

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 January 12, 2016

Present

Barry Whitley – Mayor
Ed Guinn- Mayor Pro-Tem
Chas Gassett
Amanzie Jenkins (came in at 7:05 PM)
Deborah Williams
Glenn Harris
Vicki Wainwright

Media Present

Taylor County News
Flint Cable Television

Invocation – Councilman Chas Gassett

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Glenn Harris and seconded by Councilman Chas Gassett to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2015 council meeting. Councilwoman Deborah Williams abstained from the vote due to her absence during that meeting. All other members voted “Yes”. Councilman Amanzie Jenkins had not arrived yet. The vote carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Carter & Sloop: Trey Gavin:

Trey Gavin with Carter and Sloop came before the Mayor and Council to update them on the progress of financing repairs to the treatment plant. The Mayor and Council along with staff have been discussing some of the needed repairs or updates that need to be done and Carter and Sloop have been doing research to see how this could be best financed to get the most work done for the best cost to the City. At this point the top two priorities are the Oak Street lift station, which has passed its useful life, and also the treatment plant, which has not been updated since it was built. These repairs and/or upgrades have been discussed for many years. In 2013 a pre-application was made for GEFA funds. At that time due to the scoring process the City was not accepted, but as other communities that scored higher did not use the funds, the City of Butler has now been informed that they are eligible, as well as can also be provided with \$375,000 in principal forgiveness funds. However, due to the requirements set forth by GEFA, the City of Butler must execute a GEFA loan agreement before June 30, 2016. GEFA has also agreed to go a 30 year term on this project.

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Initially the City of Butler had discussed a USDA loan, which has 40 year terms, where the City could get a loan for this work as well as refinance some of the existing debt with the City. The drawback to this is that USDA will not refinance USDA debt, and one of the City of Butler's bonds is a USDA bond. Carter and Sloope are researching private lenders who may consider refinancing the debt and eventually be able to refinance that with USDA.

Carter and Sloope's thought are to proceed with the GEFA loan and keep pursuing the USDA loan. Eventually, if things work out satisfactorily, the GEFA debt and a possible refinance on existing debt, could be rolled in to the USDA loan. They also feel that the GEFA loan payment would be covered by the City's existing rate structure.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn stated that he recommended that they proceed with the GEFA Loan Project. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a 2nd was issued by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Whitley introduced newly elected Reynolds Councilwoman Brittany Eubanks. It is the desire of the Mayor and Council to have a good working relationship with the City of Reynolds.

Resolution and Ordinance regarding P-Cards and Credit Card Use by Elected

Officials:

City Clerk Vicki Wainwright informed the Mayor and Council that legislation was passed last year requiring all local governments to have a resolution and ordinance regarding elected officials use of P-Cards and credit cards. This simply gives guidelines and a clearer understanding to elected officials of the do's and do not's when using a City of Butler credit card.

A motion to adopt the ordinance and resolution was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a 2nd was issued by Councilman Chas Gassett. The vote was unanimous.

2016 Appointments:

City Clerk Vicki Wainwright read the list of 2016 Appointments. They are as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Mayor Pro-Tem | Ed Guinn |
| • Municipal Court Judge | Wayne Jernigan |
| • City Attorney | Mincey & Mincey, LLC |
| • Auditor | Abbott, Jordan, & Koon, LLC |
| • Election Superintendent | Vicki Wainwright |
| • Fire Chief | Charles Lance |
| • Police Chief | Jimmy Towns |
| • City Clerk | Vicki Wainwright |
| • Public Works Director | David Windham |

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A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins to accept all of the appointments. A 2nd was issued by Councilman Chas Gasset. The vote was unanimous.

Rescheduling of the February 9th Meeting to February 16th:

City Clerk Vicki Wainwright asked to reschedule the February 9th Council Meeting to be held on February 16th. Ms. Wainwright and Ashley Lawhorn will be attending the Clerk's Conference during the 7th, 8th and 9th. The Mayor and Council all agreed. There was no official vote on this matter.

