

# City of Guyton, Georgia

*Working Together to Make a Difference*



## **Minutes of the Guyton City Council Meeting held on Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at Guyton City Hall at 7:00 pm.**

Present: Mayor Jeff Lariscy, Councilmen Steve Collins, Councilmen Franklin Goldwire, Councilmen Michael Johnson, City Attorney Ray Smith, City Clerk Lauree Morris as well as citizens.

Mayor Lariscy called the meeting to order. A moment of repose was held for those who may practice another faith, followed by the invocation by Robert Hunter. The pledge of allegiance was said.

Mayor Lariscy asked for consideration to amend the Agenda to include the library board nomination. A motion to approve the Amended Agenda was made by Councilmen Goldwire, seconded by Councilmen Johnson, and approved.

Councilmen Johnson made a motion to approve the Minutes of the June 14, 2016 meeting. Councilmen Goldwire seconded, and the motion carried.

**PLANNING AND ZONING:** No report.

**LEISURE SERVICES COMMISSION:** Robert Hunter reported that events are going well.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE:** Committee member Lucy Powell reported that the ice cream social on June 16 went very well. She thanked everyone who participated especially council members, the fire and police departments. She stated the committee has discussed and has concerns with the cosmetic appearances of many of the houses within the historic district. The committee would like to be contacted with information on anyone who helps with yardwork and/or house repairs.

No other committee reports were provided.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Mayor Lariscy led a presentation and first reading of the Utility Permit Ordinance regarding right-of-way permits. Attorney Smith will review as he believes some changes are in order. He will try to have those presented prior to the next council meeting, which should be the second reading and adoption.

Mayor Lariscy presented and held the second reading of the Fiscal Year 2016/2017 budget. Some discussion was held regarding the proposed tax/millage rate specifically in regard to not obtaining an increase as the revenue budget proposes. Mayor Lariscy stated it would be possible to not pursue an increase for a year allowing us time to adopt other revenue-producing means. Any budget shortfall we may have can be taken from the DOT land purchase proceeds, shown in the variance section for miscellaneous income. Citizen Lexye Shockley asked about this amount and it was identified for her. Councilmen Collins suggested that we cut the budget by reducing the police department budget by \$25,000 to \$35,000. Public comment was made by Lula Seabrooks, Lexye Shockley, and Lucy Powell strongly opposing any reduction of the police department. Additional comments were made by Mayor Lariscy, Councilmen Goldwire, Councilmen Johnson, Councilmen Collins and Public Safety Director

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Lundy. Councilmen Johnson suggested that we leave the millage rate where it is and use the monies needed from the fund balance, which includes the DOT land purchase. Mayor Lariscy called for a motion to approve the FY 2016/2017 budget. Councilmen Johnson so moved, seconded by Councilmen Goldwire who both voted in favor. Councilmen Collins opposed but the budget adoption passed.

Mayor Lariscy presented the second reading of the amended Ordinance to Provide Fire Fees. Lexye Shockley asked about the fee for the home-based businesses and Chief Jarriel explained this to her. Mayor Lariscy called for a motion to approve the amended ordinance to raise fire fees. Councilmen Johnson so moved and Councilmen Goldwire seconded. Councilmen Collins did not vote but the matter was approved.

Mayor Lariscy led a discussion on the rental of city property located at 308 Central Boulevard. Mayor Lariscy advised that he has spoken with the tenant and they agreed on a one (1) month extension to the lease. The City will be pursuing an appraisal of the property. Once obtained, the value will be looked at and the lease renegotiated or an offer to sale will be presented. Attorney Smith reminded all that if we sell the property, it has to be by bid process. Michael Johnson suggested that we allow a two (2) month extension in order to have time to obtain an appraisal. All agreed.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Lariscy asked for consideration for an appointment of a non-public representative to serve on the Coastal Regional Commission for Effingham County and the cities of Guyton, Rincon and Springfield with the reappointment of Herb Jones, whose seat expires on 6/30/2016, or by nominating another person. After some discussion, Councilmen Goldwire moved to reappoint Herb Jones. Councilmen Johnson seconded and the matter was approved.

Mayor Lariscy asked for an appointment of a city of Guyton representative for membership on the Effingham County Library Board for a term of three (3) years from 7/1/2016 through 6/30/2019. Councilmen Goldwire previously held this position but is stepping down. Kelli Lariscy expressed interest. After discussion, Councilmen Johnson moved to appoint Kelli Lariscy to the position. Councilmen Johnson seconded and the matter was approved.

Councilmen Goldwire provided a financial report, and Mayor Lariscy provided a report on streets and lanes.

The dates to remember were recapped by Mayor Lariscy as follows:

Monday, July 4 – City Hall closed for Independence Day  
**Thursday, July 14**, 7 pm – City Council Meeting (date change)  
Friday, July 15, 2 pm – Special Called City Council Meeting  
Wednesday, July 20, 3:30 pm - Guyton Municipal Court  
Tuesday, July 26, 7 pm – City Council Meeting  
Saturday, July 30, 4 to 8 pm – Community Picnic  
Saturday, August 6 – Guyton Night Out

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Planning and Zoning Committee chair Lon Harden presented one (1) variance request for a fence and provided its recommendation to the Council. The variance is for a privacy fence for Edna Robinson. Councilmen Harden stated that after discussion with those present for the public hearing, an agreement was reached on the fence issue.

Planning and Zoning Committee chair Harden recommended that Council approve the fence variance of Edna Robinson with the following stipulation: the fence can be four (4) feet on the front and side and six (6) feet from the back corners of the house, and the fence shall be maintained.

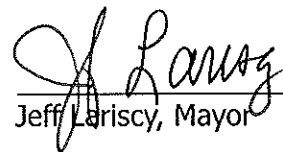
Mayor Lariscy asked for consideration and approval of the Planning and Zoning Committee recommendation on the Robinson fence variance. Councilmen Johnson so moved to approve the variance with the stipulations recommended by the Committee. Councilmen Goldwire seconded and the matter was approved.

Mayor Lariscy called for additional comments relating to the Agenda. After none, Councilmen Johnson moved that we adjourn into Executive Session. Councilmen Goldwire seconded, and the motion was approved by all.

After returning from Executive Session into Regular Session, Attorney Smith advised Council that he has communicating with the attorney regarding the bond underwriting inquiries. He provided them with a timeline on the bond and plant construction process in order to show that the City intended to spend the funds within three (3) years of obtaining the same. He believes his response will satisfy the inquiries.

After no additional business, comments or votes, Mayor Lariscy called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmen Johnson made the motion, which was seconded by Councilmen Goldwire and approved. Meeting adjourned.

  
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Lauree Morris, City Clerk

 (as amended)  
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Jeff Lariscy, Mayor

