

City of Butler

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

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

AUGUST 13, 2019 Council Meeting 7:00 PM

Present:

Mayor Barry Whitley
Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn
Councilperson Deborah Williams
Councilman Lance Bernard
Councilperson Glenn Harris
Councilperson Amanzie Jenkins
Vicki Wainwright

Media Present:

Taylor Co News
Flint Cable TV

AGENDA AMENDMENT: City Clerk Vicki Wainwright informed the Mayor and Council that an amendment to the agenda was needed to reflect a regional transportation roundtable appointment. A motion to amend the agenda was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a 2nd was made by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous.

INVOCATION: Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn

OPENING STATEMENT: City Clerk Vicki Wainwright

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of July 9, 2019 Regular Meeting and August 6, 2019 Called Meeting: A motion to approve the minutes of the July 9th and August 6th Council Meetings were made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. The vote was unanimous.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Appointment of Council Seat District 2, Post 3: A motion was made by Councilman Glenn Harris to appoint new Councilman Lance Bernard to take the place of former Councilman Chas Gasset. A second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

Judge Dianne Renfroe was on hand to swear new Councilman Bernard in as the Councilman for District 2, Post 3.

Regional Transportation Roundtable Appointment: City Clerk Vicki Wainwright stated that the Transportation Investment Act calls for a regional transportation roundtable comprised of two members from each of the sixteen counties in the River Valley Regional Commission. One person must be a chairperson or chief executive officer of the county governing authority and the other is one mayor from the county. She said that after discussion with County Manager Lenda Taunton it was determined that Mayor Whitley would be the representative for the Mayors. She asked for a motion to appoint Mayor Barry Whitley to the regional transportation roundtable. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn to appoint Mayor Whitley to the roundtable. A second was made by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. The vote was unanimous.

Kathy Allen- Garbage Complaint: *NO SHOW*

Jim Livingston RVRC: Jim Livingston, Chief Executive Director of the of the River Valley Regional Commission, came before the Council to introduce himself and to remind the Mayor and Council of the services offered by the RVRC. Some of those services include Comprehensive Planning, Workforce Development, Economic Development, Area Agency on Aging, Historic Preservation Planning, Geographic Information System, Grant Writing, and Transportation Planning. He also stressed the importance of the census and the complete count committees to ensure that the census is being completed by everyone in the City and the County. Katie Howard with the RVRC was also in attendance and spoke on the Area Agency on Aging.

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Mayor and Council Salary Ordinance Adoption: Mayor Whitley stated that the first reading of the new salary ordinance for the Mayor and Council was held the previous week (August 6th). He asked Attorney Joel Sherlock to bring everyone up to date. Mr. Sherlock asked if there were any changes needed to be made to the Ordinance, or were there any questions or public comments, which there were none. City Clerk Vicki Wainwright said that the ordinance as it stands now has a signature line for Councilman Gassett and that should be changed to reflect the new Councilman Bernard. Mr. Sherlock stated that he would do that and send her a new signature page. He reminded everyone that the ordinance would not go into effect until January 2020. A motion to adopt the Mayor and Council Salary Ordinance was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. The vote was unanimous.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Public Works Director David Windham said that he along with other staff had had a meeting with Mariyana Kostov with the RVRC regarding GIS and getting some of the City's infrastructure GIS'd and plan to get that project underway soon with her assistance. He informed the Mayor and Council that the 2017 CDBG is still in the works, and he hopes that within the next week or two the main line will be tested. After that they will begin connecting the services. They will begin clean up and street repairs once that is done.

The right-of-way trimming has started and at this time the project is about 45 to 50% complete.

Police Chief Kain Cobb said that the Butler Police Department responded to 220 incidents in July, with 83 traffic stops and 54 citations written.

Fire Coordinator Eddie Moulton reported that the Butler Fire Department responded to 15 calls in July.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: State Representative Patty Bentley encouraged the City to include their major transportation projects in with their LMIG applications. She said there is always more needs than there is money. She also said that she certainly hopes that this community continues to extend the T-SPLOST tax, as it has greatly helped our community. She stated that she hopes that the voters will continue to support this tax.

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She also said that she has been working with Mayor Whitley and a local citizen about a sewer issue and from her research she wanted to give an update on what she has found out. She said that the City should consider having a survey done by the RVRC to see if the citizens in that neighborhood falls into a low to moderate income bracket, which if so, would make that neighborhood possibly eligible for a CDBG. She also suggested that the City could apply for a GEFA low interest loan such as the Federal Clean Water revolving fund or the Georgia Fund.

She said that they are getting ready for the General Assembly now and if there is anything legislative that they would like her to address, not is the time to let her know. She said that she would be happy to work with anyone.

She said that she would like to congratulate Vicki Wainwright for being named Clerk of the Year! She said it is great for our City and great for our region.

Chas Gassett told the Mayor and Council that it had been a privilege to serve the citizens of Butler alongside them for the past six years. He said he would also like to welcome Lance Bernard onto the Council and feels that it is safe to say that District 2, Post 3 is in great hands.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

With no other business or discussion, the Mayor stated that the City Council would enter into an Executive Session to discuss litigation. A motion to enter into an executive session was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURN:

With no other issues to discuss, a motion to adjourn from the Council Meeting was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn. The vote was unanimous, and the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Whitley

Attest

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