

MINUTES

City of Whitesburg

Mayor and Council Meeting

August 6, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 50 Booster Field Drive, Whitesburg, Georgia 30185

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Silence All Electronic Devices
2. Ascertain Quorum

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Amy Williford, Councilmember William Smolar, Councilmember Lucy Gamble, Councilmember Mike Sprayberry, and Councilmember Jay Williford.

II. INVOCATION – Councilmember Mike Sprayberry

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Councilmember William Smolar

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED: Motion - Smolar; Second - Sprayberry; VOTE: 4-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MINUTES TO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ARE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2 (e) (2) (c)

Motion by Councilmember Smolar, second by Councilmember Gamble to amend the agenda to enter into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation matters. VOTE: 4-0

Clerk's Note: At this time, (6:14 p.m.), the Mayor and Council relocated to enter into Executive Session. During the Executive Session an Affidavit was circulated and signed by each member of the Mayor and Council in attendance attesting that the items discussed (potential litigation matters) during Executive Session were pursuant to Georgia State Law (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2.).

Upon return to the Council Chambers at approximately (6:29 p.m.), Motion by Councilmember Smolar, second by Councilmember Sprayberry to enter back into open meeting session. VOTE: 4-0.

V. MINUTES APPROVALS

1. June 26, 2018 (Work Session)
2. July 2, 2018

Councilmember Gamble stated that on the June 26, 2018 Work Session Minutes, the following change should be made to Item 4. Occupational Tax License (on the last sentence the word "metal" should be removed).

APPROVED (with noted change to be made on the June 26, 2018 Work Session Minutes.): **Motion - Smolar; Second - Gamble; VOTE: 4-0.**

VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS/ISSUES

There were none.

VII. BUSINESS SESSION

1. GA Department of Transportation Agreement (Roundabout Lighting)

Councilmember Smolar discussed approval of the GA Department of Transportation Agreement and supporting documentation. Mayor Williford must be authorized to sign the documents in order to move forward with the roundabout lighting project. This lighting used for signage will be for testing purposes. If approved, the lighting should be complete in September.

APPROVED: Motion - Smolar; Second - Gamble; VOTE: 4-0.

2. Striping of New Police Vehicle

Councilmember Sprayberry advised that the Police Department had received a quote for installation of striping on the Police Department vehicle donated by the Sheriff's Department. Police Chief Eddie Thompson advised that David Kirby has submitted a quote in the amount of \$525.00. Police Chief Thompson stated that David Kirby has the equipment to produce the striping needed for the vehicle. If approved, the striping of the new police vehicle will be paid for via 2008 SPLOST.

APPROVED: Motion - Sprayberry; Second - Williford; VOTE: 4-0.

3. Police Department Flashlights

Councilmember Sprayberry stated that the Police Department is in need of more durable flashlights. Quotes were received for the flashlights as follows:

Streamlight Strion LED HL: \$129.00 each

500 Lumens

AC/DC Chargers

Battery Replacement \$ 24.00

Streamlight Protac: \$ 99.00 each

850 Lumens

DC charger only

Councilmember Sprayberry suggested that flashlights be paid for with 2008 SPLOST funds.

Police Chief Eddie Thompson stated that it was his recommendation to purchase five (5) of the Streamlight Protac flashlights at a cost of \$99.00 each for a total of \$495.00. If approved, the flashlights will be paid for via 2008 SPLOST funds.

APPROVED: Motion - Sprayberry; Second - Williford; VOTE: 4-0

4. New City Hall Update

Councilmember Smolar stated that the starting time on a new City Hall would be at least a year away and by that time, the SPLOST bank account balance would be approximately \$300,000.

Councilmember Smolar advised that it would take at least a year to get everything lined up with the Department of Corrections if the Council desires to move forward. Councilmember Smolar advised that he would like to move forward with payment in the amount of \$27,000. The payment schedule would be as follows:

Retainer: \$ 3,000.00

Preliminaries: \$ 3,000.00

Design Development: \$18,000.00

Construction Administration: \$ 3,000.00

The cost for construction of the building will be \$45.47 dollars per square foot which totals \$159.96. No labor costs would incur if the Department of Corrections provides all labor.

