

**MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL & REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA ON JANUARY 11, 2022, A TUESDAY AT 10:00 AM VIA TELE-CONFERENCE (ZOOM)**

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

**STAFF PRESENT:** City Manager Streetman, City Clerk Fleming, and Public Works Director Shope

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Steil called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Mayor Steil stated that the reason for not have an in-person meeting was due to the rising COVID cases in Sky Valley and trying to keep everyone safe. The in-person, along with Zoom meetings, will hopefully resume soon.

**2. Invocation**

Councilor Allred led the Invocation.

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**3. Swearing in of Newly Elected Officials**

Mayor Steil, Councilors Turner, Morley and Oliver, which ran unopposed during the 2021 Election, were sworn in by City Manager Streetman.

**4. Nomination and Selection of 2022 Council President**

Councilor Oliver nominated Councilor Morley for 2022 Council President, unanimously approved.

**5. Set 2022 Regular Meeting Dates**

Councilor Turner made a motion to approve the 2022 Regular Meeting Dates as presented, seconded by Councilor Curtis, unanimously approved.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**6. Approval of Minutes**

**December 14, 2021 – Council Work Session**

**December 14, 2021 – Regular Council Meeting**

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

**7. Adoption of Agenda**

Councilor Curtis made a motion to approve the Agenda with the Addendum (3. Swearing in of Newly Elected Officials), seconded by Councilor Turner, unanimously approved.

**8. City Manager Remarks**

City Manager Streetman spoke about:

- The Evergreen Extension “Southern Road” – One additional easement is left to obtain. City Attorney Kidd will file the easement letters. Obtaining paving and tree clearing quotes. LMIG along with EEE grant funds will help fund this project. These are 2022 funding grants.
- Updated City website to go live this week.

- Ken Sigler is now the new Fire Chief for the Sky Valley-Scaly Mountain Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department.
- Receiving quotes for the renovation at the Welcome Center (246 Bldg.).
- Trying to obtain quotes for the third pickle-ball court.
- ServLine (Leak Protection Program) is up and going since January 1, 2022.
- Set up for the new smart meters (10) through Smartearth Technology. Should be in place by the Spring.
- Delays on vehicle repairs due to shortage on parts.
- Road Conditions being reported via Tweeter.

#### 9. Department Remarks

Public Works Director Shope stated that the snowplows are on the trucks. Repairs are being completed on two trucks and hopefully they will be back in action so the leaf vacuuming can resume. Road patching will start on Ridgepole and pull off spots added on Alex Mtn, the first or second week of February. Paving will start when weather permits. Two Kubota RTVs have been added to the fleet which will help with snow plowing. The standing water at the Sky Valley mailboxes will be addressed.

#### 10. Committee Reports

Bill Oliver, Mayoral Advisory Chairman, had a recent conversation with Harrison Merrill, Jr. concerning two easements that are needed. One for the "Southern Road" and the other near Well #8 to construct a burn pit for debris. Development options are still being looked at and a scheduled call with the company's master planner along with the committee will be set up, in the near future.

Bruce Turner, Special Projects Chairman, stated that back in November of 2021, Debbie Dalhouse-Curtis got together a group that treated the Mud Creek Trail hemlocks. He has spoken with Shawn Blanton concerning the Bartram Trail having an entrance point in Sky Valley. An easement will be checked on along with Mr. Blanton checking on some grant funds. Could take as long as a couple of years for this process. Members of this committee are working on a FallFest for 2022.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### 11. Consider approval of Resolution to authorize award of contract to Curbow Construction Inc. for emergency storm drain replacement on Sky Valley Way in the amount of \$109,492.16

City Manager Streetman stated Mr. Curbow was present for any questions as he went over the scope of the work to be done. This previous contractor that was awarded the job was no longer available. Mr. Curbow was contacted, and he was able to move forward with the project, if approved. The culverts that he will be using are larger in size than what was previously planned. This project will take a couple of weeks and he should be able to start by the first of February.

City Manager Streetman stated that this project is being fund by last year's LMIG and EEE grants and SPLOST funds.

Councilor Curtis made a motion to approve the Resolution granting the contract for the emergency storm drain replacement on Sky Valley Way to Curbow Construction in the

amount of \$109,492.16, seconded by Councilor Allred, unanimously approved.

**12. Consider approval of quote to authorize award of contract to Curbow Construction Inc., for road repair on Forest Court in the amount of \$18,873.12**

City Manager Streetman stated that there is a culvert underneath the road that has given way and needs to be replaced. Other contractors have been sought but no quotes given.

Councilor Turner made a motion to award the contract to Curbow Construction in the amount of \$18,873.12, seconded by Councilor Allred, unanimously approved.

**13. Set Qualifying Fees for 2022 General Election**

Councilor Curtis made a motion to set the qualifying fees for the 2022 General Election at \$15.00, seconded by Councilor Morley, unanimously approved.

These fees will be paid to the Rabun County Board of Elections and Registrations. There are two Council Members seats to be filled in the November 8, 2022, City of Sky Valley General Election.

**14. Consider 2022 Agreement with Sky Valley/Scaly Mountain Volunteer Fire and Rescue, in the amount of \$97,251.04**

City Manager Streetman stated that this amount was a budgeted item in the 2022 budget.

Councilor Morley made a motion to approve the Sky Valley/Scaly Mountain VFR agreement in the amount of \$97,251.04, seconded by Councilor Curtis, unanimously approved.

**15. Consider 2022 Committee Appointments**

Per the City Charter Committee Members must be approved annually, except the P&Z. A list of the committee appointments was sent to the councilmembers, and it read as follows:

**Landscaping Committee** - Debbie Dalhouse-Curtis, Chairman, Cheryl Beckert, Sara Mac Germano, and Steve Rickman

**Mayoral Advisory Committee** - Bill Oliver, Chairman, Ed Morley, Dan McAfee, David Spears, Martin Greene, and Tim Darrah

**Special Projects Committee** - Bruce Turner, Chairman, Tony Allred, Ken Walton, Jim Rhodes, Grace Guess, and Lou MacNaughton

**Marketing Committee**: Gordon Brand, Chairman, Jamie Darrah, Ed Steil, Harry Collins, Carol Robinson, and Jim Curtis

Councilor Curtis made a motion to approve the 2022 Committee Appointments, seconded by Councilor Turner, unanimously approved.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**16. Public Forum and General Comments**

Debbie Dalhouse-Curtis expressed her thanks to Mayor and Council for their work.

Al Piontkowski asked if questions are taken during meetings and Mayor Steil had answered yes, if presented. He also wanted to acknowledge Police Chief Estes and his hard

work that went towards being granted certification by Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police and the United States Department of Justice under Executive Order 1329, known as Safe Policing for Safe Communities, signed into effect by President Donald Trump in 2020.

**17. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before Mayor and Council, Councilor Oliver made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Morley, unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hollie Steil". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Hollie Steil, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Fleming". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Karen Fleming, City Clerk