

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: RONNIE DIXON, KAILEY DEES, LISA CHESSER, AND EDDIE TYSON
COUNCILMAN THOMPSON WAS ABSENT

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: BILL TORRANCE – CITY MANAGER, BILL BEDINGFIELD,
FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK, MELISSA MOORE - ADMIN ASSISTANT, REID THRELKELD
– CITY ATTORNEY, FRANK WAITS –VPD, ZACK FOWLER- VIDALIA COMMUNICATION, JEFF
WEST – ESG, ROBBIE AKINS – ESG, BEN ALLEN – ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF, CHRISTA YOST –
REPUBLIC, REID LOVETT - ESG

MAYOR DIXON BROUGHT THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00p.m.

THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY: REV. ROBERT GREEN

PUBLIC COMMENTS: - Kareem Owens brought a request to have a SNC Plant Hatch United Way 5K run and 1K fun run. The event would be held on November 5, 2016 at STC. The start time will be 8:00 am. He is requesting that the City not close but use barricades at Airport Road at Harris Industrial and Pete Phillips at the Wal-Mart entrance, and also along Hwy 280 at Sweet Onion Drive. With there being no Street Closing request Council action is not required. Mr. Owens was advised to work with Mr. Overstreet to ensure the public's safety.

Mike Cochran asked the Council to better inform the Community of the bid process on local projects. The Council responded that every effort is made to ensure that local business are aware and bid on all local projects. They pointed out that all of the current work being done is by local contractors.

DVA: - Paula brought the Council up to date on activities of the DVA. The Fall Downtown Spook Spectacular is coming up on October 31, 2016, and will be held in the Downtown historic district. She is asking the Council to close the streets in the Downtown area at 4:00 o'clock on the day of the event. The streets involved will be Church Street, Meadows Street East and Jackson Street between Hwy 280 East and West. Also she is requesting that Durden Street be closed from Hwy 280 East to the Bank parking lot. A motion was made by Councilwoman Chesser to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

VCVB – No Report

ONION FESTIVAL –Dustin Booth presented the 2017 Vidalia Onion Festival Committee Roster for the Council's approval. (See Attached) A motion was made by Councilwoman Chesser to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Dees. The vote was unanimous.

TOOMBS MONTGOMERY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Michelle Johnson brought the Council up to date on activities of the Chamber. She stated that the finishing touches are being placed on the Chamber remodel, and thanked the Council for their support. She also reminded them of the Development Authority meeting being held this Thursday at noon.

FINANCIAL REPORT - BILL BEDINGFIELD - Mr. Bedingfield gave the financial report for the month of August. A motion was made by Councilwoman Dees to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the minutes from the August 8, 2016 meeting. Councilwoman Chesser seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

AGENDA

1. **Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting 9/8/16** – City Marshal Shaun Oliver presented the minutes of the meeting held on September 9, 2016. (See Attached) The Committee is recommending that the sign ordinance be amended to clarify the height limit for institutional use. The request was to add a clarified restriction of 14 feet to any sign located in the A-1, R-1, R-1A, R-2, R-3, R-3M, R-4 and O/R zones for institutional use facilities only. A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.
2. **Alcohol Application T & T Bait and Tackle** – Tommy Faircloth, with T & T Bait and Tackle, has applied for a beer and wine license at 301 North Street East. The application is complete and has been signed by the appropriate departments. He is moving his current business into the old Williamson Beverage building. A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous.
3. **2016 Millage Rate** – Finance Director Bill Bedingfield presented the rollback millage rate for 2016. The Toombs County rate would be 4.328 and the Montgomery rate would be 3.538. He is requesting that the Council approve the advertising of these rates, and once the 5 year history has run in the paper that the Mayor set a Called Council meeting on September 29, 2016 to officially approve the millage rate. A motion was made by Councilman Turner to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT – Mr. Overstreet gave a brief overview of the ongoing projects that the City has underway. He brought the Council up to date on the Ed Smith Complex, the Pal Renovation and the second band TSPLOST projects. Mr. Overstreet presented a request for a resolution to approve the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the contract to proceed with the Miracle Lane paving. This is one of the second band TSPLOST projects that he would like to get bid at the same time we bid the Airport Road project. A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Overstreet presented a request to purchase the additional replacement lights for the downtown buildings and also to purchase a 14 foot artificial tree for the City Park. The total he is requesting a maximum of \$5000.00, but should be able to purchase the items for less. A motion was made by Councilman Turner to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Overstreet presented a request from ESG to use the \$19,800.00 savings that they had in their capital this year to purchase a new van for the inmate detail crew. The price should be less than the above mentioned savings. A motion was made by Councilwoman Chesser to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Overstreet informed the Council of the results we were having with Peach State Assistance in helping collect past due property taxes. He reported that over \$61,000.00 had been received as of August.

