

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
December 13, 2022
6:00 P.M.**

Mayor Harrell called the regular meeting to order at 6pm.

The invocation was given by Council Member Thurman followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the City Clerk called the roll.

Gail Harrell, Mayor	Present
Doug Currie, Mayor Pro Tem	Present
Larry Thurman, Council Member	Present
David Wease, Council Member	Present
Cynthia Miller, Council Member	Present
Jenny Murphy, Council Member	Present

1. Agenda Approval – Add Item K Administrative Assistant for the Gas Department and Item L Park Reservation and Litigation to Executive Session

Motion to approve the agenda with the changes by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

2. Consent Agenda to include:

a. Approval of Minutes – November 8, 2022 - Regular Council Meeting and December 1, 2022 - Special Called Meeting

b. Approval of Check Register - Check #'s 44557 – 44730

Motion to approve the minutes and check register made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

3. Citizen Comments

The Citizens Comment section of the agenda allows citizens who sign up to address the City Council for not more than three (3) minutes on specific topics. The City Clerk will keep time. Please be courteous of the 3-minute time limit.

Frank Dumas of Hilton Street stated he petitioned the area of Hilton Street and would like to have speed bumps installed to reduce the speed of travelers using the road as cut through. Mr. Dumas also expressed his fears for the elderly and youth in the area.

James Belcher, a concerned citizen presented current photos of the city’s parks and required guidelines for public park playgrounds. Mr. Belcher stated the city’s parks does not meet the standards of the requirements and would like the City Council to act on replacing the playground equipment to reduce safety issues.

Flip Johns also of Hilton Street stated his concerns with Hilton Street and requested the Council to make the Hilton Street a one-way from Bonner Street to Hillsboro Street and add street bumps.

David Thompson thanked the council for the project board and requested the council to repair the current sidewalks before extending them, and he stated he was opposed to the hunting on the Mine Lake property.

4. Presentations/Delegations

Presentations/Delegations allow scheduled speakers to address City Council for not more than six (6) minutes on specific topics or for recognition of citizens, city employees, or other events by Mayor and Council.

1. Jasper County Middle School Football

The City Council presented the Jasper County Middle School Football team a proclamation for being the Champions of Piedmont Athletic Conference on October 26, 2022.

2. **Ricky Haizlip – Lease Hunting Camp (Mine Lake)**, presented a proposition to lease the Mine Lake property for a hunting camp. He stated he would maintain and patrol the property, have liability insurance, and have no more than ten people. Mayor Harrell questioned the length of lease Mr. Haizlip was requesting, if he would stay overnight, need use of the cabin on the property, and details on the insurance coverage.

Motion to table until next month made by Mayor Pro Tem Currie, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

5. Public Hearing

- a. **2022Z-003** – Van Box as applicant/owner requests a rezoning proposal for 113 Burney Drive from current R-20 Medium Density Single Family Residential to R-15 Medium Density Single Family Residential District. The tract is shown on tax map M04 141.

Public Hearing opened at 6:30pm

For: None

Opposed: None

Public Hearing closed at 6:31pm

6. Agenda Items

a) Alcohol License Renewals

Motion to approve all the alcohol license renewals presented made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Thurman. All in favor. (All alcohol license renewals were attached in the packets.)

b) Planning and Zoning Application – 2022Z-003 -Van Box

Motion to approve Planning and Zoning application 2022Z-003 made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Miller. All in favor.

c) Condemnation of 322 West Washington Street

Motion to table the condemnation for 322 West Washington Street made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

d) SPLOST 2024 Projects and Resolution

Water Project:

\$359,100

- a. Hunter Ridge to Hillsboro St Loop to increase pressure to 530 @ 15psi

New Public Work/Storage Facility (30x100)

\$273,600

- a. Construct a new facility for Public Works and Water Distribution
- b. Provide storage of materials
- c. Provides breakroom and restrooms for staff
- d. Demolish Old Pool House
- e. Upgrade City Facilities

Infrastructure Improvements

\$1,077,300

- a. Downtown Parking
- b. New Sidewalk Installation
- c. Sidewalk Repair/extension
- d. Stormwater Drainage Repairs
- e. Road Repairs

Total SPLOST

\$1,710,00

Motion to approve SPLOST 2024 projects and resolution presented made by Council Member Murphy seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

e) Finalize 2023 City Holidays

Motion to approve the finalized 2023 city holiday schedule made by Council Member Miller seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

f) Purchasing Policy

Motion to table made by Mayor Pro Tem Currie seconded by Council Member Murphy. Motion fails.

g) City Hall Facelift

Mayor Harrell made the Council aware of the damages and upgrades which needs to be made to the City Hall.

h) MEAG Excess Sale to Adel Resolution

Motion to adopt the resolution to sale the excess electricity to Adel made by Council Member Murphy seconded by Council Member Thurman. All in favor.

i) Extension of Commercial Solar Power Program

No action is necessary. Robert Jordan is to keep the rates adopted at the special called meeting in July 2022.

j) Repaving Quotes for Kelly Lane and Sanders Heights

Motion to table until the January 2023 meeting and make to a decision made by Council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

k) Administrative Assistant for the Gas Department

Motion to allow Gas Department to hire a part time assistant to work 20-30 hours a week at approximately \$17 an hour if the budget allows and amend the budget if it's not allowed made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

l) Park Reservation

Motion to approve the candlelight visionary made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Miller. All in favor.

7. City Manager Update

City Manager Sands stated the City will be closing the Funderburg Drive Park bridge until repaired due to missing railing and boards and will inform council once the City receive quotes. She contacted Georgia Department of Transportation regarding the TA Grant and is waiting for a response. Mrs. Sands expressed the city should host an event to engage with the community for Georgia Municipal Association City's Week is held on April 23rd through 29th. The city has received several questions regarding park food permits, and after seeking legal advice; non-profit, local government, churches, or 501C3 are not required to have a food permit for park reservations. As a reminder the Chinese gift exchange for Christmas will be on December 22nd at 11:30am and requested the council to participate. AT&T Fiber will be installed in the Adam McGinnis's building next to the city hall and suggested researching having it installed in the City's building. Complaints are still being made about vehicles located where they're not supposed to be so all city vehicles, except department heads will have trackers installed as well as logos.

8. Mayor Update

Mayor Harrell mentioned the City Council will host a Work Session on January 26th at 6pm to address changes to all policies.

9. Council Update

No Council comments.

10. Executive Session – Personnel & Litigation

Motion to go into executive session at 7:25pm for personnel and litigation made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

No Action Taken.

Motion to exit at 7:40pm executive session made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Miller All in favor.

11. Council Action – LOST Negotiations

Motion to add LOST Negotiations to the agenda made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Miller. All in favor.

Motion to accept 28 percent for LOST contingent upon the Jasper County Board of Commissioners voting the same on Friday, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the regular council meeting at 7:42 pm made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Miller. All in favor.