

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING HELD MARCH 4, 2022, A FRIDAY AT 1:30 P.M.  
696 SKY VALLEY WAY (OLD LODGE) & VIA TELECONFERENCE (ZOOM) CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA**

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

**THOSE ABSENT:** Councilor Oliver

**STAFF PRESENT:** City Manager Streetman, City Clerk Fleming, City Attorney Kidd, Public Works Director Shope, and Chief of Police Estes

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Steil called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

**February 15, 2022 – Regular Council Meeting**

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

Paul Wheeler, 33 Putter Lane, stated that the minutes didn't properly reflect the action taken under agenda item number eight. City Clerk Fleming stated that she would revisit and make any corrections as needed and submit accordingly.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

Councilor Curtis made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Allred, unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**4. Consider Approval of Quote to Authorize Award of Contract to Ellenburg Brothers Tree Service in the Amount of \$24,900 to Clear Out the Vegetation of Approximately One (1) Mile of Old Road from the Gate at Evergreen Extension to Where it Ends at Crusher Run Road**

Councilor Curtis made a motion to approve the revised quote from Ellenburg Brother Tree Service in amount of \$24,900, seconded by Councilor Allred, unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**5. Consider Approval of the Rabun County Service Delivery Strategy Resolution**

Mayor Steil gave an overview of the Service Delivery Strategy Plan with City Attorney Kidd suggesting that the Council approve the Resolution to show our agreement with the plan. Since Clayton has resolved their dispute with Rabun County, the SDS can be sent on to the Department of Community Affairs. This dispute has gone on for several years and now that an agreement has been reached; it will help with being eligible for certain grants. He stated that legally Sky Valley's Resolution is not needed but this shows Sky Valley is in agreement along with the rest of the cities. The plan is not perfect but some on the past issues have been resolved

such as Sky Valley not having to pay tipping fees at the landfill.

Councilor Curtis made a motion to approve the Rabun County Service Delivery Strategy Resolution, seconded by Councilor Allred which he stated that he would like to recognize Mayor Cannon and his role for helping to get the dispute resolved. Councilor Morley stated that the City has relied heavily on the legal opinions of City Attorney Kidd to give guidance for the best interest of Sky Valley during the negotiations.

Chip Durpo, 604 Alex Mountain, had sent in an email to Mayor Steil, that was forwarded to City Attorney Kidd. The email addressed some of his concerns over the SDS. City Attorney Kidd stated that his questions were more policy driven than legal. Mayor Steil along with City Manager Streetman addressed Mr. Durpo's concerns and County Manager Giles has been contacted concerning a map showing the fire districts in the county. Parks/Recreation along with Road Maintenance and Landfill costs were discussed.

Steve Mason, 38 Pleasant Mountain, asked what part of the agreement eliminated the double taxation. The tipping fees was stated was the largest, which Councilor Morley stated that it would be a \$11,000 to \$12,000 savings to the City.

Barbara Kobacker, 407 Pleasant Mountain, suggested having the County provide more services in the Sky Valley Area, such as a mobile library and Pickleball Instructor. Mayor Steil stated that an intergovernmental agency has been formed and suggestions will be given.

Jan Mason, 38 Pleasant Mountain, asked if anymore double taxation will be taking place concerning the larger items. Mayor Steil answered that she did not think so but there will always be overlapping in certain areas. Councilor Curtis stated that the County has been notified of the areas that Sky Valley would like to have higher level of services provided.

Mayor Steil asked for all in favor of the motion; unanimously approved.

Al Piontkowski, 66 Pleasant Mountain, stated that the Council was in violation of the City Ordinance 13-03. He read section 19(a) and said that nobody was allowed to comment on Agenda Item #4, Ellenburg Tree Service Quote, before the vote was called.

Chief of Police Estes wanted to recognize Lieutenant Baumes for his quick response on February 26<sup>th</sup>. He had received a call from a Scaly Mountain EMT needing assistance with a medical call concerning a 12-year old child. They were able to save the boy's life and he was life flighted out to a Children's Hospital. The child is doing fine now.

Paul Wheeler, 33 Putter Lane, expressed concern over the SDS being finalized without the fire service map being provided. City Manager Streetman stated that he had spoken with the County Manager and he will work on getting a map together. Mr. Wheeler also asked about having a written agreement from the County concerning help with the "Southern Road". City Manager Streetman said that nothing will be provided in writing, but he had received a verbal agreement. Mr. Wheeler still has concerns on the overlapping of certain taxes in the agreement. Mayor Steil stated that will always happen to a certain extent, but services will be provided from the County such as road maintenance, as money allows.

**6. Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.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