



**City of Blairsville, GA**  
**Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting**  
**April 2, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.**  
**City of Blairsville City Hall**  
**62 Blue Ridge Street, Blairsville, GA 30512**

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Rhonda Mahan, Council  
Otis Franklin, W/S

**VISITORS:**

Pastor Bill Schakat  
PD – Police Chief Baxter  
AP – Aaron Mannheim, WWTP – Jody Cook  
WTP – Danny Dillard, DDA – Darren Harper  
Joan Mannheim  
Steve Rowe, BUCCC President  
Karen Sweeney, Linda Lawrence, Richard Daves  
Lisa & Brandy Collins, Renee Deibert  
Mark Smith/NGN, Pat Malone  
Maria Kidder/FYN

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:** Invocation was led by Pastor Bill Schakat and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Robert Moore.

**Call Meeting to Order:** Mayor Conley called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

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

**Minutes Approval:** Motion was made by Councilmember Tony Dyer, seconded by Councilmember Betty Easter with a unanimous vote to approve the following minutes:

- Regular City Council Meeting – 3/5/2019
- Executive Session – 3/5/2019

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments

**Unfinished Business:** There was no unfinished business.

**New Business:**

- Steve Rowe, President of Blairsville Union County Chamber of Commerce, stated the graduation ceremony was held for the Leadership Union Group. Their two projects this year were to have a signing ceremony for technical trade students much like college signing ceremonies and to provide free wifi for Meeks Park. Upcoming events include a ribbon cutting on 4/8 at Farmers Market, ADC recruitment day on 4/9 from 2pm to 5pm, Monthly Mingle on 4/10 and Fiber Dedication Ceremony on 4/24.
- Department Head Reports –
  - PD – Police Chief Baxter distributed the March 2019 report; reported Asst. Police Chief Dyer and he attended Chief's Day at the Capitol and they will be attending Chief Training in Gwinnett County; Asst. Police Chief Dyer and Officer Seth Dyer attended CIT Training; new Police Department Office is coming along and the Work Detail has been instrumental in saving money.
  - WWTP – Jody Cook reported a good month with flows being back down to normal; new motive pumps have arrived with an anticipated install date of 4/15. Mayor Conley stated the pumps and installation which was approved at an earlier council meeting will be paid for with SPLOST funds.
  - WTP – Danny Dillard reported water production is up due to a leak which is yet to be found; GRWA has a federally funded leak detection program - Danny will forward the information to Mayor Conley to research; provided a quote for a feeder of \$14,000 and Mayor Conley asked if he would obtain one other quote.

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- AP – Aaron Mannheim reported the transition in personnel has been smooth and appreciated Mayor Conley’s assistance with the transition.
- DDA – Darren Harper provided a report of the DDA happenings; highlighted the advertisements for Blairsville; continuing to update the new DDA website; talked about the mugs for sale to raise funds for park benches in the green space behind City Hall; additional users have been added on the DDA’s Facebook page; announced the DDA Board approved him working for the BUCCC eight (8) hours per week.
- Linda Lawrence thanked the Council and Mayor for the support given for 2018’s Taste of the Mountains event. Ms. Lawrence requested the \$100 fee be waived again this year for each of the six vendors applying for a Temporary Special Event License. Ms. Deibert of NGT reported that the school received \$5,900 in 2018 from A Taste of the Mountains Event which provided 15 students with a semester of tuition. Ms. Lawrence also asked the Council for approval for some of the vendors licensed to sell package alcohol to be able to sell sealed packages at the event for consumers to take off event premises. City Clerk Kaye McCann reported that a conversation with Union County Alcohol Code Enforcement Officer Robert Head revealed this is against Georgia State Law. The Wine Shoppe, however, will be open during the event to sell products from their location. Motion was made by Councilmember Betty Easter, seconded by Councilmember Tony Dyer with a unanimous vote to waive the \$100 Temporary Special Event License Fee and to approve the six applications listed in **Exhibit A**.
- Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Tony Dyer with a unanimous vote to award the Obstruction Removal contract to the low bidder, Colwell Construction. **Exhibit B**
- Motion was made by Councilmember Betty Easter, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a unanimous vote to approve the 2018 amended budget as presented by City Clerk Kaye McCann. **Exhibit C**
- Motion was made by Councilmember Betty Easter, seconded by Councilmember Tony Dyer with a unanimous vote to approve the 2019/2020 Work Detail Agreement with Georgia Department of Corrections for the same amount of \$39,500. **Exhibit D**
- Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook with a unanimous vote to approve the IT Support Agreement with Total GeekTek at a rate of \$45/hour for 16 hours (2 days) per month. This agreement is a two year commitment to be approved yearly by the Council in January.
- Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Betty Easter with a unanimous vote to approve a temporary Alcohol License to ACM Fatz VII LLC dba Fatz Café while the application process for a regular license is being completed. This is new ownership for Fatz Café.
- Motion was made by Councilmember Tony Dyer, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a unanimous vote to approve the hiring of Cody Davenport for the Airport at \$12/hour.
- City Clerk Kaye McCann explained to the Council that the previous City & DDA website designers are getting out of the business and that Adobe is doing away with the platform used to build the website. A quote and demonstration was provided by Municode, who creates government websites all over the country. Councilmember Tony Dyer asked if options could be obtained from GMA. This will be tabled until the next meeting.

### Consent Agenda:

- Occupational Tax Certificate & Sign Permit Applications:
  - Northeast Georgia Board of REALTORS, 168 Rogers Street, Karen Sweenie President – Occupational Tax Certificate and Sign Permit
  - Southern Veterinary Partners, LLC dba Blairsville Animal Hospital, 294 Cleveland Street, Dr. John Price, Officer – Occupational Tax Certificate and Sign Permit
  - Sugar Magnolia Gifts & Interior LLC, 267B Cleveland Street, Holly Treadwell & Paulette Watson, Owners - Occupational Tax Certificate

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- Kamran Global Communications LLC, (Cricket Wireless Phones), 294 GA-515, Suite G, Nadir Panjwani, Owner - Occupational Tax Certificate
- Cricket Wireless, 294 Highway 515, Suite G, Jennifer Dempsey/Valley Signs & Surveys LLC, Applicant - Sign Permit
- Appalachian Area Crisis Pregnancy Center, 218 Jones Street, William a. Schakat, CEO - Occupational Tax Certificate
- Gun Shows of the South, Inc., 165 Wellborn Street, Joyce Kehrl, Owner - Occupational Tax Certificate
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car, 307C Cleveland Street, Aaron Stillman/A1 Signs, Applicant - Sign Permit

Motion was made by Councilmember Tony Dyer, seconded by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook with a unanimous vote to approve Consent Agenda items.

Motion was made by Councilmember Betty Easter, seconded by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook with a roll call – Betty Easter, here; Tony Dyer, here; Mary Ruth Cook, here; Robert Moore, here – to enter into executive session to discuss litigation. **Exhibit E**

Motion was made by Councilmember Tony Dyer, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a roll call – Betty Easter, here; Tony Dyer, here; Mary Ruth Cook, here; Robert Moore, here – to exit executive session.

Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Tony Dyer with a unanimous vote to adjourn meeting. 7:18 p.m.

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Kaye McCann, City Clerk

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Approved by City Council