

Council Meeting January 10, 2017

Present

Barry Whitley – Mayor
Deborah Williams
Chas Gassett
Amanzie Jenkins
Vicki Wainwright

Ed Guinn-**ABSENT**
Glenn Harris-**ABSENT**

Media Present

Taylor County News
Flint Cable Television

Invocation – Mayor Whitley

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and seconded by Councilman Chas Gassett to approve the minutes of the December 13th, 2016 council meeting. The vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

Citation Increase: (Amended from last meeting):

City Clerk Vicki Wainwright said that in last month's meeting Chief Towns had asked for a \$5.00 increase for citations in order to cover the cost that the court software adds to each ticket. The actual increase should be \$13.00 to cover this cost and she asked the Council to amend the records to reflect that the increase will actually be \$13.00. Councilman Chas Gassett made a motion to amend the citation fee increase and a 2nd was issued by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

CDBG 2017:

Public Works Director David Windham told the Mayor and Council that it is time to apply for the 2017 CDBG. He stated that the City of Butler was not awarded the 2015 or 2016 CDBG for the target area of a portion of the N/E corner of the City in the area of Mason Lane. He told the Mayor and Council that he would like to contract with Grant Specialists of Georgia, Inc. to apply for the 2017 CDBG. He stated the he feels that having someone new look at the area may bring a better chance of being awarded this

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time around. He stated that Grant Specialists of Georgia charge no upfront charges or application fees, but will charge 6% of the amount awarded if the application is awarded. The RVRV, who has previously done the application, charges 6% plus a \$750.00 application charge. He also stated that Sherry Kurtz and her husband Jeff are the owners and he was impressed when they met with him and the Clerk. He feels that trying a different avenue may bring positive results. Councilman Amanzie Jenkins made a motion to allow the City to enter in to an agreement with Grant Specialists of Georgia to do the CDBG 2017 application. A 2nd was issued by Councilman Chas Gasset. The vote was unanimous.

Supplemental LMIG 2016:

Public Works Director David Windham stated that the County and the City of Butler had entered in to a bid process by combining projects to acquire a lower cost overall for the Supplemental LMIG. The Supplemental LMIG is basically extra funds for safety, striping and signage. He said that in December the bids were open and the lowest bidder for the overall project was Peek Paving for \$193,025.00. This price is for the total bid, Taylor County and City of Butler. The City of Butler's project includes road painting, center line striping, signage and the changing of the intersection at Mulberry St. and Oak St. He asks for the Councils approval to proceed with the low bid. A motion was made by Councilman Chas Gasset and a 2nd was issued by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

Community Marketing:

City Clerk Vicki Wainwright reminded Mayor and Council that Amanda Haynie with the Chamber of Commerce and Julie Kent with the Development Authority had come to December's Council Meeting to request the City of Butler participate in their Community Marketing campaign to come up with a Community wide website and brand. The City's portion of the project would be \$6400 if all entities involved participated. Ms. Haynie had requested a decision by February 1st. Ms. Wainwright asked if the Council had reached a decision on participating or not. Mayor Whitley asked if all the other entities got on board? Ms. Wainwright was not aware of any other entities decision regarding this matter. Mayor Whitley said he would want it understood that the decision would be based on the City's portion being \$6400. It was decided that this decision would be tabled until a later date, even if they have to come back for a called meeting.

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Office Closing for Training:

City Clerk Vicki Wainwright reminded the Mayor and Council that she had sent them all a message about a Customer Service Training in Fitzgerald, GA on Wednesday, March 15th. She would like to close City Hall on that date so that she and her staff can attend this training. Mayor Whitley stated that he thought the training would be very helpful for all the office staff. Councilwoman Williams stated that it needs to be run in the newspaper. A motion to allow City Hall to be closed on Wednesday, March 15th for training was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins and a 2nd was issued by Councilwoman Deborah Williams. The Vote was unanimous.

Department Head Reports:

Public Works Director David Windham reminded everyone that City Hall would be closed on Monday, January 16th in observance of Martin Luther King Day. He stated that there will not be any changes in the trash pick-up for that week. He said that during the potential for winter weather last week the City had six weather briefings in order to keep everyone informed of the path of the storm. The bid opening for the Waste Water Treatment facility will be held on Friday, January 20th at 2:00 at City Hall. He stated that he is looking forward to getting the project started.

Chief Jimmy Towns said that the Police Department had a calm December. They had 262 calls with 141 being traffic stops. 70 citations were issued.

Councilwoman Williams asked Chief Towns how things are going with the dog issue around the City. He responded saying that they have picked up some dogs around Tower Street. They have been keeping an eye out around the Ridge Street area but have not seen any dogs in that area.

Fire Administrator Eddie Moulton said that the Fire Department had 125 fire calls for the 2016 year. He also said they had 20 calls that are considered service calls, when the department does not page out the entire fire department. He announced that the Butler Fire Department had been awarded a \$6500 Forestry Grant, which is a 50/50 grant that the City has to contribute \$3250 toward the grant.

Appointments:

Councilwoman Williams asked if a motion could be made to do all the appointments at one time. Councilman Gassett stated that he feels that the council should consider tabling the appointments until the entire council is in attendance. Mayor Whitley stated that he

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would prefer that the entire council be present as well. He said there is also a list of the department that each council member will be responsible for and he feels that that list should be tabled as well until all members are in attendance. Councilwoman Williams asked if there is a reason for the delay? Councilman Gassett said that Councilman Harris and Mayor Pro-Tem Guinn are absent. Mayor Whitley suggested a called meeting for Tuesday, Feb 17th. Several dates were discussed with conflicts so it was decided that the appointments would be delayed until February 14th's meeting. David Windham reminded everyone that the 14th is Valentine's Day. He was not sure if that may cause a conflict with some? It was decided that the Clerk would come up with a date for the next meeting and notify everyone.

ADJOURN:

With no further business to discuss, the Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Councilman Amanzie Jenkins to adjourn, and a 2nd was issued by Councilman Chas Gassett. The vote was unanimous.

Approve

Attest

