

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 May 10, 2016

Present

Mayor Barry Whitley
Mayor Pro Tem Ed Guinn
Deborah Williams
Glenn Harris
Vicki Wainwright

Media Present

Taylor County News
Flint Cable TV

Invocation – Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn

Old Business:

Minutes:

Motion made by Councilwoman Deborah Williams, seconded by Councilman Glenn Harris to approve the minutes of the April 12th, 2016 regular council meeting and work session. Vote was unanimous.

New Business:

Board of Public Health Appointee - Cindi Whitley:

The City of Butler Council voted unanimously to appoint Cindi Whitley as the City of Butler's representative on the Board of Public Health. Mrs. Whitley will replace Bobby Bazemore, who wishes to step down. The motion was made by Councilman Glenn Harris and a second was issued by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn.

Department Head Reports:

Chief Jimmy Towns told the Mayor and Council that the Police Department had 359 calls last month. 113 were traffic citations. He also said he would like to thank Roy Walton with Waste Industries. They are donating a bullet proof vest for the newest police officer. He informed the Mayor and Council that Officer Houseweart was involved in a small fender bender on May 4th during a traffic stop. The person that she had stopped failed to put the vehicle in park and instead put it in reverse. The truck went backwards and hit Sgt. Houseweart's patrol car. There was minimal damage to the front of her patrol car. He also told them that he will be the guest speaker for the South Georgia Technical College's Police Academy graduation on May 13th.

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Public Works Director David Windham said that the LMIG paving project for 2015/2016 is complete except for the striping, which will be done within the next week. He also said that according to a press release from GEFA the City of Butler has been awarded a loan for \$2,010,000 for the Waste Water Treatment Facility upgrades and the Oak Street Lift station rehab. The \$2,010,000 CWSRF loan will finance rehabilitating the city's wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) and pumping stations. This project includes the replacement of existing screens and grit removal systems, the installation of new trickling filter mechanisms, and the replacement of the influent and transfer pump stations. In addition, a new submersible pump station will be installed replacing the city's Oak Street pump station. This project will replace pump stations and components of the city's WWTF that have already failed or are at risk for failing. The city will pay 2.72 percent interest on the 30-year loan, which includes a principal forgiveness of \$375,000 if all loan funds are drawn. He said he would give them updates as he gets them.

He also said that handrails have been installed in front of the newspaper office. The City has had several requests for this.

Councilwoman Deborah Williams asked Mr. Windham about the manholes on Mason Lane. She stated that she has had several complaints from citizens that the manholes are too deep and cause bumps when driven over. Mr. Windham stated that he and his staff have raised several manholes due to this issue already and would look in to raising the ones on Mason Lane as well.

Mayor Whitley asked Mr. Windham about replacing faded street signs. He stated that some of the street signs around the Edgewood area are barely readable, especially the street sign at the corner of Edgewood and Oak. Mr. Windham stated that the City has been working on replacing street signs and stops signs and have divided the City of Butler in to four quadrants. The Edgewood/Pine/Forest area is in the last quadrant and the City has put in for extra LMIG funds to help fund this. The City has not heard anything from this request yet. He stated that he would look in to having these signs replaced as soon as possible.

Fire Administrator Eddie Moulton said that the Fire Department ran 13 calls last month. There were 3 wires down/pole broke, 2 grass fires, 2 vehicle accidents, 1 structure fire, 3 vehicle fires, and 2 controlled burns. He said that once the EMT class is done at the Fire House he would start working on having a Fire Fighter 1 class. He said there is 6 to 8 that need this class.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made to enter in to Executive Session to discuss a property matter. The motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a 2nd was issued by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. The vote was unanimous.

REGULAR SESSION:

Updating/Amending Water Ordinance:

Public Works Director David Windham recommended updating and/or amending the water ordinance to reflect the following changes:

- Tampering with Meter: Charges will be filed if the water meter is tampered with. The charge will be a minimum of \$1000.00. Services will not be connected/reconnected until the \$1000.00 fine plus the balance of the bill is paid in full.
- Cut-Off Agreements/Extensions: Only 2 allowed per year. Delinquent fee is applied to current balance.
- No services will be connected or disconnected after 4:00 PM. If services must be cut-on/off, the on-call employee will receive 2 hours overtime pay.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Deborah Williams to adopt the changes. Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn issued a 2nd. The vote was unanimous.

Communication Purchase SPLOST:

Public Works Director David Windham asked the Mayor and Council for assistance in purchasing the City of Butler's portion of the communication equipment needed for an emergency communication center to be housed at the Taylor County Sheriff's Office. A grant has been received from GEMA through EMA to purchase the other necessary equipment needed to have an emergency communications center such as a generator and a recorder for radio traffic. The County, School Board, City of Reynolds and Butler will split the cost of the communication equipment not funded by the grant, approximately \$29,000. The City of Butler's portion will be about \$7000.00 to \$7500.00. He asked to fund this with Public Safety SPLOST funds. A motion to use SPLOST funds to purchase this equipment was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a 2nd was issued by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. The vote was unanimous.

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SSI Software and VERIZON Wireless:

Chief Towns has come before the Mayor and Council to ask about swapping from COURTSWARE to SSI for their court/citation software. He has also requested to be allowed to change to Verizon Wireless Air-cards instead of Public Service. Councilman Harris asked how the City will pay for this. City Clerk Vicki Wainwright stated that the SSI System would be paid for with fees added to citations. She also stated that the City was already paying Public Service and though there is a small increase by going with Verizon, the data is unlimited and the coverage is better. Chief Towns also stated that the system will have GPS. A motion to make the above changes was made by Councilman Glenn Harris and a 2nd was issued by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn abstained from this vote.

ADJOURN:

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



Approve



Attest