

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 12, 2017

Present

Media Present

Barry Whitley, Mayor

Ed Guinn

Flint Cable Television

Amanzie Jenkins

Taylor County News

Glenn Harris

Vicki Wainwright

Invocation – Mayor Barry Whitley

Old Business:

Minutes:

Motion made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins, seconded by Councilman Glenn Harris to approve the minutes of the November 14th, 2017 Regular council meeting and Work Session. The vote was unanimous.

New Business:

Ethis Resolution: City Clerk Vicki Wainwright stated that the City of Butler is currently a “Certified City of Ethics” and to maintain that status the City of Butler must submit to GMA the City’s ethics ordinance for review and approval. She asked for a motion to have the Mayor and Council sign a new resolution for submittal to GMA. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

**Resolution of Support of Georgia Municipal Association
Legislative Policy Regarding De-Annexation Legislation to Create**

New Municipalities: Ms. Wainwright told the Mayor and Council that the City of Stockbridge has sent out a letter requesting support of legislative policy regarding de-annexation. She asked the Mayor and Council to sign the resolution showing Butler’s support. A motion to sign the resolution was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

Amendment to Probation Management Contract: Ms. Wainwright informed the Mayor and Council that Chief Towns had already got them to sign the new contract with Probation Management, however an error with the date was found and therefore an amendment was in order. She asked for the Mayor and Council to make a motion to sign the amendment due to an error with the date on the contract. A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous.

MOU between the City of Butler and Taylor County Development Authority:

Public Works Director David Windham told the Mayor and Council that the MOU is for the design work for the infrastructure from the engineers (Carter and Sloope) for the 19/96 project area. He said that the City will initially pay the cost of the design work, with the Development Authority reimbursing the City. He said that he needs a

motion from the Council for the Mayor to sign the MOU so that the process can get started. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and a second was issued by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

Resolution to become a member of GIRMA: City Clerk Vicki Wainwright asked for a motion for the Mayor to sign a resolution to become a member of GIRMA in order for the City of Butler to have access to the Firefighter Cancer Plan that has been mandated by the State. She informed the Mayor and Council that she had received several quotes on fire fighter cancer plans and feels that at this time the best fit is with GMA and GIRMA. A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was issued by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn. The motion was unanimous.

Department Head Reports:

Public Works Director David Windham stated that the GEFA project is still underway and is running on schedule. The Oak Street Lift Station went on line on Monday, December 11th and is operating as expected. The demolition to the old lift station will not take place until after the first of the year.

He stated that he wanted to thank everyone that had planned to participate in the annual tree lighting event. (Taylor County School Choir, Scott Westbrook, Pastor from Taylor Mill Baptist Church, and Santa Claus) Due to weather the City was unable to have the event and it was not able to be rescheduled due to other conflicts. He said that his staff and the ladies in the office had put a lot of hard work into the event.

He said that the trash schedule for the holidays would be run in the paper. The City will have three roll-off dumpsters around the City for excess holiday trash. (Tower St., Venus St., and Railroad St.)

Chief Kain Cobb stated that for the month of November the Police Department responded to 10 traffic accidents, with three of those having injuries. They made 37 traffic stops and issued 22 traffic citations. They worked 7 burglaries/thefts/financial cases and made 7 arrests. They responded to 4 fires and 37 domestic disputes, with one of the domestics having injuries.

Fire Coordinator Eddie Moulton said that the fire department had 9 calls last month. They ran 2 structure fires, 1 landing zone for the helicopter for an accident, another vehicle accident and three grass fires and two service calls. He said he would like to remind everyone to be cautious during the holidays with their Christmas trees and Christmas lights. He said they also need to be aware of their drop cords and the dangers related to that.

Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn said to be mindful of those people out there that may not have sufficient heat or adequate housing, and asked everyone to keep an eye on those people.

David Windham said that the City staff has had several meetings with GDOT recently and can report that GDOT has been looking in to the other intersections on 96 and can see issues in those areas. He said that there will be some things that will be done in those areas coming soon, such as flashing signage or early warning lights. He said at this point he does not know what or when.

Public Comments:

The owner of the liquor store in Reynolds, along with some associates, came before the Council to inquire about when the alcohol license would be available to purchase for the recently passed liquor referendum. His wish is that the Mayor and Council will consider him for a license, as he is vested in the community. Mayor Whitley informed them that the alcohol ordinance has not been finished at this time, and that it will more than likely be the middle of January at the

earliest before applications will be ready to give out. He assured them that everyone will be given a fair chance.

Executive Session:

With nothing else to discuss, the Mayor called for a motion to enter in to an executive session to discuss personnel and property. A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was issued by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn. The vote was unanimous.

Regular Session (continued):

New Hire:

Chief Cobb requests to hire a new full time police officer. He recommends to the council that Monquavious Harvey, who is currently a part time employee, be moved in to the full time position. He also would like to interview to send a person to mandate school to training. Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn issued a motion to hire Mr. Harvey full time and interview for a candidate to send to school. A 2nd was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

HVAC at the Butler Public Library:

The staff informed the Mayor and Council that the Butler Public Library needs a new HVAC system and at this time the Pine Mountain Library does not have the funds to pay for this. Since the City owns the building a motion was made to hire Mark Moore Heating and Air to replace the HVAC system in the Library and pay for it from new SPLOST funds. A motion to proceed was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Councilman Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous.

Holiday Closing Additions: The current Holiday schedule calls for the City Offices to be closed on December 25th and December 26th for Christmas and January 1st for New Years. The staff has requested to follow the County's example and also be closed on Friday, December 22nd and Friday, December 29th. The staff will use vacation pay for these two additional days. Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn suggests that the additions be added to the permanent holiday schedule for the next year and beyond. A motion to proceed was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn. The vote was unanimous.

Sewer Machine:

Public Works is in need of a sewer machine. The time frame if it is ordered today will be approximately six months. Mr. Windham requests a motion to issue a PO number for the sewer machine now and pursue financing at a later date. He can make the payments using SPLOST funds. Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn made the motion and a second was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

New Public Works Truck: Mr. Windham requested purchasing a new truck from water/sewer SPLOST in the amount of approximately \$36,000.00 from Brannen Ford. A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a second was issued by Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Windham touched briefly on some things regarding the 911 system and GIS, GEO-Coding, Trac and Bloc, and the importance of mapping. He said that there are some issues that will be coming in the next few years that will require the local governments to have everything mapped. He will be giving more information at a later date. He hopes to get Beverly Butcher from Americus, who does our GIS work, to attend an LEPC meeting at the first of the year to give more insight in to this.

Ms. Wainwright reminded everyone that on Thursday, December 14th at 6:00 PM there will be a meeting at the County Annex regarding Hotel/Motel tax.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn from the meeting was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn and a second was issued by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.