale. With only one bid being received, a motion to accept the bid of \$10.00 per bale from Zack Posey was made by Councilman Chas Gasset, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was issued by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

### **Department Head Reports:**

Public Works Director David Windham stated that he has some things that have come up that he needs a motion on before he began the department report.

### **Hydrant Rates over 100,000 Gallons:**

Mr. Windham stated that the City of Butler's current hydrant rates state that any consumption over 100,000 gallons will have a hydrant rate fee set by the Public Works Director and the Mayor and Council. Mr. Windham said that over the past week he has had a potential hydrant consumer requesting the price per 1000 gallons of water over the 100,000 gallon mark. After running the numbers he asks the Mayor and Council to approve \$7.15 per 1000 gallons for any use over 100,000 gallons. If the potential consumer does not go over the 100,000 gallon mark, then the already established hydrant rate fee will still apply. A motion to accept \$7.15 per 1000 for any use over 100,000 gallons hydrant rate fee was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by Councilman Chas Gasset. The vote was unanimous.

### **Department Head Reports: continued:**

Public Works Director David Windham informed the Mayor and Council that the 2013 CDBG project should begin within the next week or so. The contractor has been held up on another project due to the rain.

The City-wide limb pick-up was done the week before Easter and there were some very positive comments received about it.

He said that the roads that need repairing will be fixed just as soon as weather permits.

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He also stated that he and the City Clerk had a conference call with the Engineers earlier in the day and that the SEARCH Grant application will be sent in just as soon as the engineers send the Clerk the project scope of work to send with the application. The SEARCH grant will help pay for the environmental studies and the preliminary engineering report. It is a \$30,000 grant that will help get the USDA project started. The roof on the Library has been completed. During the process, the contractor noted that the bay windows on the east side of the library are in need of some attention. The windows are sagging and rotten. The contractor is working on a quote of what it will cost to repair or replace the windows.

The Fire Department is hosting a NIMS 300 and 400 class the week of April 20-24 from 8 to 5. Several staff members will be attending these classes.

Mr. Windham told the Mayor and Council that the surplus project has been completed. Many old items were sold, including two garbage trucks, to have the money to purchase items that were needed for the City. The City was able to acquire a new dump truck, an F150 for the Fire Department, and an F250 for Public Works. Flint Energies donated the chassis for the dump truck.

Councilman Harris asked if the City had sent Flint a letter thanking them for the donation of the Chassis. That will be done as soon as possible.

Mr. Windham also told the Mayor and Council that there will be a notice in the newspaper beginning this week of the rules regarding the garbage pick-up. There have been issues with customers piling trash outside of the cart and/or having excessive trash and he hopes that posting the rules in the paper will help eliminate this issue. He stressed that if a customer has excessive trash they can contact City Hall and an extra cart will be issued at an additional monthly rate per cart.

### **Amend SPLOST motion from February 2015:**

The original plan was to purchase all of the vehicles with the surplus, but as the Library needed a roof, the plan was changed and the F250 was purchased through SPLOST so that surplus funds could be used for the Library roof. The original motion was to use \$29,000 from SPLOST, but the price was actually \$29,259.89. Public Works Director Windham asked for an amendment of the February 2015 motion to state that Mayor and Council approves \$29,259.89 to be paid from SPLOST for the purchase of the 2015 F250. A motion was made by Councilman Glenn Harris, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was issued by Council-Woman Deborah Williams.

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### **Department Head Reports- Continued:**

City Clerk Vicki Wainwright announced that in March the Region 7 EMS Council had their awards banquet and Taylor County EMS was awarded the Region 7 EMS of the Year Award. She also said that David Windham was awarded the Region 7 Russell Montgomery Award for his dedication to the EMS, the community, and the citizens.

Public Works Director David Windham told the Mayor and Council that before the USDA project came up, the City had applied for a GEFA Loan for the Waste Water Treatment Plant and the outfall lines. The City has been tentatively awarded a 2.2 million dollar loan with \$375,000 forgiveness. Since the scope of the project has grown and the City has expanded the project and looked in to re-financing some of the debt, that project has been pushed back until a decision is made on the USDA. The City has until 2016 to decide if it will accept the GEFA loan.

Fire Coordinator Eddie Moulton said that the Fire Department had run 14 calls last month. 6 grass fires, 5 vehicle accidents, 1 structure fire, and 2 alarm calls. There were 3 extrications. On March 14<sup>th</sup> the fire department has an LP burn and everyone came through it well. There will be a flammable liquids class on April 22 and 23<sup>rd</sup>. He announced that firefighter Cody Carpenter has been released from the hospital but still has a long road ahead of him.

Mayor Whitley stated that on behalf of the Mayor and Council, they really appreciate everything that the volunteer firefighters do. He said that he knows that Cody Carpenter has been through a tough time but he wants him to know that his efforts were greatly appreciated by the Council. He stated that if there is anything that the Council or staff of the City can do to help, they will do so. He also thanked Eddie Moulton and David Windham and the other firefighters for their help and support for Cody.

Chief Jimmy Towns stated that the Police Department had received 259 calls last month. 113 were traffic stops, and 67 citations were issued. He said that Investigator Matthew Binkley resigned last month to take another job. He said that he did an outstanding job for the City of Butler, and he really appreciated his four years with the City. He said that Fort Valley and Thomaston have had several break-ins and Fort Valley has had a couple of rapes during these break-ins. He advised everyone that if they see any suspicious activity to notify law enforcement and to not go to the door. On Thursday the City of Butler will host a GOHS meeting and dinner. Representative Patty Bentley will be on hand to give the latest updates from the Capitol. District Attorney Wayne Jernigan

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will also speak about the latest changes on DUI laws. He also reminded everyone that Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> the City of Butler Police Department will have its annual chicken-Q.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made to enter in to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and a property matter. The motion to enter into executive session was made by Council-Woman Deborah Williams and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was issued by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

### **RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:**

#### **Bullet Proof Vest:**

Chief Towns informed the Mayor and Council that the Police Department has received a grant for a 50/50 match of 6 bullet proof vests. The total costs of the 6 vests are \$3175.00, but the City will only have to pay \$1587.50. He will purchase these with Special Purchase Funds. A motion to approve the purchase of the 6 vests for \$1587.50 with funds from Special Purchase was made by Councilman Chas Gassett, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was issued by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Hiring Officer Paige Johnson as Full-Time Officer:**

Chief Towns asked for permission to hire part-time officer Paige Johnson as a full time officer. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was issued by Council-Woman Deborah Williams. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Condemning of Property for Sewer Easement, 2013 CDBG:**

Attorney David Mincey asked for a motion to condemn the necessary property for the sewer easements for the 2013 CDBG. A motion was made by Councilman Glenn Harris and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was issued by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. Council-Woman Deborah Williams abstained from vote, vote carried.

#### **City Attorney to Respond to Attorney Mark Post:**

Attorney Mincey asked for a motion for permission for him to respond and negotiate with Attorney Mark Post regarding the Jack Brooks issue as discussed. A motion was made by Council-Woman Deborah Williams, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was issued by Councilman Chas Gassett.

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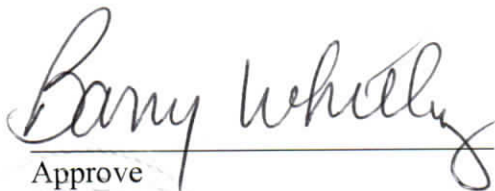
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**ADJOURN:**

A motion to adjourn from the April 14, 2015 Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. A 2<sup>nd</sup> was issued by Council-Woman Deborah Williams. Vote was unanimous.

  
Approve

  
Attest