

WILLIAM B. WHITLEY
Mayor
JOHN B. "JACK" NICHOLS
City Attorney
VICKI WAINWRIGHT
Clerk / City Administrator



COUNCIL:
EDWARD GUINN
Mayor, Pro Tem
LANCE BERNARD
GLENN HARRIS
AMANZIE JENKINS
DEBORAH WILLIAMS

July 14, 2020
Council Meeting @ Butler Fire Department
7:00 PM

Present:

Mayor Barry Whitley
Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn
Councilperson Glenn Harris
Councilperson Amanzie Jenkins
Councilman Lance Bernard
Councilman Jacob Hopkins
Clerk Vicki Wainwright

Media Present:

Taylor Co News
Public Service TV

INVOCATION: Councilman Lance Bernard

OPENING STATEMENT: Vicki Wainwright

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of June 9, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes and the June 18, 2020 and June 23, 2020 Called Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the above mentioned minutes was made by Councilperson Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous. *(Council Member Deborah Williams was absent)*

NEW BUSINESS:

Resignation of Council Member Lance Bernard: Mayor Whitley stated that Councilman Lance Bernard will be moving out of the City of Butler to take a new job. He said that Mr. Bernard has been a huge asset to this city and to the Council. He informed everyone that Jacob Hopkins will be taking Mr. Bernard's position on the Council.

Council Member Lance Bernard read his resignation letter to the Mayor and Council:



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"It has been my great honor to serve the citizens of Butler as Councilman of District 2, Post 3. I have come to have a new appreciation for local government and have enjoyed every moment. I have recently taken a new church position that has taken me out of the city, so I will no longer be able to serve as councilman. I regretfully hereby resign my position as City Councilman of Butler, GA effective immediately. I wish the Council and staff of this great city all the success in the world. I would like to especially thank Vicki Wainwright, our city staff, and the Council for making my time a wonderful experience. Yours Truly, Lance Bernard."

Mayor Whitley asked Mr. Hopkins if he had something that he would like to say? Mr. Hopkins gave a little background on himself as to where he lives and works.

Mayor Whitley asked for a motion to appoint Jacob Hopkins to the Butler City Council. A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous. *(Councilmember Deborah Williams was absent)*

Judge Diane Renfroe was present to swear Mr. Hopkins in as the new Council Member for District 2, Post 3.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Public Works Director David Windham said that it was good to be back having face to face meetings again after several months of zoom meetings due to the COVID 19 virus. He said that he is currently working with the engineers and contractors on the 2019 CDBG, which will be around the areas of Pineview, parts of Clover Lane, Plantation and Timber Lane. The Pre-Construction meeting should be held in the next week or two and at that time a start date and a tentative finish date for the project will be set. Other than that his staff is just dealing with the heat and the rain.

Councilman Glenn Harris asked where the City stands on the 2017 CDBG and was informed that it is closed out except for some erosion issues. Councilman Harris also asked about the hay at the LAS plant. He was told that it was being mowed and sprayed and it will be baled one more



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time, at which time samples would be pulled to test for metals in the hay. Once that occurs he will know more about which direction to take with the LAS fields. He stated that the LAS fields are not under a hay contract at this time.

Chief of Police Kain Cobb said that for the month of June the police department responded to two fights, one burglary, thirteen domestics, one drug case, two thefts, two prisoner transports, made forty-six traffic stops with two arrests, for a total of one hundred and fifty two incidents. He said that he would need them to enter into an executive session to discuss personnel.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn stated that he attended the Chief's Diploma Program graduation in Ogelthorpe on Saturday, July 11th with Chief Cobb. This program involves 27 counties. He said that thirty-six students graduated with a high school "home-school" diploma. He stated that he was very impressed with the program. Chief Cobb said that the next class is expected to have about seventy-five students.

Fire Coordinator Eddie Moulton said that the Fire Department ran five calls last month. Those were one woods fire, two landing zones, one vehicle accident, and one vehicle fire.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Whitley said that with nothing further to discuss, he and the Council needs to enter into an Executive Session to discuss personnel. A motion to enter into an Executive Session was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a second was made by Council Member Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous. *(Council Member Deborah Williams was absent)*

(Regular Session continued)

After discussion in Executive Session the Mayor and Council came back into the regular meeting. Nicole Murillo had appealed her termination and asked to be allowed to resign instead of termination so that it would not have a negative effect on her POST records. A



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motion to overturn Chief Cobb's decision to terminate and to allow Ms. Murillo to voluntarily resign after she voluntarily signs a release to the City of Butler was made by Council Member Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Council Member Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous. (*Council Member Williams was absent*)

ADJOURN:

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

Mayor Whitley

Attest