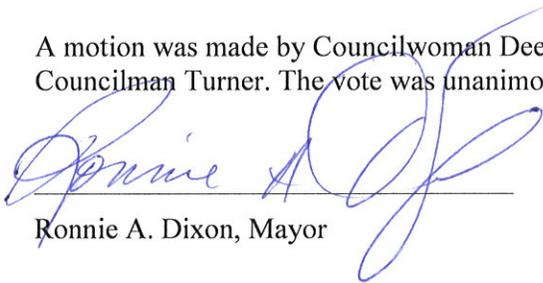
Mr. Overstreet also informed the Council that Mission Communications, the software company that monitors our wells and treatment plants, had asked to use screen shots of our system at their booth during the National Water Trade show in New Orleans. Their reason for asking was because of our efficiency in answering alarms and maintaining our system in a professional way. Mr. Overstreet thanked ESG for their efforts in this honor. The Council also thanked ESG for their professionalism.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn and enter executive session to discuss the acquisition and sale of real estate. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.

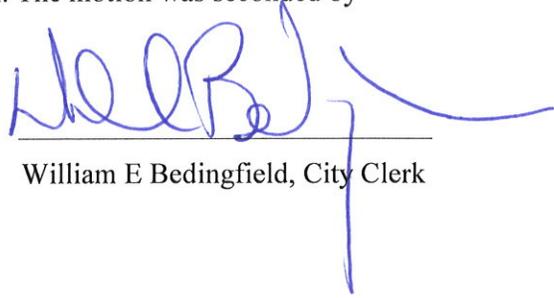
A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to adjourn from executive session and enter regular session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve Mr. Overstreet to pursue having the old fire station on McIntosh Street appraised and then advertised for sale by requesting sealed bids. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dees to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous.



Ronnie A. Dixon, Mayor



William E Bedingfield, City Clerk

Resolution

STATE OF GEORGIA

CITY OF VIDALIA

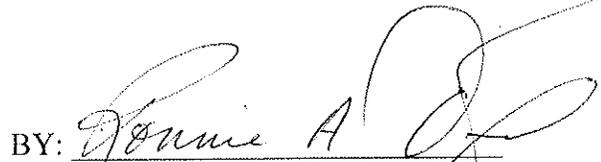
BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Vidalia, and it is hereby resolved, that the foregoing attached Agreement, relative to the Project **Miracle Lane, HG-0968, P.I. 0012301**, and that Ronnie A. Dixon as Mayor and William Bedingfield, as Clerk, be and they are, thereby authorized and directed to execute the same for and in behalf of said by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Vidalia.

Passed and adopted this the 12 day of September, 2016.

ATTEST:



CITY CLERK

BY: 

MAYOR

STATE OF GEORGIA,

CITY OF VIDALIA

I, William Bedingfield, as City Clerk, do hereby certify that I am custodian of the books and records of the same, and that the above and foregoing copy of the original is now on file in my office, and was passed by the Mayor and Council of the City of Vidalia.

WITNESS my hand and official signature, this the 12th day of September,
2016.

BY: 

WILLIAM BEDINGFIELD

CITY OF VIDALIA
AFFIDAVIT AS TO OPEN MEETING LAW

The undersigned chair or presiding officer, under oath, certifies that a meeting of the Mayor and Council held on the date identified below being the date of this document, the Board closed its meeting as permitted by the Open Meetings Act of Georgia. The only matters considered or discussed during the closed portion or executive session of its meetings is as checked below:

- Staff meetings held for investigative purposes under duties or responsibilities imposed by law.
[O.C.G.A. §50-14-3]
- Meetings when discussing or deliberating upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring disciplinary action or dismissal or periodic evaluation or rating of a city official or an employee. (Note: The final vote if made is open to the public.)
[O.C.G.A. §50-14-3 (6)]
- To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the City or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved;
[O.C.G.A. §50-14-2]
- To discuss the future acquisition of real estate;
[O.C.G.A. §50-14-3 (4)]

This the 12th day of September, 2016

CITY OF VIDALIA

By: _____

Mayor or Presiding Officer

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the above indicated date:

Sharon Renteria
Notary Public, State of Georgia
Commission Expires 3/13/20



(Although the same is not mandatory, the following participants concur with the accuracy of this Affidavit.)

John B. Turner
Healy Hill
[Signature]
Dea Chesser

Note: This form is to be used on all meetings of the City of Vidalia when four (4) or more council members are present.