

CITY OF WHIGHAM
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2020

The Whigham City Council met in regular session, Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 7:00 PM in the Whigham City Council Chambers with Mayor George Trulock presiding. Mayor Trulock opened the meeting with a prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL: Members of the Council present were: Dusty Brown, Trey Gainous, Jim Sellers and Joel Singletary. Others present were: Jimmie Laing, Jean Strickland, Utility Director Josh Ausburn, Police Chief Tony Black, and City Clerk Lisa Calhoun.

Mayor Trulock and Councilmembers Brown, Gainous, Sellers and Singletary were sworn in by City Clerk Lisa Calhoun for the 2020/2021 term of office.

Council Vacancy: Mayor Trulock asked, if there were no objections, that the Council go ahead with addressing the Council Vacancy before proceeding with the agenda. **A motion was made by Jim Sellers to appoint Jimmie Laing to fill the Council vacancy created by the resignation of Ashley King. Joel Singletary seconded the motion. Jim Sellers, Joel Singletary, Dusty Brown, and Trey Gainous all voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.** City Clerk Lisa Calhoun then administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Laing.

Agenda Adoption: Motion was made by Trey Gainous to adopt the meeting agenda. Motion was seconded by Jim Sellers. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Trey Gainous to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2019 Council meeting. Motion was seconded by Dusty Brown. All members voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Reports: Mayor Trulock reported his request, at the recent TSPLOST meeting, to increase the City of Whigham's share of the proposed TSPLOST from 1.9% to 2% fell on deaf ears.

Trulock reminded the Council that Asst. Fire Chief Al Akridge had come before the council some time back with a list of equipment for the Fire Department he wanted to purchase with SPLOST funds. Mayor Trulock stated he (Trulock) budgeted police department computers, police radio payment and fire radio payment with SPLOST funds for F/Y 20/21. These budgeted items depletes most of the SPLOST funds allocated for public safety equipment. Trulock asked the Council to consider moving funds from savings to purchase the fire department equipment. Council suggested Mayor Trulock go ahead and move the money for the purchase of equipment.

City Clerk Calhoun told the Council Patrick Lambert, owner of the welding business on Hudson Street, wants to add on to his business. It was discovered that the property is zoned R-2 -
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Residential instead of I – Industrial. Neighboring businesses of Farmers Peanut and Visual Impulse are zoned I – Industrial. Bo Collins, the original owner of the welding shop, built the building and business prior to the City adopting zoning regulations. Calhoun was not certain why the property was not designated as Industrial when the zoning map was drawn. Mayor Trulock asked the Council to rezone the property. Mr. Lambert has agreed to apply for a zoning variance on setback requirements. **A motion was made by Trey Gainous that the City initiate the zoning change from R-2 - Residential to Industrial. Jimmie Laing seconded the motion. Gainous, Laing, Dusty Brown, Jim Sellers, and Joel Singletary voted for the motion. Motion carried.** City Clerk Calhoun explained that a public hearing on the City initiated rezoning request will be advertised and held at the February Council meeting.

The City Clerk told the Council the UGA student is ready to present the Streetscape project. The presentation is scheduled for Wednesday, January 29th at 3:30 PM at the Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Trulock told the Council Ray Callaway has requested an escalation clause in the upcoming mowing contract to cover any significant increases in fuel costs. City Clerk Calhoun mentioned the contract period is to be March – November and the grass at the park and behind City offices will need cutting before March. Mayor Trulock said Utility Director Ausburn said the City will cut the grass during the winter months as needed.

Councilmember Jim Sellers agreed to participate in a SWOT analysis interview at the Chamber.

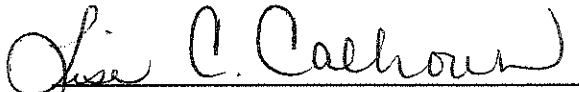
Unfinished Business: Museum/Utility Maint. Office Repairs - Mayor Trulock asked for contractors that might be interested in redoing the façade of Utility Director Ausburn's office and the old Museum building. Reece Gayle to be contacted.

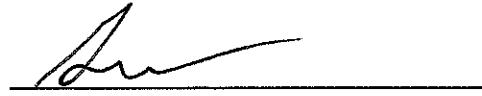
New Business: Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement – Motion by Joel Singletary to approve Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement. Dusty Brown seconded. Joel Singletary, Dusty Brown, Trey Gainous, Jimmie Laing and Jim Sellers voted for the motion. Motion carried.

Verizon/Cingular statewide Agreements – Mayor clarified questions concerning make ready costs. Motion was made by Trey Gainous to approve the Verizon Pole Attachment Agreement. Joel Singletary seconded. Gainous, Singletary, Brown, Sellers, and Laing voted in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Joel Singletary to approve the Cingular Pole Attachment Agreement. Motion was seconded by Dusty Brown. All voted for the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 7:51 PM was made by Joel Singletary. Second by Trey Gainous. All in favor. Motion carried.


Submitted


Approved