

City of Guyton, Georgia

Working Together to Make a Difference



Minutes of the Guyton City Council Meeting held on Tuesday, April 26, 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 Manager Robert Black, City Clerk Lauree Morris as well as citizens.

Mayor Lariscy called the meeting to order. Robert Hunter offered the invocation preceded by a moment of repose for those who may practice some other faith. The pledge of allegiance was led by Fire Chief Gary Jarriel.

Mayor Lariscy asked for consideration to amend the Agenda to remove the presentation by Citizen Broomfield and approve said amended Agenda. Councilmen Johnson so moved. Councilmen Collins seconded, and the motion to passed.

Mayor Lariscy called for consideration to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2016 meeting. Prior to a motion, Attorney Smith asked for consideration to amend the minutes regarding the Mossy Hollow subdivision agreement [page five] to add a notation that a true copy of the agreement is included with the Minutes. Councilmen Goldwire made a motion to amend the Minutes as requested by Attorney Smith. Councilmen Collins seconded and the motion carried. Councilmen Johnson then made a motion to approve the Minutes from April 12, 2016 as amended. Councilmen Goldwire seconded, and the motion carried.

PLANNING AND ZONING: No report.

LEISURE SERVICES COMMISSION: Chairmen Robert Hunter said that line dancing and Zumba is still going on with decent turnouts.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE: No report.

No other committee reports were provided.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Lariscy called for a review of the water tank maintenance bids for water tank # 2 (Magnolia at 3rd) and selection of vendor. Mike O'Neal, the Public Works Superintendent, reviewed the bids and the warranties. He presented Council with additional information. Superintendent O'Neal recommended proceeding with the bid that use epoxy and urethane from American Tank Maintenance. An amendment to the budget would be necessary as only \$12,000 was allocated for this project. A discussion regarding a long-term maintenance plan, which is a savings to the City, was considered. After additional discussion of the cost for the bids presented and the long-term plan, Councilmen Collins made a motion to accept the \$25,520 American Tank Maintenance bid if they agree to allow us to remit \$12,000 now and pay the remainder of the cost within six-months, which will be the next fiscal year. Councilmen Goldwire seconded and the motion passed.

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Mayor Lariscy led a discussion regarding the county SPLOST meeting and upcoming referendum. He advised that the discussion went well, and Guyton presented their percentages and categories.

Mayor Lariscy led a discussion regarding candidates to fill Councilmen Eaton's remaining term and selection of same. Councilmen Johnson moved to appoint Joseph Lee to the post. Councilmen Goldwire seconded. After no additional affirmative votes, the motion did not carry. Several citizens addressed Council on this matter, both in support of and opposition of Mr. Lee. After a call for additional nominations, of which there were none, Mayor Lariscy stated the meeting would move forward. The matter will continue to be discussed at each meeting until the seat is filled. Additionally, the seat will be "opened back up" for additional applicants.

Mayor Lariscy called for an update on and possible first reading of the franchise agreement with Georgia Power. Attorney Smith stated he had contacted Georgia Power requesting an extension per Council's wishes and his request was declined. After discussion, Council approved the first reading of the agreement.

Mayor Lariscy called for a discussion on right-of-way permits. Attorney Smith will review to see if we need an additional ordinance or if we need to amend our ordinances.

Mayor Lariscy called for a discussion and approval to refinance the revenue bond for waste water treatment plant. Superintendent O'Neal wished to address the issue with our water supply lines and how much it would cost to replace them; the lines are very old and it will cost around one million to correct. He suggested that we seek financing for this too. Attorney Smith stated he would review our options with a bond attorney to see if it would be possible as refinancing to include the project Superintendent O'Neal mentioned. Councilmen Collins made a motion to table the discussion for two weeks. Councilmen Goldwire seconded and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Manager Black called for a motion to amend the fiscal year 2015/2016 budget. The budget will be amended as follows:

city manager salary – amended by \$14,271.23 - new final budget to \$34,623.23
communications upgrade – amended by \$1,731 – new final budget to \$5,731

The water tank capital outlay proposed amendment is now a wash, and no amendment will be needed. After discussion, Councilmen Goldwire moved to approve the resolution. Councilmen Johnson seconded and the matter was approved.

Mayor Lariscy called for a discussion and approval of employment of GSU City Manager intern, Michael Wedincamp. The Mayor informed Council that Mr. Wedincamp sought him out in Atlanta earlier in the year seeking an opportunity of an internship as he is required to fulfill 10 weeks at 30 hours a week. Mayor Lariscy stated that Mr. Wedincamp could start on May 1 and that he would like to pay him at least minimum wage while he was here. Councilmen Goldwire motioned to invite Mr. Wedincamp to

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visit prior to his approval so he could meet us and we could meet him. Councilmen Johnson seconded.

Citizen Lexye Shockley asked for consideration to address the Council concerns regarding leadership; address concerns regarding the failure to adequately train employee; and to address questions and issues regarding the city charter. Her concerns about leadership are the secret meetings being held prior to actual meetings. She is also concerned over whether or not Councilmen Collins actually resides in Guyton. He confirmed that he does. Additionally she is concerned over Councilmen Collins's wife Denise being present at meetings, in executive session and working in the office. The Mayor responded to state that Mrs. Collins is not at meetings, is certainly not in executive sessions, and the time she was helping in the office was when we lost two employees.

In addition to condemning Mr. and Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Shockley challenged the wages earned and paid to Robert Black; his (alleged) abuse of his position; and his (alleged) propensity to exceed his limits of authority. She brought up several examples including the firing of Arlene Crittington.

Mrs. Shockley expressed her concerns over the training of employees, or lack thereof.

In regard to the city charter, she admitted that Attorney Smith was correct regarding the quorum and the voting power of the Mayor. She stated that the document needs to be amended to remove inconsistencies and to clarify the duties/power of the mayor and council.


The Mayor and Council addressed her concerns.

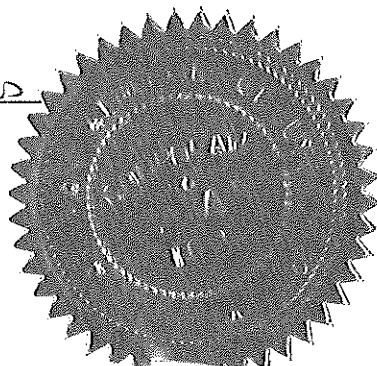
The dates to remember were recapped by Mayor Lariscy as follows:

- Tuesday, May 10, 7 pm – City Council Meeting
- Wednesday, May 18, 4 pm – Guyton Municipal Court
- Tuesday, May 24, 7 pm – City Council Meeting
- Monday, May 30 – City Hall closed for Memorial Day
- Tuesday, June 14, 7 pm – City Council Meeting
- Wednesday, July 15, 4 pm – Guyton Municipal Court
- Thursday, June 16 – Ice Cream Social
- Tuesday, June 28, 7 pm – City Council Meeting

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.

Having no business for executive session, Councilmen Johnson moved to adjourn from regular session. Council Goldwire seconded and the meeting was adjourned.


Lauree Morris, City Clerk




Jeff Lariscy, Mayor