

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

CITY OF BUTLER
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COUNCIL:
EDWARD GUINN,
MAYOR, PRO-TEM
CHAS GASSETT
GLENN HARRIS
AMANZIE JENKINS
DEBORAH WILLIAMS

Council Meeting April 12, 2016

Present

Mayor Barry Whitley
Mayor Pro Tem Ed Guinn
Deborah Williams
Glenn Harris
Amanzie Jenkins
Chas Gassett
Vicki Wainwright

Media Present

Taylor County News
Flint Cable TV

Invocation – Mayor Barry Whitley

Old Business:

Minutes:

Motion made by Councilman Chas Gassett, seconded by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins to approve the minutes of the March 8th, 2016 council meeting. Vote was unanimous.

New Business:

Sunbelt Power:

Bill Elliott with Sunbelt Power came before the Mayor and Council and told them about HB 57 that allows Georgia residents to be able to install solar power at their homes or businesses. Mr. Elliott represents Sunbelt Power and they are proposing to the Mayor and Council to be allowed to enter in to a 20 year contract with the City of Butler to install portable solar panels to generate power at some of the City of Butler sites at a cheaper rate than Georgia Power offers. These panels would generate power during the sunny days and during cloudy, rainy days and nightfall the power would switch back over to the Georgia Power system. Mr. Elliott states that investors would pay to place the portable panels and the City would pay them the kw amounts that is used during the daylight hours. In return the investors would receive the tax incentives that the government offers since non-profits such as the City are not allowed to receive the incentives. These panels would be taxed by the County and City (depending on location) and the County and City would be able to collect the taxes. If the panels produce more energy that is used by the City Georgia Power would buy that overage and give the City credits on their Georgia Power bill. Mr. Elliott stated that all installation and maintenance would be at no cost to the City. He said that according to their estimates

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from 12 months of GA Power Bills for the City of Butler, he feels that Sunbelt Power could save the City of Butler \$17, 971.94 per year, which is a 24.38% savings.

After asking a few questions the Mayor and Council told Mr. Elliott that they would discuss this issue and do some further investigation and would get back with him at a later time.

RVRC Contract for an updated Zoning Ordinance:

City Clerk Vicki Wainwright told the Mayor and Council that she has been in discussion with the RVRC requesting their assistance in creating a new updated zoning ordinance that better fits Butler. The RVRC has sent a contract to the City stating that they do this for a fee no greater than \$8000.00. This fee will be broken up into quarterly payments. She had sent the contract via email to the Mayor and Council for review and would like a motion to allow the Mayor to sign the contract to enter into this agreement. Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn stated that he would like to see Taylor County, Reynolds and Butler to share a common zoning ordinance. Ms. Wainwright stated that she would reach out to the County and Reynolds to see if they would be interested. With that being said, the Mayor and Council agreed to enter into the contract with the RVRC for the purpose of creating a new zoning ordinance. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ed Guinn and a 2nd was issued by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous.

LMIG 2015 & 2016 Bid Award:

Public Works Director David Windham told the Mayor and Council that the 2015 and 2016 LMIG funds were combined in order to have enough funds to do the work needed on Hollie Street and Barrow Subdivison Dr. There was only one bid received for this project, which was from Robinson Paving and the bid was initially for \$94,192.25. There is not enough funds to cover that, so the project has been trimmed down to \$67,942.25. The City of Butler will have to pay 10%. Mr. Windham stated that Rick Saunders (Engineer) has not sent the bid contract yet, but he asks for a motion for the Mayor to be able to sign the bid contract once it is received and approved by the attorney so that this project can get underway as soon as possible while the paving crew is located locally. A motion for the Mayor to sign the bid contract was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn, with a 2nd being issued by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

Department Head Reports:

Public Works Director David Windham stated that he has been working on several patch projects but the rain is holding them up. He also told them that the street lamps are out on the North side of the Square due to one of the lamp posts being broke, but the City has ordered another one that should be in in about 8 weeks. Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn asked if the City should order a spare lamp post or two for situations such as this.

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Mr. Windham said that the weather sirens did not function during the tornado scare a couple of weeks ago due to an internet glitch. He stated that weather permitting the sirens would be tested this week and once a month from here on out on Wednesdays following the National weather service testing.

He said that the GEFA project discussion is still going on with staff researching different equipment.

Chief Jimmy Towns said that the Police Department responded to 302 incidents last month. 164 were traffic stops, 22 domestic calls, 13 registration checks, 9 assist motorist calls, 4 burglary/theft calls, 8 alarms calls, 5 accidents, and 77 other calls. There were 100 citations written.

He said that on March 26th there was a burglary at Barrow Gun Shop and several guns were stolen. This incident is still under investigation but there has been one arrest made and several more are pending. He said that he would like to thank Sheriff Watson and his investigators, the ATF and the GBI with their work on this situation, as well as City of Butler's own investigator Jordan Ball.

He announced that the police cars were getting new computers thanks to a grant from the Georgia Chiefs Association, and he also announced that the City of Butler has received a \$10,000 grant from the GOHS for equipment in the FY 2017.

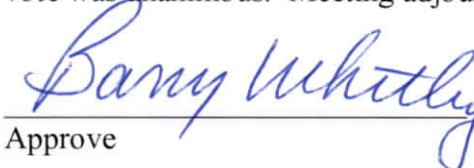
Fire Administrator Eddie Moulton said that the Fire Department ran 7 calls last month. There was one accident and one structure fire and five grass fires. He stated that the hose testing is complete and everything passed. Hydrant testing began this week.

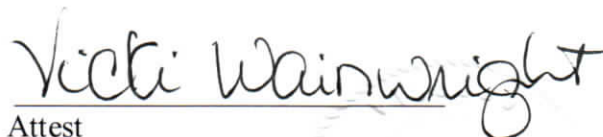
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made to enter in to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a 2nd was issued by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURN:

A motion to adjourn from the April 12, 2016 Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. A 2nd was issued by Councilman Chas Gasset. The vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned.


Approve


Attest