

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA  
OCTOBER 18, 2011  
TUESDAY, 9:00 AM  
FELLOWSHIP HALL, 817 SKY VALLEY WAY**

**MINUTES**

Mayor Martindale called the meeting to order.

Those present: Mayor Martindale, Council President Moore, Councilors Boyle, Howard, Kleiber, and Platt, Attorney Dickerson, City Manager Smith, Chief Dills, City Clerk Cantrell, and Building Inspector O'Donovan.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Council President Moore made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 20<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting and the October 11<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Howard, unanimously approved.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Councilor Kleiber made a motion to add item contribution to the Garden Club under new business and approve the agenda as amended, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Platt, unanimously approved.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Commendations

Mayor Martindale presented certificates and a special life-saving pin to Chief Dills, Officer Edwards, Inspector O'Donovan, and Neal Chastain for their life-saving response when a man suffered a heart attack. They provided emergency aid and CPR until the arrival of Rabun County EMS.

**MAYOR'S REMARKS**

Mayor Martindale said that he is running unopposed for Mayor. There are four people running for three council seats, Incumbent Maureen Platt, Liz Carr, Robert Larsen, and David Whatley. He thanked the Garden Club for the beautiful hay bales and fall decorations.

**COUNCIL REMARKS**

Councilor Platt said that the Sid Weber Memorial Cancer Fund and other local charities were organizing a holiday lights display through Wolffork Road. The charities involved will create decorated booths or areas of the road. There will be \$10.00 donation to drive through and see the decorations that will help support the charities. If someone cannot afford the donation, they will still be allowed to drive through and see the decorations. Council President Moore said that Habitat for Humanity is also participating.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Chief's Report

Chief Dills said people have been concerned with a home invasion that occurred recently. It was in Heatherstone. Someone entered a home, and the homeowner hid in the closet until the police arrived. The homeowner was not injured.

City Financial Report – given by City Clerk Cantrell

Tax Commissioner's Report – given by City Clerk Cantrell

Building Inspector's Report – given by Inspector O'Donovan

O'Donovan said that the reason there is such a high number of construction jobs not yet finalized is because people fail to call and get a final inspection. He encouraged homeowners to hold final payment to the contractor until they have received an approved final inspection.

City Manager's Report – given by City Manager Smith

Citizen Ray Becker asked if seal coating the roads will help lengthen the lives of the roads. City Manager Smith said that she did look into that and found that seal coating will help extend the life of a driveway but not roads. Citizen Robert Larsen asked when Sky Valley Way is on the schedule for repaving. City Manager Smith said that when Sky Valley Way is paved, the City will have to pave the entire road, and that it will be the only road paved that year. She added that much of the damage is in the parking area on the side of the road, and when the old lodge is torn down, the heavy equipment used will likely cause more road damage. Citizen Richard Butt asked if the City has an update on when the old lodge will be torn down. City Manager Smith said that a contractor did call and speak with her. The contractor believed he would be ready to begin work in November, but there have been no permits submitted. Mayor Martindale added that the demolition permit requires a 135% bid bond so the City can make sure the roads are repaired if needed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- RMA proposal

RMA engineer Robert Simmons gave an update on the current water projects. Councilor Kleiber asked what it means that a meter is not working. Engineer Simmons said that the meter itself is working, but the transmitter is not.

Engineer Simmons presented the proposal for project engineering fee adjustment and asked Council to get any questions to Linda to forward to him so he can respond before the next meeting. He asked that approval of the proposal be on next month's agenda. Mayor Martindale requested more detail in the request.

Mayor Martindale read a letter from Tom Martin regarding Bayberry Lane. A copy of this letter is incorporated by reference and attached hereto. Councilor Kleiber said that it needs to be looked into when the project is complete. City Manager Smith added that the City needs to wait for a year after any patching work is done because the patch is under warranty for a year.

- Approval of DOT contract

Council President Moore made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Kleiber, unanimously approved.

- Approval of Resolution Setting the Millage Rate for 2011 Ad Valorem Taxes and Adopting the 2012 Budget

Council President Moore made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Howard, unanimously approved.

- Approval of Water Ordinance

City Manager Smith said that this ordinance incorporates the last planned rate increase of \$3.34 to the base rate, for a total \$10 increase that was spread over three years. Councilor Boyle made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kleiber, unanimously approved.

- Donation to garden club

Councilor Kleiber made a motion to donate \$500 to the garden club, 2<sup>nd</sup> Platt, unanimously approved.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM AND GENERAL COMMENTS**

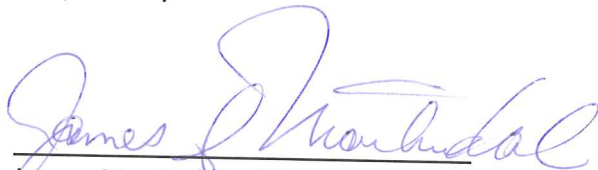
Ken Smith presented a request to paint the letters on the entrance a brighter color because it is hard to see. Mayor Martindale asked City Manager Smith to get prices to have the letters painted to present at the next meeting.

Citizen Ray Becker asked about the vandalized sign on Hwy 246. City Manager Smith will request permission from Mr. Merrill to paint the vandalized area white to match the background. Council President Moore recommended wording the request to state that if no response is received by a certain date, the city will paint the sign.

Councilor Boyle said he was curious about the feasibility study and was wondering if portions would be released when they are completed, or if it would be made available upon completion of the study since it is relating to the possible acquisition of real estate. City Manager Smith asked Attorney Dickerson at what point that document becomes a public record. Attorney Dickerson said that the City will keep the document confidential until the City has time to make a decision regarding the possible purchase of property.

Council President Moore made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Boyle, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted:



James Martindale, Mayor

Attested:



Mandi Cantrell, City Clerk