

**SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA
DECEMBER 6, 2012
TUESDAY, 10:00 AM
TIMESHARE MEETING ROOM, 501 SKY VALLEY WAY**

MINUTES

Mayor Martindale called the meeting to order.

Those present: Mayor Martindale, Council President Howard, Councilors Boyle, Larsen, Platt and Whatley, City Manager Smith, City Clerk Cantrell, Police Chief Dills, and Attorney Dickerson.

Pam Martindale gave the invocation. Mayor Martindale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Howard made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2012, Regular Council Meeting. The motion was 2nd by Councilor Larsen and unanimously approved.

Councilor Platt made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was 2nd by Councilor Whatley and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- Approval of 2013 Budget (Resolution 12-07)

City Manager Smith presented two versions of the proposed 2013 budget as was previously requested by the Council. One draft included 3% employee raises and less for road paving. The second draft included 1.5% employee raises. Councilor Boyle made a motion to approve the version with the 3% raises, 2nd Councilor Platt. Councilor Howard expressed concern over decreasing revenues. Councilor Boyle said that if the City can justify \$10,000 for joint marketing efforts with the Sky Valley Club, he thinks we should be able to do more for the employees. The motion failed 2:3 with Councilors Howard, Larsen and Whatley voting nay.

A motion was then made by Councilor Larsen to approve the Resolution for the 2013 budget based on the 1.5% employee raises. Councilor Whatley said that given the fact that the City is incurring such an increase for health insurance and is dipping into reserves for expenses, he believes the fiscally responsible choice is the lower pay increase. The motion was 2nd by Councilor Howard and passed 3:2 with Councilors Boyle and Platt voting nay.

NEW BUSINESS

- Approval of changes to the Rabun County Convention & Visitors Bureau

Councilor Whatley said that the RCCVB Board has 22 members, and the Board has recommended reducing the Board size to 13. He said the RCCVB has to present this change to the State to be approved and signed into legislation. He explained two other changes, to change their fiscal year to a June 30 year end, and to standardize language.

Councilor Whatley made a motion to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign documentation necessary for the City to support reducing the Board from 22 members to 13 members, to change the annual budget year, and to standardize language. The motion was 2nd by Councilor Larsen. Councilor Whatley gave information on what the Convention and Visitors Bureau does. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of SPLOST Intergovernmental Agreement

City Manager Smith presented the agreement. A vote for the SPLOST Referendum would be held on March 19, 2013. Exhibit A shows how the funds will be distributed if the referendum is approved. The County said they looked at populations of the cities when they set the distribution amount. Clayton's City Manager, Cissy Henry, said that the City of Clayton, the County's seat is not included to receive any SPLOST funds. Attorney Dickerson said that if the City approves this agreement, he recommends making it subject to confirmation from the County that all legal requirements have been met. Attorney Dickerson said that if the City does not approve this agreement and the referendum is passed, the SPLOST funds would be distributed based on population. Councilor Whatley asked why the cities should rush into this agreement just to get the referendum on the March ballot. He said that the City of Sky Valley should not be forced into an agreement by the County to approve this now. Attorney Dickerson said that if the referendum gets on the June ballot, there will still be no gap in the one-percent sales tax being collected. Councilor Whatley made a motion to table consideration of the agreement and to have city staff and the Mayor work with the County to create a true intergovernmental agreement, 2nd Councilor Platt, unanimously approved.

- Approval of Resolution Declaring Snow Plow as Surplus Property (Resolution 12-08)

City Manager Smith presented the Resolution. She said it will cost less than \$1,000 more for a new plow than to retrofit the old plow to the new truck. Councilor Boyle made a motion to declare the plow surplus, 2nd Council President Howard, unanimously approved.

- Authorization of purchase – dump bed and snow plow

City Manager Smith said that the quote to fit the dump bed from the red Chevy to the new Ford is \$4,500. A new dump bed is \$4,985. She recommended purchasing the new dump bed and snow plow. Councilor Whatley made a motion to declare the dump bed on the red Chevy as surplus property and for it and the snow plow to be sold together with the red Chevy and to authorize the purchase of the new dump bed and snow plow as presented, 2nd Councilor Larsen, unanimously approved.

- Approval of 2012 Budget Amendment (Resolution 12-09)

City Manager Smith presented the 2012 budget amendment. Discussion followed about the reasons for the budget amendments including the police department's personnel services for part time employees and the purchase of the new truck for the roads department. Councilor Larsen made a motion to approve the 2012 budget amendment resolution, 2nd Councilor President Howard, unanimously approved.

- Approval of Workers' Compensation Resolution (Resolution 12010 & Repeals Resolution 11-03)

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilor Larsen, 2nd by Councilor Boyle, and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC FORUM AND GENERAL COMMENTS

Highlands Methodist Church is having an event this weekend

Mayor Martindale led a round of applause for Councilor Boyle whose term will be expiring.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

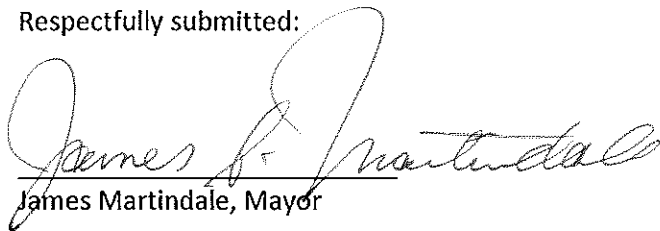
A motion was made by Council President Howard to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment, compensation, or periodic evaluation of a public officer. The motion was 2nd by Councilor Whatley and unanimously approved.

A motion to reconvene the regular meeting was made by Councilor Whatley, 2nd by Councilor Platt and unanimously approved.

Councilor Whatley made a motion to approve the employment contract with the City Manager subject to any changes by Attorney Dickerson to make the agreement as enforceable as possible by the employee and to authorize the Mayor to finalize and sign the agreement. The motion was 2nd by Councilor Boyle and unanimously approved.

A motion was made to adjourn by Councilor Whatley, 2nd Council Present Howard and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted:



James Martindale, Mayor

Attested:



Mandi Cantrell, City Clerk