Department Head Reports:

Police Chief Jimmy Towns stated that there were 234 incidents during the month of December. 116 were traffic stops, 20 domestic calls, 10 registration checks, 9 assist motorist, 6 burglary/theft, 9 alarms, 6 accidents and 59 other incidents. There were 68 citations written.

In November the Butler Police Department did an undercover sting at the Circle R convenience store due to gambling on slot machines. In December Chief Towns, along with the owners of the store, had to go before the Georgia Lottery Commission, where the owners were fined \$10,000 and their lottery license was revoked due to illegal use of slot machines.

He also reported that there was a robbery at Albrittons Garage, where guns were stolen. There had also been an incident where someone has been walking down the railroad tracks and throwing rocks at the businesses along the railroad and breaking windows out. He asks if anyone has any information regarding these incidents to come forward.

Councilman Glenn Harris informed the Mayor and Council that the new officer that the Council hired in December did not work out.

Public Works Director David Windham stated that there was over 13 inches of rain that fell in December, but there were no major issues during that time. He also reminded the Mayor and Council that the City would be closed on January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Day. He informed them that there is a chance of inclement weather coming in and reminded everyone to keep an eye on their pipes and faucets. In the event of inclement weather there will be a command center at the Butler Fire Department. He stated that he was looking forward to 2016, working on the GEFA project, and whatever else the year may hold. The 2015 CDBG will be resubmitted for 2016 and he hopes for better results.

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David Windham also informed the Mayor and Council that through EMA a grant had been received to hold an EMT class, which will last for 4 months. There are 18 local people who are enrolled in this EMT Class. The participants in this class will be giving up every Tuesday and Thursday night and at least one Saturday each month for this class.

Councilwoman Deborah Williams commended everyone for their work during all of the rain since there were no major problems and no one washed away.

Fire Administrator Eddie Moulton stated that the Butler Fire Department has responded to 84 calls last year, where they normally run 120 to 140 each year. He said that while this past years number sounds better, the number of major calls was up. There were 17 structure fires and 33 vehicle accidents. There were 15 extrications. He said that those 15 extrications were more than the past 4 years combined. There was one plane crash last year. He said that the extrications concern him, as Butler only has one set of Hurst tools. Hurst tools cost at least \$40,000. Looking in to purchasing another set is a priority for 2016. The last set of tools that was purchased was in 2007.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

With no other issues pending, a motion to enter in to an Executive Session was made by Councilman Chas Gasset. A second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The Vote was unanimous.

REGULAR SESSION (Continued)

The Mayor and Council exited from Executive Session and returned to the Regular Meeting. Public Works Director David Windham had earlier presented the Mayor and Council a new rate structure for various fees charged by the water department. Councilwoman Deborah Williams made a motion to accept the new rates as presented by Mr. Windham. A 2nd was issued by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous.

The new rates are as follows:

New Service Deposit:	\$100.00 (formally \$75.00)
Transfer Fee:	\$ 35.00 (formally \$25.00)
Disconnect Fee:	\$ 50.00 (formally \$30.00)
Returned Check Fee:	\$ 41.00 (formally \$39.00)

During the Executive Session Chief Jimmy Towns discussed his recommendation for a new police officer. His recommendation is to hire Brock Turner. A motion was made by Councilman Glenn Harris to hire Brock Turner as the new police officer for the City of Butler. Brock will begin work on January 16th, 2016. A 2nd was made by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. The vote was unanimous.

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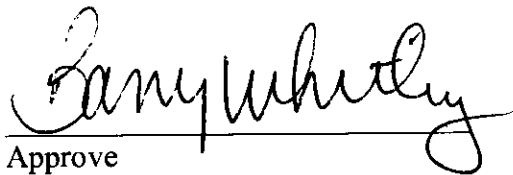
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The Mayor and Council decided to table the discussion regarding an Assistant Chief until a later date.

ADJOURN:

With no further business to discuss, the Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins to adjourn, and a 2nd was issued by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous.


Approve


Attest