

CITY OF WHIGHAM
COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 15, 2022

The Whigham City Council met in regular session on Tuesday March 15, 2022 at the Whigham City Council Chambers with Mayor George Trulock presiding. Mayor Trulock called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and opened the meeting with a prayer and led the Pledge to the Flag.

Those present were: Mayor Trulock, Jim Sellers, Trey Gainous, Joel Singletary, Utilities Director Josh Ausburn, Police Chief Tony Black, NightHawk presenter John Scott and City Clerk Rachel Rogers.

Agenda Adoption

A motion was made by Trey Gainous to adopt the agenda. Joel Singletary seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes Adoption

A motion was made by Trey Gainous to adopt the minutes from the January meeting. Joel Singletary seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Public Participation

Tyrone Addison, listed on the agenda, contacted City Hall prior to the Council meeting and said he would be unable to attend the meeting. Mayor Trulock informed the Council that Mr. Addison and several other customers had asked City Hall about paying over the phone with credit/debit cards. City Clerk Rogers stated she had reached out to the current third party we use to process card payments for City Court, Government Windows, who stated that there would be no extra fees for the City if we began taking payments over the phone. The charge is 3.5% to use in office/via phone. The City Clerk stated it would be convenient for customers and employees. **Joel Singletary made a motion to allow City Hall to begin taking payments via phone. Trey Gainous seconded the motion. All members present vote in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

New Business

NightHawk Meters

Utilities Director Josh Ausburn introduced John Scott with NightHawk Meters whom he has been conversing with about the City purchasing AMI meters from. Mr. Scott thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him to give a brief presentation on NH Meters. The highlights of the meters are: reducing human error from reading, City Hall can pull readings at any given time to check a reading or for normal billing, remote disconnect and reconnect from City Hall, zero infrastructure, and alerts can also be set up when a leak or electrical issue is first detected. Mr. Scott stated that Electric Cities of Georgia (ECG) uses these meters and highly recommends them. The pricing for the full scale system, excluding the actual water meters, ranges from \$138,000-\$148,000. There would be an annual fee ranging from \$5200-\$6700, which would include troubleshooting and customer support for the City. Water meters would have to be purchased separately for \$40,000-\$50,000. Scott stated he would get City Clerk Rogers contact information for another city who got the electric and water meters covered with federal grant

funds. Mayor Trulock and the Council thanked Mr. Scott for the wonderful presentation and helpful information.

Nomination/Appointment of Council Member

Mayor Trulock stated Dusty Brown had submitted his resignation due to moving outside the city limits. He stated that Bobby Porter (residing on SE Norwood St.) has expressed interest in serving in the past and asked the Council members if they knew of anyone else residing in the City that would be of interest. Singletary stated Keith Chason (Lee Ave) had stated he had interest. Mayor Trulock and City Clerk Rogers informed the Council that Chason was currently dealing with some health issues. Jim Sellers suggested we invite Mr. Porter to the next meeting and all members agreed.

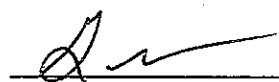
Paving

Mayor Trulock said we still do not have an update for paving, but he has talked to Steve in Bainbridge and their crew has been working on completing several projects.


LMIG Bank Account

City Clerk Rogers informed the Council that the City's CPA, Perry Henry, strongly recommended setting up a new bank account for the LMIG funds the City applies for annually through the DOT. **Trey Gainous made a motion for the City Clerk to set up a new bank account for LMIG funds. Joel Singletary seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried.**

A motion to adjourn was made by Trey Gainous. Joel Singletary seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 P.M.



Approved



Submitted