

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 Gasset
Glenn Harris
Amanzie Jenkins
Deborah Williams

February 12, 2019 Council Meeting

Present:

Mayor Barry Whitley
Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn
Glenn Harris
Chas Gasset
Amanzie Jenkins
(*Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent*)

Media Present:

Taylor County News
Flint Cable TV

INVOCATION: Mayor Barry Whitley

Agenda Amendment:

Public Works Director David Windham asked the Mayor and Council to approve an amendment to the agenda to include the Resolution of Adoption for the 2019-2018 Comprehensive Plan. A motion to amend the agenda to include the comprehensive plan was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.
(*Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent*)

Opening Statement: City Clerk Vicki Wainwright read the opening statement for the Council Meeting. This statement will be read before every meeting from this date forward:

We are here to conduct business on behalf of the city and its citizens. That business will be conducted in a polite, civil, and professional manner. You may disagree on an issue but that does not mean that you can be rude, loud, or threatening to another individual. In the event of a breach of order during a meeting, the offender will be called out of order. If the behavior continues, the offender will be removed from the meeting. I trust that we can continue to conduct the city's business in a cordial manner. Please note that all public comments will be limited to a three minute time frame.

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OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes:

A motion to approve the January 8, 2019 Regular Council Meeting and the January 15, 2019 Called Council Meeting was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a 2nd was made by Councilman Chas Gasset. The vote was unanimous. (Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent)

NEW BUSINESS:

Larry Albritton Complaint Water Dept. and Police Dept.: (*Late, came in after department head reports*):

Mr. Albritton of 111 Edgewood Drive addressed the Mayor and Council by stating that he has lived in the City for 53 years and just the past week has announced his intention to run for Mayor in the 2019 election. He stated that he has been having problems with burglaries and people stealing gas from his property. He also said that there are gangs in the area because of tennis shoes flung over the power lines in the County. He stated that it just so happens that the gangs are hitting his house. He further stated that he has had gas stolen and has called 911 several times and it takes the police over 15 minutes to respond. He said that the person that is stealing his gas goes into his parent's home and when the police go to speak with him they tell him there is nothing they can do as it is circumstantial evidence and basically his word against the accused. He said the police have advised him to put up cameras. He stated that the accused is still running free and is high on drugs. He also stated that his dogs have woke him up and when he goes outside and shines his light he can see the accused with his gas can in his hands and he has also had a gun on him. He stated that he now has cameras on his house because he has had thieves breaking the windows out of his truck and has had \$150.00 taken from his truck. He said that he has been visited by the police from the City of Butler many times, and the last time he called 911 they did not even respond. He then changed it and said he didn't call 911, that he had Chief Cobb's business card and called the number on the card. (The Police Department phone does not ring to 911 and if no officer is in the office it does not get answered.)

He then said that he has not been sleeping well and the police came down and took him to the Bradley Center, a hellhole, for 6 days and 5 nights just because he called 911. He stated that he

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had been trying to catch the thieves by staying up at night because thieves come in the night. He said that he believes in Jesus, he believes in God the Father, he believes in the Alpha, the Omega, the beginning and the end. He said that in the beginning God created Heaven and Earth and then he rested on the seventh day. He said that at 70 years old he was arrested and body slammed and sent to the Bradley Center. Then he said. "Hello?" Mayor Whitley responded that he heard him. Mr. Albritton stated that his reputation proceeds him in this County and he has never been in any trouble. At 70 years old he was arrested and taken to the Bradley Center, where they took his suspenders, his shoes and shoe laces and only let him have a Bible. They body slammed him and gave him a shot and told him he was a prisoner. He stated he was taken there by the Butler Police Department and the Taylor County Sheriff's Department. He then said that it is time for a change in Butler and that is the reason he is running. He said that he has prayed about it and the Holy Spirit told him to run, to quit complaining and do something about it. Mr. Albritton said that was all he had to say, but asked if the Mayor and Council has anything to say? Did they have an apology, no apology, or did they just think it was fair the way it is? He then stated he had went to the fire department and asked if he wasn't allowed in the fire department then who is? He stated that he has not threatened anybody. He said that he was politicking and Mr. Guinn would not shake his hand. He then again stated that Butler thinks it is time for a change. He said again that the Holy Spirit told him to run and he was running because he had to do what God tells him or he will be chastised. He then again asked if any of the Council or Mayor had anything to say or any apology? Mayor Whitley then told him he appreciated him coming but he and the Council had no comment at this time.

Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn asked Mr. Windham when he anticipated having some information from the engineers about the potential cost for sewer in the Marshall Subdivision? Mr. Windham stated that he should know something by the end of the week. He also said that when he gets all of his information together he would like to see about having a work session to discuss it.

Mr. Albritton spoke up and stated that he had one more statement. Mayor Whitley stated that his time limit was up. Mr. Albritton stated that he just wanted to say that David Windham does a wonderful job and that he is nice and polite.

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2019 CDBG Engineer and Grant Writer Selection:

David Windham asked the Mayor and Council to do the selection in a two part process. He said that the procurement process for the 2019 CDBG had been sent out for the area of Pineview, Timberlane, and Plantation. There were requests sent out to Administrators (Grant Writers) and Engineers.

From the Grant Writers there were two proposals returned. He asks that a motion be made to approve Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. to write and administer the 2019 CDBG. A motion to approve Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous. *(Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent)*

There were five proposals from engineers returned. Of those proposals Mr. Windham asked for a motion to approve Carter and Sloope as the engineers for the 2019 CDBG. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous. *(Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent)*

Surplus Items:

Fire Coordinator Eddie Moulton reminded the Mayor and Council that at the end of 2018 the Fire Department had replaced their old BA's . He would like a motion to surplus 12 to 15 old BA's. A motion to surplus the old BA's was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous. *(Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent)*

Comprehensive Plan Resolution:

City Clerk/Administrator Vicki Wainwright read the Resolution for Adoption of the Greater Taylor County Comprehensive Plan for 2019-2028 and asked for a motion for the Mayor to sign the Resolution. A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Councilman Chas Gassett. The vote was unanimous. *(Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent)*

Department Head Reports:

Public Works Director David Windham said that next Wednesday, February 20th at 11:30 will be the Public Hearing for the 2017 CDBG (Mason Lane, Georgia Rd., Whitening Rd. Area).

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Also on that same day at 1:00 PM the Pre- Construction meeting will be held for the 2017 CDBG. He hopes that construction will start by the end of the month.

He said that the City is trying to patch some holes around the City but have to work around the weather. He said that the hay contract bid would be up for renewal and will run in the paper for two weeks. Those bids will be available to get approval on the high bidder by the next Council meeting. He also said that he has had requests in the neighborhood of Brown Drive, Rebecca Bergen, Carter's Trail for some infrastructure upgrades. He stated that he is working with the engineers to come up with some preliminary pricing.

February 18th is President's Day and will be a holiday for the City of Butler. This Holiday will not affect the trash pick-up.

Saturday, February 16th from 2:00 to 4:00 at the Butler Fire Department the City will be hosting a Retirement Celebration for Charles Lance in honor of his 40 years served with the Fire Department.

The LEPC Meeting for February will be on the 19th at 12:00 PM at the Butler Fire Department. Anyone that would like to attend is welcome to come.

He said that he would like to get approval from the Mayor and Council for funds from SPLOST.

1. Security Modifications at City Hall: \$1500.00
2. Computer Equipment: \$4000.00

A motion was made to approve \$1500.00 from SPLOST funds for security modifications at City Hall by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a second was issued by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous. *(Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent)*

A motion to approve paying \$4000.00 from SPLOST funds for Computer Equipment was made by Councilman Chas Gasset and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous. *(Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent)*

Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn suggested that an "Employees Only" sign be placed on the door going in to the bay area of the Fire Department. Mr. Moulton and Mr. Windham stated that they would take care of that.

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Mr. Windham said that earlier in the day a significant storm came through the area with in excess of 50 mph winds. He said there were minor damages in Butler with some trees down and plans to get those cleared up within the next few days. He stated that they also assisted out within the County until approximately 5:30 helping clear roads. It is times like these make us all grateful that we all have a great working relationship with other agencies within the County.

Police Chief Kain Cobb stated that the numbers that are in his report are not accurate due to the 911 Center updating their CAD system. He said next month's numbers will be correct. The numbers show that the Police Department responded to 176 calls over a 15 day period and issued 86 citations and made one arrest.

Fire Coordinator Eddie Moulton said that the fire department responded to 9 calls last month. Included in those were three structure fires and two vehicle accidents. He said that so far the month of February has been a lot busier. The new BA's are in service and the new engine is as well.

Mr. Albritton spoke regarding his complaint. See above

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 Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. Vote was unanimous. (Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent)

ADJOURN:

With no further business Councilman Amanzie Jenkins made a motion to adjourn and a second was made by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous. (Councilwoman Deborah Williams was absent)

Mayor Whitley

Attest

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