Councilmember Williford inquired as to the total available in the 2013 SPLOST account. Councilmember Smolar advised that the balance is \$201,000 at this time, but will continue to increase with the regular monthly deposits made into the account of approximately \$8,000 per month. Councilmember Smolar advised that a Municipal Sales Tax may be approved by the state for municipalities. Councilmember Williford inquired as to how much revenue a Municipal Sales Tax would generate if approved and requested that Councilmember Smolar run some numbers regarding same. In addition, Councilmember Smolar advised the Mayor and Council that city staff recently met with Mr. Doug Rollo, Assistant Manager of Records Management for Local Government. Mr. Rollo has advised that the City is in violation of the State Records requirements pertaining to storage and security of the City's documents. Mr. Rollo has advised that the City needs a secure location for storage of records retention documents.

TABLED: Motion - Smolar; Second – Williford; VOTE: 4-0.

5. 2018 Millage Rate

Councilmember Smolar advised that Carroll County is calling for a Millage Rate Rollback. Councilmember Smolar stated that it is his recommendation that the City rollback the millage rate as well. Should the Mayor and Council decide to go with a rollback, an anticipated loss of revenue of \$1,200.00 is expected. A public notice will need to be advertised in order to set the millage rate. Also, depending on what the Mayor and Council decide on the millage rate, a public hearing must be held. If the Mayor and Council decide to increase the millage rate, three public hearings must be held. If the Mayor and Council decide to rollback the millage rate, only one public hearing is required. After discussion of the matter, the Mayor and Council decided to approve publication of a notice for a Millage Rate Rollback. The notice for the public hearing will be published in the Saturday, August 18th edition of the Times-Georgian. A Special Called Meeting to approve the millage rate rollback will be held on Tuesday, August 28, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. prior to the Work Session.

APPROVED: Motion - Smolar; Second - Sprayberry; VOTE: 4-0.

6. Railroad Management Company Update

The Mayor and Council discussed this matter and Councilmember Smolar advised he will contact the Georgia Department of Transportation regarding same.

7. Resolution: 05-2018 (Establishment of Franchise Fee) and Approval of Authorization Letter for Local Government Services (LGS).

APPROVED: Motion - Smolar; Second - Sprayberry; VOTE: 4-0.

VIII. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Scott Akery of 23 Forrest Circle complained about water runoff and a drainage problem on property that he owns on Forest Circle. Water Superintendent Robert Gamble advised Mr. Akery that pipes were installed at the location when the road was built. Councilmember Smolar and Councilmember Williford advised Mr. Akery that they would look into the matter.

Mr. Mike Thomas expressed concern regarding tractor trailers getting stuck on the railroad tracks. In addition, Mr. Thomas inquired as to whether the City has hired a School Resource Officer. Police Chief Eddie Thompson advised that the interview process for a School Resource Officer has begun and an applicant should be hired soon. Mr. Thomas also advised that 204 Moore Street looks like a jungle area with all the debris and needs to be cleaned up.

IX. MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Police Chief Thompson presented the Police Department Reports for July.

Councilmember Sprayberry advised that the Police Department will soon be interviewing for a School Resource Officer. The potential candidate has recently graduated from SRO school and is a certified police officer.

Councilmember Smolar stated that some citizens have recently inquired about starting a ball team in Whitesburg.

Water Superintendent Gamble stated that repairs need to be made to the gym floor. Councilmember Williford stated that the water problem needs to be repaired before addressing the problems with the gym floor.

Councilmember Williford stated that Sammy Duke had approached him regarding opening an equipment sales business at his building/location on Main Street. Councilmember Gamble advised that Mr. Duke's building was approved for storage purposes only.

Mayor Williford advised that Tory Yearta, owner of the BP in Whitesburg has advised that she would like to sponsor movie nights on the ball field and will be responsible for all associated costs involved.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.