

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA
MARCH 19, 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 Lapeyrouse, City Clerk Cantrell, Chief Dills, and Tax Commissioner Mullins.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Whatley made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2013 Regular Council Meeting, 2nd Councilor Howard, unanimously approved.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mayor Martindale asked to add an Executive Session to discuss personnel performance review. Councilor Platt made a motion to approve the agenda with this addition, 2nd Councilor Whatley, unanimously approved.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Martindale said that he spoke to Mr. Merrill regarding the donation of a small piece of property for a helicopter-landing pad as requested by the fire department. Mr. Merrill will not donate the property. He gave permission for it to be used as a landing pad if it can be used in its current condition.

Mayor Martindale also reported that Mr. Merrill said that he is ready to tear down the lodge. He asked for a few more days to contact someone that had expressed interest in purchasing it to see if they want it before he begins the demolition process.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilor Carr gave a report on the required Newly Elected Officials training she attended in Tifton. She received a certificate from the Georgia Municipal Association for successful completion of the courses.

Councilor Carr said that Pastor Erbeling wanted to make sure everyone knows he is available for the needs of the community.

Councilor Larsen said that the Club is working with Public Works Superintendent Rick Cavalli on drainage and that Cavalli has been very helpful.

Councilor Whatley said that the RCCVB held their annual retreat meeting over the weekend. He said that the RCCVB is moving toward social media citing research that shows most people under the age of 40 look online and follow media such as Twitter and Facebook when looking for things to do instead of printed materials. He said that other communities have hired help to keep social websites updated and the RCCVB is looking into ways to provide that service more locally instead of each community hiring someone separately for this.

Councilor Whatley said that today is the last day to vote for the one-cent SPLOST to continue and encouraged people to go vote.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

(a) Police Chief's Report – given by Chief Dills

Chief Dills gave a special report on how the police department is required to handle an attempted suicide. He explained that the State requires an officer to immediately take the person into custody and get them to medical help.

(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 Lapeyrouse

(e) City Manager's Report – given by City Manager Lapeyrouse

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning & Economic Development Committee

Council President Howard said that the Committee will be meeting in April when people are back in Sky Valley for the summer.

NEW BUSINESS

- Regular Meeting Time

Councilor Carr made a motion to change the Regular Meeting time to 2:00 PM, 2nd Council President Howard. Councilor Platt said that she cannot meet on Tuesdays at 2:00 because of a conflict with the Garden Club meetings not being over by 2:00. After some discussion, Councilor Carr amended her motion to change the regular meetings to the third Monday of the month at 2:00 PM, 2nd Councilor Larsen, unanimously approved.

- Resolution Declaring 1985 K30 as Surplus Property

City Manager Lapeyrouse presented the Resolution. Council President Howard made a motion to approve, 2nd Councilor Platt, unanimously approved.

- Resolution Establishing Safety Policy for Public Works

City Manager Smith presented the proposed Safety Policy specific for the public works department. Councilor Whatley made a motion to approve the Safety Policy, 2nd Council President Howard. Councilor Carr said that she thinks this is a great policy and suggested that all employees follow this policy. She recommended that no smoking or tobacco use be allowed in any city vehicles and that a workshop be held to tweak this policy to cover all employees. City Manager Lapeyrouse stated that the City has a no smoking policy where employees are not

allowed to smoke in City buildings or vehicles. She said this policy is specifically related to the work being performed by public works employees. Councilor Whatley said that insurance companies recommend policies that are specific to different types of work performed by each department instead of a blanket policy.

PUBLIC FORUM AND GENERAL COMMENTS

Citizen Connie Larsen said that the flag at the entrance is looking shabby. It will be replaced.

Council President Howard asked about restriping Bald Mountain Road. City Manager Lapeyrouse said that it is a County road and she will ask them about restriping it.

Councilor Whatley asked City Manager Lapeyrouse if there is something that can be done to address the West Sugarbush asphalt deterioration. City Manager Lapeyrouse will research it and report at the next meeting.

Councilor Larsen asked about the sign and water wheel area at Mountain Junction and if the City can do anything with it. The Garden Club will look into it. The PEDC will also look into the sign on Hwy 246.

Councilor Carr asked City Manager Lapeyrouse for a list of free advertising available for city events.

Discussion followed about the sign on Hwy 246 and the water wheel area in front of Mountain Junction. Mayor Martindale will talk to the owner again to see if she will consider donating it or selling it.

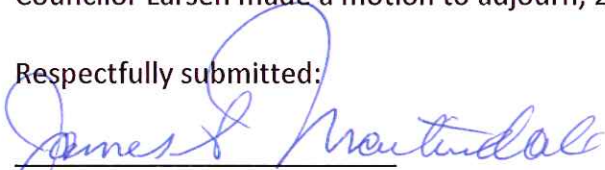
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council President Howard made a motion to move into executive session for the periodic evaluation of a public officer, 2nd Councilor Larsen, unanimously approved.

Council President Howard made a motion to reconvene regular session, 2nd Councilor Whatley, unanimously approved.

Councilor Larsen made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Councilor Whatley, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted:


James Martindale, Mayor

Attested:


Mandi Cantrell, City Clerk