

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA
JANUARY 15, 2013
TUESDAY, 9:30 AM
FELLOWSHIP HALL, 817 SKY VALLEY WAY**

MINUTES

Mayor Martindale called the meeting to order.

Those present: Mayor Martindale, Council President Howard, Councilors Carr, Larsen, Platt, and Whatley, Attorney Dickerson, City Manager Smith, Chief Dilis, City Clerk Cantrell, and Tax Commissioner Mullins.

SPECIAL BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

- Swear in Newly Elected Officials

City Clerk Cantrell administered the Oath of Office for Councilors Liz Carr and Neil Howard.

- Nomination and Selection of 2013 Council President

Councilor Platt made a motion nomination Neil Howard as Council President, 2nd Councilor Whatley unanimously approved.

- Set 2013 Regular Meeting Dates

Councilor Whatley made a motion to keep the regular meeting date the third Tuesday of each month at 9:30 AM, 2nd Councilor Larsen. The motion carried 4:1 with Councilors Carr, Larsen, Platt, and Whatley voting aye and Council President Howard voting nay.

- Discussion of Regular Meeting format – Department Reports

Councilor Whatley asked if the Council wanted to waive the reading of the reports at the meetings and allow for a question and answer session instead. Councilor Larsen made a motion to keep the reports section as is and for them to continue to be read aloud, 2nd Councilor Platt, unanimously approved.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council President Howard made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2012 Special Council Meeting, December 7, 2012 Special Council Meeting, and the January 8, 2013 Special Council Meeting, 2nd Councilor Carr, unanimously approved.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Councilor Whatley made a motion to adopt the agenda, 2nd Councilor Platt, unanimously approved.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Martindale led a moment of silence for the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy.

Mayor Martindale presented Richard Boyle with a plaque for serving as a member of the City Council 2010 – 2011 and for a total of eight years as a Councilor.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilor Platt reported on the 26 year-old lady that had gone missing and was wandering around on foot on a cold, snowy night. She commended the police department for their search efforts and thanked Chief Dills for staying with the lady until she was escorted to the hospital. She said that there were many law enforcement personnel and volunteers searching for this lady, and thanked the Chapel of Sky Valley and other volunteers in the community for helping.

Councilor Larsen said Sky Valley Golf Club has a new general manager and golf pro. They also signed a contract with Tom Adams for the completion of the clubhouse. He said there are a few issues with the current construction that was abandoned in 2008, and they are currently working with the City's Building Inspector to correct these past issues. They hope to have it completed in April.

Councilor Whatley reported on the RCCVB's bi-annual publication, Explore Rabun, a printed brochure that is also available online and as a mobile app. He thanked everyone who had supported this effort.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- (a) Police Chief's Report – given by Chief Dills
- (b) City Financial Report – given by City Clerk Cantrell
- (c) Tax Commissioner's Report – given by Tax Commissioner Mullins
- (d) Building Inspector's Report – given by City Manager Smith
- (e) City Manager's Report – given by City Manager Smith

These reports are hereby incorporated by reference hereto as Exhibits A – E.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning & Zoning Commission – given by Secretary David Carr.

Attorney Dickerson was asked to give a report on conflicts of interest. He said you have to establish whether or not there is a conflict. He said that because members of the P & Z are a part of the founders of the Club, that there appears to be a conflict. He said the conflict is measured based on a de-minis test. He said that each person who may have a conflict must state that they have a conflict, perform the de-minis test – it is a judgment call each time. He said that each member is responsible for making this call for him/herself. The Council can hold a meeting taking the responsibility of the P & Z noticing the meeting and disclosing that they are holding the public hearing because there is a conflict of interest in the P & Z. Attorney Dickerson said that because there is a potential of a conflict, it must be announced. If the commission member feels that their interest will not affect their vote, they must state that it will not affect their individual vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- Approval of 2013 Agreement with SV/Scaly Fire Department
Council President Howard made a motion to adopt the agreement, 2nd Councilor Whatley, unanimously approved.

- Set Qualifying Fees for the 2013 General Election

Councilor Howard made a motion to keep the qualifying fee \$15.00, 2nd Councilor Larsen, unanimously approved.

- Appointment & Selection of 1 P & Z member

Councilor Platt nominated and made a motion to appoint Steve Shepard. Dick Parrot nominated Martin Green. Mr. Green declined the nomination stating that he did not feel he could dedicate sufficient time to the P & Z. There being no more nominations, Council President Howard seconded the motion to appoint Steve Shepard, unanimously approved.

- Appointment & Selection of 2013 Committees

Mayor Martindale opened the floor for discussion and nomination of committees. Councilor Platt made a motion to reappoint Councilor Neil Howard as the Chair of the Planning and Economic Development Committee, 2nd Councilor Whatley, unanimously approved. Councilor Howard asked volunteers to serve on the committee for 2013. Committee members are to be approved at a later meeting.

- Discussion of Building Code Requirements

City Manager Smith presented information on the City's current roofing requirements and information from the building inspector on the State's Building Code. She said we can be more restrictive than the state's code but not less restrictive. Mayor Martindale recommended having a workshop with the building inspector to discuss this. Council President Howard made a motion to hold a workshop, 2nd Councilor Platt, unanimously approved.

- Discussion of waiving building permit fees for new construction in 2013

Mayor Martindale said that the City waived permit fees for new construction in 2012 and asked if the Council wanted to do this again. City Manager Smith said that the Council also waived some other permit fees for small repairs and that it did lessen revenue by waiving the fees. Councilor Platt made a motion to waive the new construction permit fee for 2013, 2nd Councilor Carr, unanimously approved.

PUBLIC FORUM AND GENERAL COMMENTS

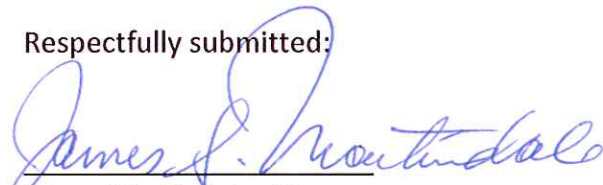
Citizen Ray Becker asked if anyone on the Council has been contacted to serve on the Rabun County Water & Sewer Authority's Board. Mayor Martindale said that we have not been asked to serve on the Board at this time.

Citizen David Carr asked if Attorney Dickerson will prepare a document regarding the potential conflict of interest.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President Howard made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Councilor Larsen, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted:


James Martindale, Mayor

Attested:

Mandi Cantrell, City Clerk