

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 September 19, 2017

Present

Barry Whitley – Mayor
Glenn Harris
Amanzie Jenkins
Chas Gassett
Deborah Williams
Vicki Wainwright

Media Present

Taylor County News
Flint Cable TV

Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn

Invocation: Mayor Barry Whitley

Old Business:

Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and seconded by Councilman Glenn Harris to approve the minutes of the August 8th Regular Council Meeting, the August 31st Millage Rate Hearing, and the September 7th Called Council Meeting. The vote was unanimous.

New Business:

South Georgia Technical College:

President John Watford of South Georgia Technical College came before the Mayor and Council to announce that South Georgia Technical College is very pleased to have Taylor County in their Service Delivery Area. He said that in the past they have served six counties (Crisp, Dooly, Macon, Marion, Schley and Sumter), but as of September 2017 they will also be serving Taylor County. He stated that their mission is Work Force Development. He further stated that they in no way try to compete with any other state funded entity such as the university system and do believe in four year degrees, however they do feel that not everyone is made for four year college and they know that a very strong and happy living can be made through a technical education. He also said that they will not only be working with those who wish to receive a two year degree, diploma or certificate, but also offering adult education and GED classes, as well as economic

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development services. He introduced Vanessa Wall, a Southern Technical College Academic Dean. Ms. Wall is over many programs including Criminal Justice, and is very strong in law enforcement programs, fire science, and the EMT program. She stated that on October 10th SGTC will begin teaching a criminal justice class in their facility that will have their adult education classes on Oak Street right across from the Taylor County High School. She said that they would be fixing that building up and moving in there as soon as possible. She also assured the Council that SGTC will be working with the local high school.

A & K Fuel Mart Beer & Wine License:

City Clerk Vicki Wainwright explained to the Mayor and Council that the convenience store formally known as Circle R is under new ownership and will now be known as A & K Fuel Mart. The owners have acquired a business license, but as normal procedure the application for beer and wine license always is put before them for a vote.

She asked for a motion to approve the beer and wine application for A & K Fuel Mart. A motion was made by Councilwoman Deborah Williams and a second was given by Councilman Amanzie Harris. The vote was unanimous.

Recreation Department:

Council Woman Deborah Williams stated that she has been receiving quite a few complaints concerning the Taylor County Recreation Department. She said that the complaints actually started at the end of the school term last year. She said that it is her understanding that during basketball season last year there were numerous kids that paid their money to play basketball, but apparently just a certain number of children were chosen to pay on an "elite" team. Those children got to play but others did not, even though the funds were paid. She said that this year she has received calls stating that there will not be flag football this year, but wanting six year olds to play tackle football with nine and ten year olds. She said that she had been trying to find out when the Rec. Dept. has board meetings, and also if the City has received any kind of report from the recreation department. City Clerk Wainwright stated that she has emailed Mr. James requesting a list of players from all sports that actually reside inside the Butler city limits. As of the time of this meeting she has not received anything or even heard back from him. Ms. Williams stated that it was past time for the Council to appoint new members to the Recreation Board and she had spoken with Edward Brown and he has agreed to take one of the positions. She said that she also feels that there should be a female on the

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board and she would like the Council to consider LaKeitha Ellison. She said that she feels that a female would be a good decision because there are female athletes on the field as well. Councilman Harris stated that he would catch up with Chris James the following day and try to find out more information about the recreation department.

Council woman Williams stated that she would like to nominate Edward Brown and for the Council to consider nominating Ms. Ellison. Councilman Harris asked if she wanted to wait until after he spoke with Mr. James and was told that it was overdue to appoint someone. Councilman Gassett asked who was currently on the board representing the City of Butler and was told Dane Smith and Tim Bennett. He stated that Mr. Smith does quite a lot of work for the recreation department. He feels that he should be kept in consideration too.

Councilman Glenn Harris made a motion to appoint Edward Brown to replace Tim Bennett. Councilman Amanzie Jenkins issued a 2nd. The vote was unanimous. Councilwoman Williams stated that she felt they should still look in to placing a female on the board as well. The Council agreed to look into that issue and will hold off on the second appointment until next month.

FY 16-17 Budget Adoption Scheduled Hearings:

City Clerk Vicki Wainwright stated that two budget hearings are required and those will be held on Tuesday, September 26th at 9:00 AM and again at 7:00 PM. The budget will be adopted at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, September 26th. She stated that a quorum was needed for the 7:00 PM meeting.

