

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



COUNCIL:
EDWARD GUINN
Mayor, Pro Tem
JACOB HOPKINS
GLENN HARRIS
RODRICK FLOWERS
DEBORAH WILLIAMS

August 12, 2025
Council Meeting @6:00 PM
Council Chambers

PRESENT

Mayor Barry Whitley
Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn
Councilperson Deborah Williams
Councilperson Rodrick Flowers
Councilperson Glenn Harris
Councilperson Jacob Hopkins

MEDIA PRESENT

TC NEWS

INVOCATION: Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn

OPENING STATEMENT: Vicki Wainwright

Amendment to the Agenda: Public Works Director David Windham requested an amendment to the agenda to add Engineer Selection.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of the July 8th, 2025 Regular & Work Session Council Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the June 10th, 2025 Regular & Work Session Council Meeting Minutes by Councilperson Jacob Hopkins and seconded by Councilperson Deborah Williams. The vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lead Service Line Field Investigation Contract Approval: Public Works Director David Windham said that the bid opening for the Lead Service Line Field Investigation was held on Friday, August 8th. The City received seven bids. The low bid was from SWGA for \$122,110, and has been reviewed and recommended by engineers Carter & Sloope. He asked for approval to accept the low bid from SWGA. A motion to accept the low bid was issued by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn and seconded by Councilperson Rodrick Flowers. The vote was unanimous.



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Engineer Selection for GEFA CWSRF Project (additional funding for the USDA Project, Loan/Grant):

Public Works Director David Windham informed the Mayor and Council that an RFQ for an engineer for the GEFA CWSRF project was advertised on the Georgia Procurement website and the City of Butler received three RFQ's for engineers. A score sheet was completed by staff for the RFQ's, with one firm being eliminated due to distance. The other two firms were scheduled to give a presentation with their work, which was done on August 8th. After consideration of both firms, Mr. Windham recommends that the Mayor and Council select Carter and Sloope due to their familiarity with former and existing projects in Butler. A motion to select Carter and Sloope as the engineer was made by Councilperson Jacob Hopkins and seconded by Councilperson Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous.

AFFF/PFAS Discussion:

Attorney Jack Nichols, along with Public Works Director David Windham, explained to the Mayor and Council that the City of Butler had been contacted by a law firm regarding the possibility of PFAS in the water. This covers any public water system in the United States that serve 3300 people or more. PFAS is poly-fluoroalkyl, which is synthetic, non bio-degradable chemicals found in various products such as a firefighting foam created in 1969 for airports, military bases and industry to combat fires. In 2024 the EPA established the first drinking water standards for PFAS and requires public water systems to monitor and mitigate PFAS levels within three to five years. Windham said that the city's water had been tested for PFAS a couple of years ago and nothing was detected. Attorney Nichols stated that he recommends signing up with the law firm to cover any potential issues regarding PFAS. The firm will cover the cost of any future testing, and there would be no cost to the city to be part of the suit. Should any PFAS be detected, being a part of the suit would allow the city to file a claim to recover any damages for remediation for PFAS. According to the PFAS documents, this is being proactive and well informed in order for governments to safeguard their interests and ensure the well-being of the residents.

Attorney Nichols told the Council that he would like to clean up some of the language in the documents before they sign. Mayor Whitley stated that he feels that this is something the City should do and asked Attorney Nichols to proceed with cleaning up the documents before the next meeting.



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DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Public Works Director David Windham informed the Mayor and Council that the pavers have been completed on the west side of the courthouse, and the pavers are being laid on the east side currently, before moving to the north side. He said the rain has caused some delays. He told them that banners will be going up on some of the new light poles around the square, some with the City of Butler logo and some with the rocking T. Banners will be changed from time to time with holiday designs.

Butler Fire Department: In the absence of the Fire Coordinator Brandon Maddox, Mr. Windham said that the fire department is currently undergoing the state audit. He also said that the Butler Fire Department is having Fire Fighter 1 classes, with seven people attending. Five of those are new members of the Butler Fire Department.

The Butler Fire Department ran eighteen calls last month. One injured person, one person shot, eight traffic accidents with injuries, one train accident, two structure fires, one vehicle fire, one trouble unknown, and three fire alarm calls.

Police Chief Matthew Woodard said that the activity for the police department is in the agenda packet. He said that the calls regarding entering into automobiles are down and he credits that to citizens being mindful of locking their car doors, increased patrol and people being aware of the repercussions of the new curfew ordinance.

Four of the FLOCK cameras are up and the other four should be going up within the next couple of weeks. He hopes to be live in September. The question was asked if the FLOCK cameras will pick up on ATV's, golf carts, etc. and Chief Woodard stated he would check on that.

Councilperson Glenn Harris inquired about the activity report and asked if it showed the number of Failure to Stop tickets. Chief Woodard stated that those tickets are included in the "traffic stops". Councilperson Harris also asked about the lot on Pine Street that needs to be cleaned up. The City had halted the process due to the lot being in bankruptcy. Attorney Nichols said he would look into the issue. Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn said he would like the City to flag ten more properties for blight and to get those cleaned up.



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EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion to enter into an Executive Session to discuss personnel was made by Councilperson Jacob Hopkins and seconded by Councilperson Rodrick Flowers. The vote was unanimous.

REGULAR SESSION: (continued)

APPEAL: Former Police Officer Darian Beasley had submitted a letter appealing his termination on 07/22/2025. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Guinn to not grant the appeal from Mr. Beasley and to allow the record to stand as "terminated". A second was made by Councilperson Rodrick Flowers. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURN

With nothing further to discuss, a motion was made by Councilperson Jacob Hopkins to adjourn and a second was made by Councilperson Glenn Harris. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Barry Whitley

ATTEST

