



City of Blairsville, GA
Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting
May 1, 2018 – 6:00 P.M.
City of Blairsville City Hall
62 Blue Ridge Street, Blairsville, GA 30512

PRESENT:

Jim Conley, Mayor
Rhonda Mahan, Council
Robert Moore, Council
Tony Dyer, Council
Betty Easter, Council
Mary Ruth Cook, Council
David Barrett, City Attorney
Kaye McCann, City Clerk

ABSENT:

Jody Cook, WWTP

VISITORS:

Pastor Terry Stewart
PD – Michael Baxter
W/S – Ottis Franklin
WTP-Danny Dillard
AP-John Hamler, Aaron Mannheim
DDA-Darren Harper
Chip McGaughey, EMI
Logan Woodrum, Chantell W.
Millie Arrowood, Regina Garrett
Terry Jones, Bill McGlamery
Chris & Colleen Urbaniuk
Mike Collins, Mike Cook
Pat Malone/WJRB
Shawn Jarrard/NGN
Jason Beck/Fetch Your News

Call Meeting to Order: Mayor Conley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Invocation was led by Pastor Terry Stewart and Councilmember Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Approval: Motion was made by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook, seconded by Councilmember Rhonda Mahan with a unanimous vote to approve the proposed agenda.

Minutes Approval: Motion was made by Councilmember Betty Easter, seconded by Councilmember Tony Dyer with a unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2018 regular meeting of the City Council.

Public Comments:

- Logan Woodrum, server at Copelands Restaurant – Council reviewed information regarding the denial of Ms. Woodrum’s alcohol server permit. Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Betty Easter with a unanimous vote to authorize the issuance of an alcohol server permit to Ms. Woodrum.

- Mike Collins, owner of Michael Lee’s Italian Life Café, addressed the Council regarding parking issues in the downtown area. Other downtown area business owners – Millie Arrowood, Regina Garrett, Bill McGlamery and Colleen Urbaniuk also expressed concerns regarding the lack of parking and safety issues.

No formal vote was taken but it was unanimous among Councilmembers for Darren Harper, DDA Manager, to approach the DDA Board to proceed with the plans for a formal parking area.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

New Business:

- Department Head Reports –
 - PD – Assistant Chief Michael Baxter distributed April 2018 Police Department report.
 - WTP – Danny Dillard reported everything is running good; wells only had to be used one weekend in April.
 - DDA – Darren Harper distributed monthly report and updated Council on upcoming events; extended an invitation to Councilmembers to attend the next DDA Board meeting on 5/8/2018 at 12:00 p.m.
 - W/S – Ottis Franklin reported all maintenance staff attended flagging school and are certified for the next four years.
 - AP – John Hamler stated the airport has been busy; introduced new employee, Aaron Mannheim. Mayor Conley asked the Council to ratify the hiring of Mr. Mannheim at a beginning rate of \$12/hour. Motion was made by Councilmember Tony Dyer, seconded by Councilmember Betty Easter with a unanimous vote to approve the hiring of Aaron Mannheim at \$12/hour.

- Chip McGaughey, EMI – provided an update for the cost estimate of the WWTP Grit System and the project timeline. The total project cost is \$800,000 and will be funded through GEFA financing. GEFA has preliminarily approved the funding to include \$200,000 in debt forgiveness. Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Tony Dyer with a unanimous vote to authorize Chip McGaughey to proceed with the project and obtaining GEFA financing approval.

Consent Agenda:

- Occupational Tax Certificate & Sign Permit Applications:
 - James Sharer (McDonalds), 19 Murphy’s Hwy, Scout Services, Applicant – Sign Permit
 - Paris Nails Salon, 168 Hwy 515 W, Thho Vo Thi Thu, Owner –
Occupational Tax Certificate & Sign Permit
 - Brown Haven Homes, 102 Town Square, John Allen, Owner – Occupational Tax Certificate
 - Silverton Mortgage Specialists, Inc., 62 Plott Street, Suite E, Lori Beardslee, Applicant – Sign Permit
 - Van Wadle, Inc, Merchants Walk Entrance, Christopher Wadle, Owner - Sign Permit
 - Southern D’Signs, 294 G Hwy 515, Lynne Phipps, Owner – Sign Permit
 - Just Cremation, 55 Kimsey Street, Max Cochran & Stephen Cochran, Owners –
Occupational Tax Certificate
 - Watson Insurance Group, LLC, 14 Wayne Colwell Drive, Holly Watson Treadwell, Owner –
Occupational Tax Certificate
 - Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc dba Silverton Mortgage, 253 Highway 515E, John Hamilton III, Applicant – Occupational Tax Certificate

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Tuesday, May 1, 2018

6:00 P.M.

Motion was made by Councilmember Betty Easter, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a unanimous vote to approve Consent Agenda, with the exception of Just Cremation. Councilmember Tony Dyer expressed concerns regarding regulations of a crematorium and asked City Attorney Barrett to research the regulations and report back to the Council at next month's meeting.

Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Tony Dyer with a unanimous vote to adjourn meeting. 7:15 p.m.

Kaye McCann, City Clerk

Approved by City Council