Department Head Reports:

Assistant Chief Ed McCrary said that the Butler Police Department had 252 incidents last month. There were 114 traffic stops, 45 domestic calls, 5 registration checks, 5 assist motorist, 11 burglary/theft calls and 8 alarm calls. There were 92 citations issued during August. He stated that during Hurricane Irma the Cities and County worked together along with Flint, Ga Power and Public Service and the situation was a success by keeping roads clear and safe and there were no injuries.

Mayor Barry Whitley stated that David Windham ran the EOC during the storms and did an outstanding job. Everything ran like clockwork and he was very impressed. He said that everyone came together to deal with issues that occurred during the storm during the

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long event. He also gave “hats off” to Vicki Wainwright, Brooke Windham, and Pam Harris for their job handling the radios and social media. Councilman Chas Gasset said that he has had many great comments from people about the way EOC was put together and handled. He stated that he is very thankful for the job that was done.

David Windham thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing the staff to operate things the way they were done and said that he was thankful for all the entities involved (Emergency responders, fire fighters, law enforcement, County Public Works, City of Butler Public Works). He said that the operation was very much a team effort that including a long planning process. There were 8 weather briefings prior to the Hurricane with 20 -25 attendees at every meeting that were county-wide including private sectors such as public service telephone co., flint EMC, GA Forestry Commission, and the Taylor County BOE. The EOC opened on Monday, September 11th at 8:00 AM and closed around 11:00 PM that night. Approximately 200 calls were processed through the EOC in an effort to keep the non-emergency calls from going through the 911 Center. He also said that from those 200 calls there were about 14 calls that were regarding structure damage. He also said he didn't want to leave out Eddie Moulton who made sure everyone involved with the EOC was kept fed and happy. He stated that over-all the day was a success as there was no loss of life or injuries.

He further stated that there were about 20 “Special Needs” people during this event, which was someone on “life supporting” machines such as ventilators and/or oxygen. The EOC was able to provide secondary power to many of these citizens who lost those capabilities due to power outages. They also provided extra oxygen bottles and nebulizer masks if needed. He thanked everyone for their support.

He reminded everyone that the October LEPC meeting will be held at noon on October 17th at the Butler Fire Department and invited everyone to attend.

He announced that the City of Butler has been awarded a CDBG for \$705,419.00, with the City having to provide a \$50,000.00 match. This makes the project total \$755,419.00. This is for the N/E portion of the City around Mason Lane area for a sewer line rehabilitation. He expects the project to start around the first of the year.

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He also told them that the new work order system Facility Dude is running and in the 12 days since it started the City has logged and completed 108 Work Orders. He said that the program will be a great tracking tool and asked that if there is any work that needs to be completed that the ladies in the office must be contacted so that they can create a work order.

He informed them that on September 12th the GEFA Project at the Waste Water Treatment Facility started. He stated that it is approximately a four month project . This project replaces the headworks at the plant and replaces the lift station on Oak Street.

October 9th is a City of Butler Holiday and the offices will be closed. Trash Pick-up will remain on the normally scheduled day.

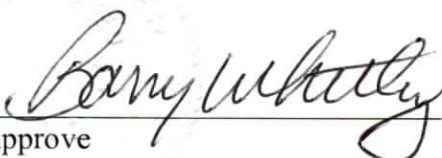
He requested a short work session to immediately follow the meeting tonight to discuss debris removal.

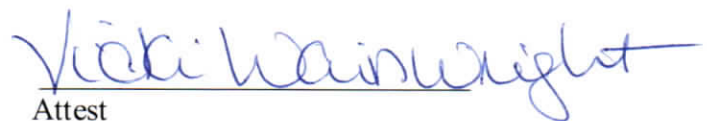
Fire Coordinator Eddie Moulton informed the Council that last month the Butler Fire Department ran 10 calls. There were four alarm calls, 3 vehicle fires, 1 dumpster fire, 1 grass fire, and 1 accident. He also reported that he was proud of how well everyone worked together during the storm.

Councilman Chas Gasset said that he wanted to say "Thank You" to the tax payers because without them the City of Butler would not have the facility and equipment necessary for the operation of the EOC and events during the storm. He said that the EOC operation went great.

Adjourn:

With no other business to discuss in the regular meeting the Council will adjourn and go in to a short work session. A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Chas Gasset and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.


Approve


Attest