



City of Guyton
City Council Meeting
Via Teleconference
June 9, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF MEETING

Call to Order

The June 9, 2020 City of Guyton City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Russ Deen at approximately 7:00 p.m. Mayor Russ Deen, Council Member Joseph Lee, Council Member Hursula Pelote and Council Member T. Marshall Reiser were present at this meeting via teleconference. Mayor Pro Tem Michael Johnson, Sr. joined the call at 7:06 p.m.

Other Staff Present - Interim City Manager Brett Bennett, Interim Assistant City Attorney David “Bobo” Mullens and City Clerk Tina Chadwick were present via teleconference.

Moment of Repose for Those Who Practice Some Other Faith

Mayor Deen asked all present to take a brief repose for those who practice some other faith.

Invocation

Deen gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Deen

Consideration to approve the Agenda

Reiser made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Pelote seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Consideration to approve Minutes of Meetings

Pelote made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2020 City Council Meeting held at 7:00 p.m., May 19, 2020 Special Called Meeting held at 4:45 p.m., May 21, 2020 Special Called Meeting held at 6:00 p.m. and the June 1, 2020 Special Called Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Reiser seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

ALL PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE LIMITED TO AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to approve a proposal from Lanier, Deal & Proctor for the City's annual audit

Bennett included the proposal letter in your packet and the Engagement Letter went out shortly after that. The proposal is for an estimate of \$12,000 to \$15,000. Bennett has confirmed with them that the price will not exceed \$15,000. Bennett stated that a few months back that the City approved a contract with Caines Hodges which previously was the City's auditor. As we have discussed the City was behind on some financial work and they are underway of getting that caught up and we expect to be ready for the June 30, 2019 audit in the few coming weeks. As part of approving that it was mentioned that we would likely see a reduction in audit costs. Bennett states that \$12,000 to \$15,000 is the most reasonable audit fees that he has seen. Bennett said that he has worked with Lanier, Deal & Proctor for several years in Springfield and he has always been very satisfied with the work product. This is near half of the price that audits have been in the past and that reflects Caines Hodges being on board. Mr. Deal added that the reason they can do the audit at such a low cost is with another CPA firm doing the accounting and they are preparing detailed schedules of all the accounts and financial statements. He said that all they would need to do is confirm all the numbers that are on the financial statements. Reiser inquired about the timeline in getting started on the Audit for the 2019-year end and the 2020-year end. Deal stated that they would be able to start the 2019-year end as soon as Caines Hodges gives them the balances and the financial statements. Hopefully within a couple of weeks. Deal said three to five weeks once they receive the information from Caines Hodges. Deal said that if Caines Hodges gets them the information by mid-June, then they should have the audit done by the end of July for 2019. Reiser asked if Caines got through with will of the things that they needed to do could he be done with the 2020 audit by September. Mr. Deal stated yes, that should not be any problem. Johnson asked Reiser is August the point that the audit should be done. Bennett stated the Caines said that they would be ready next week for the 2019 audit which they would complete by the end of July.

Reiser made a motion to approve a proposal from Lanier, Deal & Proctor for the City's annual audit. Pelote seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Consideration to approve City of Guyton's 2020 water, sewer and sanitation rates and City of Guyton's 2020 permitting and zoning schedule

Bennett stated that this has been pulled together to adopt The City of Guyton's 2020 water, sewer and sanitation rates and the City of Guyton's 2020 permitting and zoning schedule as well. Traditionally many of the City's Ordinances refer to a fee schedule, so that when and if you decide to update fees you don't have to amend the Ordinance you can just update the fees. So, this is just a smoother process and most governments go this route. This is just a process to adopt the City's fee schedule. No fees have changed. This is something that the City should do on an annual basis is to look at fees. It provides for all the fees to be in one place. Bennett would recommend to the City to consolidate this fee schedule to be broken down by the individual categories so that it is one cohesive fee schedule.

Lee made a motion to approve City of Guyton's 2020 water, sewer and sanitation rates and City of Guyton's permitting and zoning schedule. Pelote seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Consideration to reappoint Mr. Herb Jones for the CRC Council member

Bennett stated that Mr. Herb Jones is the citizens appointment to the CRC Board. Mr. Herb was that state representative for our area at one time. He serviced as the CEO of the Economic Authority here in Effingham many years ago and is a proud member of Effingham County and has been on this board as long as I have been in Effingham County and he is just a fine gentleman. Every so often he has to be reappointed and Bennett would recommend reappointing Mr. Herb Jones. This is will go to every City and the County in Effingham as well to appoint Mr. Herb. Reiser asked if Mr. Jones is the representative for the County and the Municipalities in this area. Bennett answered yes, that there is one Commissioner, and a Mayor. Those are the three representatives from Effingham County that are on that Board. Pelote asked If Mr. Jones would like to continue his service. Bennett said yes, he does.

Johnson made a motion to reappoint Mr. Herb Jones for the CRC Council member. Lee seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Consideration to approve the Police Department's decommission of a 2007 Dodge Charger

Chief Breletic said that in reviewing the vehicles that this 2007 Dodge Charger would cost more money to fix and that the Council has the documentation in front of them to review with some of the issues that they have been having with it. He would like with Council's permission to decommission the vehicle. Johnson asked if there was an update on the ones that we are going to put back in stock. Chief Breletic stated that we are on a holding pattern and that he will be checking next week. Harville wanted Chief Breletic to run down what the process is of decommissioning a vehicle. Chief Breletic said the amount of money that it cost to keep a vehicle versus the upkeep. The 2007 Charger we got from another agency and assessing the amount of money that it would cost and talking to a mechanic over in Springfield, Mr. Jason, who has worked on these cars before, the upkeep would be just too much. Council approves the decommission, the vehicle would be taken to a public auction. Harville asked if there was a gas leak. Chief Breletic stated that he talked to Jason and that there are different leaks and with the car having over 108,000 miles and it constantly overheats. Harville asked when the last time that the car had been driven and Chief Breletic stated on Saturday to give out food services used and for traffic. Bennett stated that everything that the Council surpluses must go to public auction.

Lee made a motion to approve the Police Department's decommission of a 2007 Dodge Charger. Pelote seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Reports from Staff

Police Department - Chief Breletic – 456 Calls, 14 Incident Reports, 2 Accidents, 13 Supplemental Reports, 2 Arrests and 13 Citations

Public Works – EOM – Charlie Heino briefly discussed how the program is rolling out and that it has been a great week. Charlie talked about projects that he would like to work on that would be

cost effective for the City. He then talked about how work orders are processed for the City. He expects working for the City will just keep getting better and better.

Fire Department - Clint Hodges – May - 310 Calls – 30 Calls within the City limits itself. – Bennett and Pelote thanked Chief Hodges for his hard work.

Dates to Remember

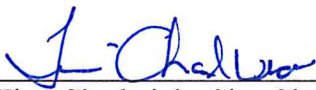
City Hall will be closed Friday, July 3, 2020 in celebration of Independence Day and will resume normal business hours on Monday, July 6, 2020

Consideration to Adjourn the Special Called Council Meeting

Reiser made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at approximately 7:36 p.m. Pelote seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**



Russ Deen, Mayor



Tina Chadwick, City Clerk

