

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE CITY OF SKY VALLEY,  
GEORGIA ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2018 AT TUESDAY AT 10:00 AM CBC (OLD LODGE), 696 SKY  
VALLEY WAY**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor MacNair, Councilors Durpo, Howard, Piontkowski, Larsen, and  
and Wheeler

**STAFF PRESENT:** Interim City Manager Fast, Deputy Clerk Mullins, City Attorney Kidd,  
Police Chief Estes

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor MacNair called the meeting to order.

**2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

Neil Howard gave the Invocation and Mayor MacNair led the Pledge of Allegiance

**3. Approval of Minutes**

July 17, 2018 Work Session

July 31, 2018 Preliminary Budget Work Session

August 22, 2018 Work Session

August 28, 2018 Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Piontkowski made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Councilor Howard,  
unanimously approved.

**4. Adoption of Agenda**

Councilor Piontkowski made a motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by Councilor Durpo,  
unanimously approved.

**5. Mayor's Remarks**

Mayor MacNair said it was great to see many people on a rainy day and thanked everyone for  
coming to the meeting.

**6. Council Remarks**

Councilor Larsen- Read a statement regarding the issues that occurred in her absence.

Councilor Piontkowski- Nice to see a good turnout and need it more frequently. Said that we  
need to come together and not be divisive. Change can be difficult even if it is good change. We  
need to move forward.

Councilor Durpo- Good to see a crowd. Stated to Councilor Larsen that there were countless SDS  
meetings that everyone has been invited to. Discussed SDS and SPLOST issues with the county.

Councilor Howard- Good morning. Addressed Councilor Larsen stating that he did go meet with  
Harrison Merrill but not as a councilor and said that he is always available to contact if needed.

Councilor Wheeler- Thanks for coming and addressed Councilor Larsen that he is available for  
for phone calls with any questions. He allowed Hughel Goodgame to make a comment saying that  
he would like the county to come up and address the SDS and SPLSOT issues.

**7. City Manager & Department Reports – Exceptions and Questions**

Interim City Manager Fast showed the flyer for FallFest stating that vendors have been contacted  
and asked for volunteers as it will be held October 20, 2018 at the City pavilion area. She stated the  
hay bale decorations have begun and need the help of the community.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **8. Consider Request from Louise Kail, 124 Pleasant Mountain, Waive Tree Ordinance Requirement**

Councilor Larsen made a motion to waive the tree ordinance, seconded by Councilor Piontkowski, unanimously approved.

### **9. Consider Request from Hank & Jo Kelly, 171 Buttermilk Circle, Waive Tree Ordinance Requirement**

Councilor Larsen made a motion to waive the tree ordinance, seconded by Councilor Piontkowski, unanimously approved.

### **10. Consider Approving Search Committee for City Manager**

Mayor MacNair said the search committee is made up of the Mayor himself, Council President Durpo, one council member Al Piontkowski, and two citizens, Moody Barrick and Debbie Curtis. Councilor Larsen made a motion to approve the committee, seconded by Councilor Howard, unanimously approved.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **11. Public Forum & General Comments**

Debbie Dalhouse stated the POA is hosting a candidate forum on October 14, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. at the CBC for the three candidates that are on the ballot for the November 6, 2018 city election. Milt Gillespie suggested a second moderator from outside the city help at the forum. Hughel Goodgame mentioned that the Mayor of Clayton had been up here but did not have Greg James, Chairman of the county commission here to explain the county's side. Councilor Wheeler said he invited Mr. James to come up and he did not. Councilor Wheeler asked Interim City Manager to contact Mr. James to come to Sky Valley. Resident Jackie Bell stated that the waterway and the dam looks awful and needs to be cleaned up. Councilor Durpo stated that the issue would be addressed especially with FallFest being held near that area. Resident Gil Aldridge of 37 Saddleback Circle addressed the Mayor and Council asking why they fired Linda Lapeyrouse. City Attorney Kidd responded saying that the contract Linda had with the city would expire in January 2019. In order to renegotiate the contract or let Linda go the city would have to give 60 days notice. It was decided to look elsewhere for a city manager rather than renegotiate the contract with Linda. More discussion continued as residents spoke regarding the city manager issue. Resident Sue Piontkowski stated the city employees are doing a fine job and need to be supported. Councilor Howard commented that he appreciated the attendance and the comments and would like to see more active in the city including people running for office. Councilor Piontkowski said that venting is important and necessary but it is time to move forward. Resident Robert Larsen asked to see dialogue between council and people regarding SPLOST. He said to we need to do research and get involved in this decision. Councilor Durpo agreed with Robert Larsen and said he has put out a ton of information about SPLOST and SDS. More discussion went on about SPLOST and SDS and the city audit. Debbie Dalhouse thanked the Mayor, Council, and city staff as she said it was one of the best city meetings had in quite some time where there was open dialogue back and forth and all voiced opinions, listened respectfully, and responded respectfully. Councilor Larsen recognized the city staff and thanked them for their work. Resident Jane Lively wanted to know where the meeting notice signs were to inform residents of the meetings. City Public Works director James Holbrooks said the police place them out but with their department being short staffed the chief had not placed the signs out and asked public works to do so but it was already meeting time when asked.

**12.Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Piontkowski, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Durpo, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Robert MacNair in cursive script.

Robert MacNair, Mayor

Handwritten signature of Ella Fast in cursive script.

Ella Fast, City Clerk