

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF SKY VALLEY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025 AT 10:00 AM AT 3608 HWY 246 (CITY HALL) & VIA TELECONFERENCE (ZOOM) SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Steil, Councilors Allred, Turner, Curtis, Oliver, and McAfee

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Streetman, City Clerk Fleming, Communication Specialist Van Camp, City Attorney Kidd, Public Works Superintendent Shope, Water Coordinator English, and Building Inspector Pyburn

1. Call to Order

Hollie called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor Turner led the invocation/pledge of allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes

April 15, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting

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

4. Adoption of Agenda

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

5. Mayoral/Council Remarks

Mayor Steil ask Public Works Superintendent Shope and his crew to come forward so he could introduce everyone. Mayor Steil thanked the department for all that they do for the City.

6. City Manager Report

City Manager Streetman stated that the City is getting geared up for the summer activities. The 2025 fireworks display will be on July 5th and included on that day will be the parade, duck race, pancake breakfast, and Sid Weber BBQ fund raiser. Volunteers are needed to help on this day. He has started gathering information to aid in the 2026 Budget preparation. The 2025 audit will be starting soon. Resurfacing of City roads has been completed and more to add as funding is available. The TSPLOST funds have almost come to an end as the County is nearing the 17 million that was passed as the cap or five-year term. He also addressed STR renewals, PTV renewals, and cutting off services after 60-day delinquencies. The pickleball courts will be repaired June 2-5, weather permitting. He concluded with promoting the Public Works Recognition Event that will be held at the City pavilion, May 23rd, 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. Hotdogs, chips, and cookies will be available.

7. Departmental Reports

City Manager Streetman gave a report for Police Chief Baumes – The police department has hired a new part-time officer, Officer Andrew Williams.

Building Inspector Pyburn stated that he has issued three warnings (lawn maintenance, trash, and a missing 911 address sign). Four violations which one has been taken care of. Four new home constructions and five pending. Anticipating a busy season with permitting. One potential annexation will be presented soon.

Public Works Superintendent Shope thanked all that helps to keep their department running smoothly, including the Council as much needed equipment has been obtained. The department is currently working on road shoulders, potholes, culvert work, Ed Morley bridge drainage, and walking path maintenance. Preparation is also underway for the Independence Day festivities. One position is currently open in his department.

Water Coordinator English stated that he had met with Dee Van Camp, Sky Valley Representative on the board of the Rabun County Sewer Authority. Mr. Van Camp answered some questions for him;

1. Can you give a list of recommended contractors? Mr. Van Camp supplied a list of contractors.
2. In the event of an Emergency, could their organization help Sky Valley, if needed? Mr. Van Camp answered, absolutely and the only charge would be for the cost of labor.
3. Can you share how you find employees? Mr. Van Camp stated that they primarily go by personal recommendations and word of mouth.
4. Do you have a Succession Plan in place for training? Mr. Van Camp answered yes. The Sky Valley Public Work's Department is implementing a plan within their department as well.

City Manager Streetman stated that Water Coordinator English is going for his Class 1 Water License this summer.

Mayor Steil inquired about the status of the City's PRV replacement endeavor. Mr. English stated that eight out of seventeen have been replaced so far. The first eight were top of the list of needing to be replaced and the following nine will be prioritized. Mayor Steil asked if the telemetry had been placed on the two tanks lacking and he answered that it is on order.

8. Committee Reports

Dan McAfee, Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission, stated that the next P&Z meeting will be held on May 27th at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will consist of a variance request and continued work concerning the updating of the current Tree Ordinance.

Bill Oliver, Chairman of the Mayoral Advisory Committee, stated that the Committee had recently met to consolidate an Emergency Plan for Sky Valley. The Police, Public Works, and Fire Department all have plans but need to consolidate into one in case of a natural disaster. A survey will be going out to gain information from the residents such as, the use of medical equipment requiring electricity, along with contact information,

City Manager Streetman stated that City Hall, Police Department, and the Tractor Shed will be installing generators so we can still operate during power outages. Well eight and three are on generators and can be used when power is out.

Bruce Turner, Chairman of Special Projects Committee, stated that the Committee has everything lined up for the Independence Day celebrations being held on July 5th. Volunteers are needed to help. A cleanup day is scheduled for May 22, from the entrance to the Junction. He asked for Council volunteers to participate in the dunking tank.

Mayor Steil spoke of behalf of Cheryl Beckert, Chairwoman of the Landscaping Committee – The Committee is busy organizing the planting of flowers and bushes at City Hall, Mailboxes, and the Main Entrance. The Garden Club has been helping also in this endeavor. The corners are also being planted, City Pavilion, and entrance of Evergreen.

City Manager Streetman stated that the City would like to install a large rock at the intersection of Evergreen and Crusher Run Road, to mount a decorative entrance sign.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Consider approval of Proclamation to celebrate National Public Works Week, May 18 -24, 2025

City Manager Streetman read the Proclamation which reads as follows: " National Public Works Week Proclamation May 18-24, 2025. Whereas, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities, and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to public health, high quality of life, and well-being of the people Sky Valley, Georgia. Whereas, these infrastructure, facilities, and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers, and employees at all levels of government and the

private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving, and protecting our nation's transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens; and whereas, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders, and children in the City of Sky Valley to gain knowledge of and maintain an ongoing interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and whereas, the year 2025 marks the 65th annual National Public Works Association/Canadian Public Works Association be it now, resolved, I Mayor Hollie Steil, do hereby designate the week of May 18-24, 2025 as National Public Works Week. I urge all citizens to join with representatives of the American Public Works Association and government agencies in activities, events, and ceremonies designed to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers, and employees and to recognize the substantial contributions they make to protecting our national health, safety, and advancing quality of life for all."

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

OTHER BUSINESS

10. Public Forum and General Comments

Don Quarello, owner of lots 41 and 42; wanting to build on lot 42. He wanted to confirm that there was a sewer facility plant being built on the property that the City just purchased, off of Tahoe Lane. Mayor Steil stated that the City is contemplating building on that site, but nothing has been firmed up. She went on to say when the site and facility have been decided on at least two public hearings will be held to discuss. Mr. Quarello asked about the timeline of the grant received. Mayor Steil stated that the project must be started by the end of this year as part of the criteria of the grant to be eligible. Mr. Quarello stated that he will be posting information concerning the potential sewer on social media. He feels that the sewer facility plant is not a good proposal for Sky Valley as he expressed his concerns.

11. Executive Session

Mayor Steil stated that an Executive Session is needed to discuss three topics; Real Estate, Personnel Issues, and Possible Litigation. Councilor Oliver made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Councilor Turner, unanimously approved. The meeting was closed at 11:10 a.m.

Councilor Oliver made a motion to reopen the meeting, seconded by Councilor McAfee, unanimously approved. The meeting was reopened at 12:07 p.m.

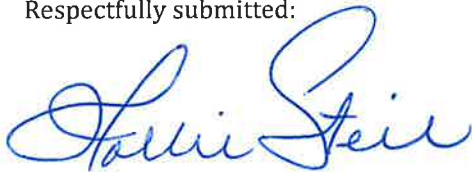
Mayor Steil stated no action was taken.

12. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Hollie Steil, Mayor

Attest:


Karen Fleming, City Clerk