

## City of Butler

William B. Whitley,  
Mayor  
Joel V. Sherlock,  
City Attorney  
Vicki Wainwright,  
Clerk

P. O. BOX 476  
BUTLER, GEORGIA 31006  
(478) 862-5435 • (478)862-5083  
TDD/TYY Dial 711 or 1-800-255-0056 • 1-800-255-0135

Council:  
Edward Guinn  
Mayor, Pro-Tem,  
Chas Gassett  
Glenn Harris  
Amanzie Jenkins  
Deborah Williams

## November 13, 2018 Council Meeting

### **Present:**

Mayor Barry Whitley  
Glenn Harris  
Chas Gassett  
Deborah Williams  
Amanzie Jenkins

### **Media Present:**

Flint Cable TV

**INVOCATION:** Councilwoman Deborah Williams

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Minutes:**

A motion to approve the October 16th Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilman Glenn Harris and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous. (Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn was absent)

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Water Rates/Martha Whilters:**

Ms. Whilters was not in attendance, but Councilwoman Williams stated that she has spoken with her regarding this. She said that she tried her best to convey the accurate information to Ms. Whilters, but she herself was not certain if this was the last increment or not. Mr. Windham stated that no, the former increments that the City had been on was 14% increase increments for the past four years. However, due to the USDA project it was determined by the engineers that the City would have to increase the rates for another three years, but this time it would be at 12% increments each November. Mr. Windham stated that in the case of Ms. Whilters, her increase on the base water rate was \$5.70. Ms. Williams stated that she understands Ms.

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Whiters concerns, especially for the elderly and people on a fixed income. She just wants to be sure that she gives her the correct information. Councilman Harris asked what are the gallons on the minimum bill, and was told it is 0 to 2000 gallons. At this increase, the base rate inside the City Limits for water is \$27.42 and the sewer 0 - 2000 gallons is \$25.76, which comes up to \$53.18. This cost is just for water and sewer, and the cost per trash cart is \$12.00 inside the city limits. This makes the total bill at \$65.18 inside the City with a minimum bill.

### **Special Exception: 21 Date Street Ext:**

Planning and Zoning Administrator Ashley Lawhorn stated that the Allen family have a house at 21 Date Street Extension that they are planning to do an extensive remodel on, and have requested to park a camper on the property to stay in on the weekends when they are in town working on the house. She stated that the City's ordinance does not allow campers so they are going to have to have a special exception permit, which is basically the Council saying they will allow them to park it there for a temporary basis in order for them to live there. She also said she has told them that once the remodel is complete that they can leave it parked in the yard, but no one will be allowed to reside in it. Councilman Harris asked if they can set a timeframe, such as six months? Ms. Lawhorn said that they could. Council Glenn Harris made a motion to allow them to reside in the camper for a six month period. Councilwoman Williams asked if the City would be checking to make sure that after the remodel is complete that no one would be living in the camper? Chief Cobb stated he would take care of that. Councilman Amanzie Jenkins issued a second. The vote was unanimous. (Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn was absent)

Councilman Amanzie Jenkins said that he has noticed that a few single wide trailers have been put in around the City. Ms. Lawhorn stated that those particular trailers meet the square footage requirements. Councilwoman Williams asked if the square footage requirements have been changed. Ms. Lawhorn stated that the new ordinance has been not been put into place as of this time.

### **Department Head Reports:**

**Public Works Director David Windham** stated the 19/96 project is about 85% complete. He said that there have been some concerns about the development in that area, and he wants to let everyone know that if someone is ready to develop they are ready to allow them to hook to

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the system. Water taps can be done now, and by the time a development was ready to have a sewer tap, those would be ready also. He reminded everyone that the Christmas Tree Lighting is November 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 on the west side of the Courthouse Square. He said that the offices would be closing at noon on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and will be closed all day on Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday. He said that trash pick-up would fall on that Saturday after Thanksgiving. Councilman Glenn Harris asked if the City had received notification from GDOT regarding the installation of the flashing lights before the red light. Mr. Windham stated that the City was aware and had been for nearly a year. He said this come about from the meeting between the City and GDOT regarding the roundabout. He said that GDOT will also be installing R-Cuts to help with the crossover at the intersections on 96 except at the red light. GDOT says that statistics show that this decreases traffic accidents. Mr. Windham stated that he has a personnel issue that he would like to discuss in Executive Session.

**Police Chief Kain Cobb** stated that in October the police department responded to six traffic accidents with four of those having injuries. They made 92 traffic stops and issued 32 traffic citations. They conducted 535 building checks. The City of Butler Police Department is currently working to get a GCIC terminal installed in the police department so that they can handle outstanding warrants.

**Fire Coordinator Eddie Moulton** said that the fire department responded to 15 calls last month. He asked the Mayor and Council for permission to spend \$25,000 out of SPLOST to purchase four Breathing Apparatus' for the Fire Department. He said that the Fire Department was able to purchase 13 out of a USDA loan/grant and a Flint grant. Mayor Whitley called for a motion to approve the \$25,000 from SPLOST for BA's. A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Councilman Chas Gassett. The vote was unanimous. (Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn was absent)

Mr. Moulton also said that since the last meeting there had been discussion about purchasing two new patrol vehicles. He stated that everything is worked out, that he just needs permission to purchase them. He said that the payment for the two cars would be made out of the budget over a three year term. A motion to purchase two new patrol vehicles was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Councilman Chas Gassett. The vote was unanimous. (Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn was absent)

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David Windham stated that he would like to say that with the purchase of the breathing apparatus devices this will have all of the breathing apparatus at the fire department at the latest and greatest 2018 standards. He said that they are proud to accomplish this.

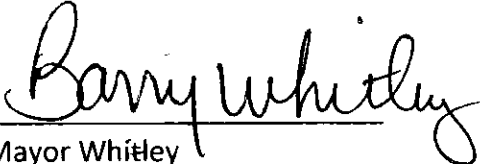
**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mayor Whitley stated that there are some personnel issues that need to be discussed in executive session. A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Councilman Chas Gassett and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. Vote was unanimous. (Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn was absent)

**Gerald Mixon: Comprehensive Plan:** Mr. Mixon came before the Mayor and Council to talk about the Comprehensive Plan. He presented them with a handout that has slight revisions from the handout that was issued at the public hearing the week before. Some of the information that he shared shows that populations will decrease over the next 25 years unless there is an impact of economic development. He also added the revamp or addition of an E911 System in the County or in-house at some of the facilities operations or services. David Windham stated that he would just put services as the City or County did not operate a facility. Mr. Mixon stated that the wording would be vague to cover whatever could come down the pipe over the next several years. After going over the report he stated that this would be the last chance to get their input, as it would go to the State the following week. He informed the Mayor that he would send an electronic copy of a cover letter that he would need to sign and scan back to him. He hopes that the Council will be able to adopt the final plan during the February 2019 Council Meeting.

**ADJOURN:**

With no further business Councilman Amanzie Jenkins made a motion to adjourn and a second was made by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. The vote was unanimous. (Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn was absent)

  
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Mayor Whitley

  
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Attest