

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF SKY VALLEY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON A TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024 AT 10:00 AM 3608 HWY 246 (CITY HALL) & VIA TELECONFERENCE (ZOOM) SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Steil and Councilors Allred, Oliver, Curtis, McAfee, and Councilor Turner joined via zoom

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Streetman, City Clerk Fleming, Police Chief Estes, City Attorney Kidd, And Communication Specialist Van Camp

- 1. Call to Order**

Mayor Steil called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. She thanked Jason for scheduling the Planning Retreat concerning the future endeavors of the City. Also associated with the Planning Retreat, she wanted to thank Rick Barron with EMI, Adam Hazell – GMRC Planning Director, Gina Kessler – GMRC Executive Assistant for taking the minutes, Patrick Larson – GMRC Economic Development Director, Faith Bryan – GMRC Information Services Director, Code Enforcer Pyburn, Public Works Superintendent Shope and Water Coordinator English for their services and presentations.
- 2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

Councilor Allred led the invocation and pledge of allegiance.
- 3. Approval of Minutes**

January 23, 2024 – Organizational/Regular Council Meeting
February 23, 2024 – Work Session/Planning Retreat
Councilor Oliver made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Councilor McAfee, unanimously approved.
- 4. Adoption of Agenda**

Councilor Curtis made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor McAfee, unanimously approved.
- 5. Mayoral/Council Remarks**

No further comments were made.
- 6. City Manager Report**

City Manager Streetman thanked all that participated in the Planning Retreat and stated that the pickleball court will be finished as soon as we have a week that doesn't drop below 50 degrees. He just attended a GCCMA conference in Athens. The update for the Sky Valley Comp Plan is underway and will be submitted by Oct. 31, 2024. The HydroVac has been received and put into use. The well study is being finalized with two viable locations. A bid process will be underway, through GovDeals, for acquiring City owned property. He stated that the Wildbird lots, that went through a bidding process last year, are being finalized as there were some delays in the process. The stop signs around the City have been replaced bringing them up to the proper height. Also, attended a budget and taxation workshop with Deputy Clerk Blalock. The lead pipe assessment is underway as the report is due by October 16, 2024. Communication Specialist Van Camp has finished an online marketing class and as received her certification. John Roberts from Public Works has finished the mapping project and will be going for his CDL. Twenty-five letters/citations went out concerning STRs.
- 7. Departmental Reports**

City Manager Streetman read a report for Public Works as no representation was available due to a water line break at Forest Court. Public Works Superintendent Shope had stated that the department has been conducting pothole patching, cleaning out ditches and culverts. Will be taking

bids for street paving in the City. Water Coordinator English is working on the Consumer Confidence Report. He also read a report from Jim Pyburn, Code Enforcer. "No nuisance complaints in the month of February. Discussions are progressing with the Time Share office regarding a derelict home on Rebel Circle that has been abandoned for several years. One application received for a new home on Evergreen along with six other new homes under construction."

Gordon Brand, 64 Overlook Way, asked City Manager Streetman about the number of STRs that have registered and if the Marketing Committee could get a copy. He was told that an exact number can be given to him once confirmed and a list couldn't be provided.

Tom Menard, 196 Moon Ridge, wanted to address Mayor and Council concerning a water/plumbing issue at his residence. He was told that he would have to wait until the next scheduled meeting as he needed to be put on the agenda so all information can be collected and the appropriate staff that was involved, be present.

Police Chief Estes stated that Officer Brown is still out. Officer Clark is having family issues but the other officers are covering her shifts. Officer Clark was just voted as favorite first responder of the year. This is the second year in a row that she has won this honor. This vote was conducted by a local newspaper, The Clayton Tribune. He stated that his department needs bullet proof vests, for the officers. He is currently looking for grants that could help with this expense. Radars are failing and will need to be replaced. His department just received a \$9,000 grant to help with the cost of purchasing computers for four cars.

Debbie McAfee, 776 Alpine, asked about the cost and life of a vest, which was answered at the cost of approximately \$600 and the life around five to seven years.

Councilor Curtis asked if anyone had been cited for littering and Chief Estes stated that he wasn't sure, but could check. He stated that it is hard to cite someone for littering as you have to catch them in the act.

8. Committee Reports

Marketing Committee Chairman Gordon Brand stated that Doug Hollandsworth is working with a new media partner, Michigan Golf Journal. Sky Valley was winner for the best Par 3 in 2023. Four to five media writers will be coming to Sky Valley this year. Scheduling golf and croquet tournaments. Just released the results from the "Favorite Things about Sky Valley" survey. Working on a new survey concerning "Why did you buy in Sky Valley?". National Night Out will be held on August 8th. The police department will be meeting with Sky Valley citizens on that date to answer questions or address any concerns.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Consider approval to amend the Sky Valley Solid Waste (Trash) Ordinance – 1st reading and introduction

City Manager Streetman stated that the in-ground trash cans have been removed and this Ordinance will better define pickup dates and clean up certain areas of current Ordinance. He read what the Ordinance will cover: "An ordinance to amend previous solid waste ordinances, to define terms and phrases relating to the collection and disposal of trash, waste, recycling and garbage; to regulate the receptacles and containers for the same; to provide for the manner of preparation of the same for collection; to provide for the manner of collection of construction material, trash and garbage from commercial establishments and places of residence; to prohibit the deposit of trash, debris or litter upon vacant lots; to prohibit burying refuse, polluting waters, or spilling trash, garbage and other debris upon city streets; to provide for kinds of collection service to be offered, the days of collection and schedule of charges therefor; to provide penalties for violation and to repeal all ordinances or portions thereof in conflict herewith".

Mayor Steil stated that this will be the first reading and next scheduled meeting will be the second reading. A vote will be called at that time. Councilor Curtis asked about the "Special Collection" in the Ordinance. City Manager Streetman stated that was for yard debris as the residents can call and have the removal scheduled by City Staff. This will help keep up with the time spent as the first fifteen minutes are free but any additional time spent would result in a charge. He went over the possibility of being able to purchase a trash can through the City, at a discounted price, if there is enough interested in it. The City would have to purchase at least fifty to get a bulk discount.

10. Consider approval to amend the Uniform Rules of the Road Ordinance – 1st reading and Introduction

City Manager Streetman stated that this proposed amendment would change the term from five years to annually, for registration/inspections of PTVs. Safety is the main concern. Chief Estes stated that the permit would be good for the fiscal year, July 1 – June 30. Different colored permits will be issued each year. A grace period of now through June will be given, to get a new permit.

City Manager Streetman read what the Ordinance will cover as this will be the first reading. "An ordinance to amend previous uniform rules of the road ordinance, to define terms and phrases relating to the uniform rules of the road, traffic signs, signals, and marking, speed limits, parking of motor homes, recreational vehicles, boats, and trailer, the permitting of personal transportation vehicles; and to provide penalties for violation and to repeal all ordinances or portions thereof in conflict herewith".

11. Consider approval of Resolution to enter a Capital Lease Purchase through GMA to purchase a 2023 Ford Explorer for the Police Department

City Manager Streetman stated that this purchase is a budgeted item. One payment a year will be made and the loan will have an interest rate around 5%. This is just a formality as to show that the Council agrees with the purchase.

Councilor Curtis asked why the lease instead of buying outright which City Manager Streetman stated that it is just for budgeting purposes as it helps to acquire as needed.

Councilor McAfee made a motion to approve the Resolution, seconded by Councilor Oliver, unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

12. Public Forum and General Comments

None were made.

13. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Hollie Steil, Mayor

Attest:


Karen Fleming, City Clerk