

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING THAT WAS HELD ON JANUARY 22, 2021
A FRIDAY AT 10:00 A.M. AT 696 SKY VALLEY WAY (OLD LODGE) CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Steil, Councilors Oliver, Curtis, Allred, Morley, and Turner

STAFF PRESENT: Police Chief Estes, City Clerk Fleming, and City Attorney Kidd

1. Call to Order

Mayor Steil called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Minutes

January 12, 2021 - Organizational & Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Curtis made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Councilor Oliver, unanimously approved.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Allred made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilor Curtis, unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

4. Executive Session - Litigation

- ❖ To discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a city official or employee. (O.C.G.A § 50-14-3 (6))
- ❖ To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the city or a city official or employee or in which the official or employee may be directly involved. (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2)

Councilor Turner made a motion to close the meeting to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Curtis, unanimously approved.

Councilor Curtis made a motion to open the meeting back up, seconded by Councilor Morley, unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Consider Action as Result of Executive Session

Mayor Steil announced that no action was taken during the Executive Session and no further discussion was needed.

Mayor Steil had asked City Attorney Kidd to speak on behalf of allegations brought forth by Sky Valley resident, and actions taken by the City.

City Attorney Kidd stated that recently there were more postings on social media regarding the incident at the home of Clifford and Jackie Bell. He stated for the record that when the City was notified of a video involving one of their officers, February of 2020, in the Bell's home, Officer Baumes was immediately placed on administrative leave and an investigation was conducted, internal and external. The Sky Valley Police Department completed the internal investigation and found the officer had complied with their policies. Allegations were also made stating that Officer Baumes had a criminal record which is untrue. The City has taken these allegations very seriously. The external agencies involved were the Rabun County Sheriff's Department, the GBI, and the District Attorney's Office. The agencies found no cause for charges to be considered. Attorney Kidd stated that a police officer had to have a reason for being in someone's home which was part of the investigation, and Officer Baumes had a reasonable explanation. He also stated that if anyone had any further questions that they could contact him.

Councilor Turner asked about a lawsuit and City Attorney Kidd stated that no lawsuit had ever been filed and the City considers this case to be closed.

OTHER BUSINESS

6. Public Forum and General Comments

Al Piontkowski, 66 Pleasant Mountain Drive – Mr. Piontkowski addressed Mayor and Council with three questions. They were:

1. Why the Marketing Committee did not obtain a contract concerning the \$6,000 webcam?
2. Why does Resortcam show the footage as Sky Valley Country Club instead of City of Sky Valley?
3. There are numerous ads when you bring up the webcam. Is anyone seeking any money for these ads and if so how much?

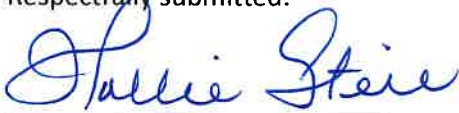
Mayor Steil told Mr. Piontkowski that she will find out the answers to his questions and get back with him.

7. Adjournment

Councilor Oliver made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Morley, unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Hollie Steil, Mayor



Karen Fleming, City Clerk

**SKY VALLEY CITY COUNCIL
MEMORANDUM AND AFFIDAVIT OF CLOSED MEETING
PURSANT TO O.C.G.A. §50-14-4**

January 22, 2021
Date

Motion to Close Meeting:

[Signature]
Signature of Councilor Prince

Seconded:

[Signature]
Signature of Councilor Jim

Motion to Open Meeting:

[Signature]
Signature of Councilor Jim

Seconded:

[Signature]
Signature of Councilor Ed

Topic: (Please check one)

- To discuss the future acquisition of real estate;
(O.C.G.A. §50-14-3 (4))
- To discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a city official or employee;
(O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3 (6))
- To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the city or a city official or employee or in which the official or employee may be directly involved.
(O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2)

Each of the undersigned, under oath, certifies that at a meeting of the city council held on _____, the council closed its meeting as permitted by the Georgia Open Meetings Act. The only matter(s) considered or discussed during the closed portion of its meeting is as checked above.

[Signature]
Mayor Steil

[Signature]
Councilor Allred

[Signature]
Council President Oliver

[Signature]
Councilor Curtis

[Signature]
Councilor Morley

[Signature]
Councilor Turner

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the above indicated date:

[Signature]
Notary Public, State of Georgia
My Commission Expires: 3/13/2024

