

City of Guyton, Georgia

Working Together to Make a Difference



CITY COUNCIL MEETING - March 12, 2019

MINUTES

ITEM OF BUSINESS

ACTION REQUESTED OF COUNCIL

1. *Call to Order*

Mayor Lariscy, 7:00pm

Mayor Lariscy called the meeting to order. Councilman Collins was not in attendance.

2. *Moment of Repose for Those Who Practice Some Other Faith*

3. *Invocation*

Mayor Lariscy led the Invocation.

4. *Pledge of Allegiance*

Mayor Lariscy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. *Approval of Agenda*

Consideration to approve the Agenda

Mayor Lariscy stated the agenda needed to be amended to add the following items:

- 10. Presentation from CASA representatives
- 12D. Discussion regarding employee compensation
- 12E. Discussion regarding security systems
- 12F. Discussion regarding vehicle claim for damage

Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Councilman Lee. Motion carried.

6. *Approval of Minutes*

Consideration to approve minutes February 12, 2019 Council Meeting, minutes from the February 19, 2019 Council Meeting, minutes from the February 22, 2019 Council Meeting, and the minutes from the February 28, 2019 Council Meeting

Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve minutes from February 12, 2019, seconded by Councilman Goldwire. Motion carried. Councilman Goldwire made a motion to approve the minutes from February 19, 2019, seconded by Councilman

Johnson. Motion carried. Councilman Goldwire made a motion to approve minutes from February 22, 2019, seconded by Councilman Lee. Motion carried. Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve minutes from February 28, 2019, seconded by Councilman Goldwire. Motion carried.

7. Planning & Zoning

No report.

8. Leisure Services

Ms. Lula Seabrooks reported that the Committee is working on the Easter Egg Hunt preparations, and that Ms. Hicklen and herself had met with City Clerk Bruton to go over the Leisure Services budget.

9. Historic Preservation

No report.

10. Other Committee Reports- Citizen request for agenda: Laura Carter- Discussion regarding damage to her sprinkler system during the CDBG construction and damage to the Central Station sign.

Ms. Laura Carter was not in attendance.

At this time Mayor Lariscy called for the CASA representatives to approach Council. The CASA representative stated this is the seventh year the event has been held in Guyton. The date scheduled is October 26, 2019. She added they appreciate the support the City gives to the event. She then discussed CASA and the work they do with Council.

Mayor Lariscy then asked if Mr. Lon Harden had anything to report for the IDA. He stated that the street widening has begun on McCall Road, and that great things are coming.

ALL PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE LIMITED TO AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

11. Old Business

A. Mayor Lariscy

Opening of sealed bids for the purchase of city property adjacent to Ken's IGA for parking lot, retaining city right to access city infrastructure

One bid was received from Ken Nesmith, owner of Ken's IGA, in the amount of \$100.00. Councilman Johnson made a motion to accept the bid, seconded by Councilman Lee. Motion carried.

B. Mayor Lariscy

Discussion regarding request for bids for lawn care maintenance

Council reviewed the request for bids. Mayor Lariscy suggested labeling to allow time to discuss with Councilman Collins, and then a phone poll would be taken. Councilman Johnson made a motion to that effect, seconded by Councilman Lee. Motion carried.

C. Mayor Lariscy Discussion and consideration of \$10.00 increase to base water rates- tabled from last meeting

Mayor Lariscy stated this was discussed at the previous meeting to address tank maintenance and the fiber build-out. It was stated at the time there was still no official response from Planter's regarding the money owed. A check for approximately \$20,000 was received but it was not the total owed. Councilman Lee stated the City needed to find the money from somewhere else and not put the burden on the citizens. Councilman Lee made a motion to not add the additional fee to the water bills. Councilman Johnson suggested tabling until the next Council meeting to discuss the \$10 increase and adding the fire rate to the water bills. Councilman Goldwire seconded Councilman Lee's motion, and the motion carried. Councilman Lee then spoke to City Clerk Bruton stating "we have a job to do."

D. Mayor Lariscy Discussion and consideration to amend section 6.7.3 of the Guyton Personnel Policy- tabled from last meeting

Mayor Lariscy stated that Council was given several responses from cities regarding the bereavement leave. After some discussion, Councilman Johnson made a motion to accept the amendment to section 6.7.3 of the personnel policy with two changes; 1) remove cousins from the second paragraph, and 2) reduce the 32-hour period to 24-hours. Councilman Lee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

E. Mayor Lariscy Discussion and consideration of nominee for Chamber Board of Directors

Mayor Lariscy asked if Council had an nominees. After a brief discussion, Councilman Johnson made a motion to table, seconded by Councilman Goldwire. Motion carried.

F. Mayor Lariscy Update regarding hiring of City Manager

Mayor Lariscy informed Council that interviews for the City Manager position are being scheduled. The hiring board will consist of Mayor Lariscy, Councilman Johnson, Citizen Russ Deen, and City Clerk Bruton.

G. Mayor Lariscy Update regarding contracting with ISO Consultant

Mayor Lariscy stated he was unable to attend the most recent fire meeting. Councilman Collins was in attendance, but they have not been made aware of the contract amount.

A brief discussion was held in which it was stated that documentation needed to be gathered for the upcoming ISO inspection.

H. Mayor Lariscy Discussion and consideration of bids for windows in the old school gym

Two bids were received for the window replacement, one from Marchese Construction and one from Joe Post. There was discussion regarding both quotes, and it was determined that they are not “apples to apples.” Councilman Goldwire made a motion to table to produce a better bid format, seconded by Councilman Johnson. Motion carried.

I. Mayor Lariscy Discussion regarding separation of fire department and police department to individual departments

Council did not want to discuss this topic until after speaking to the ISO consultant

12. New Business

A. Mayor Lariscy Update regarding SDS Consultant

Mayor Lariscy stated that Mr. Brown has reached out for documentation to move forward with an audit of the current SDS, but has spoken about needing to renew the SDS as well.

B. Mayor Lariscy Opening, discussion and consideration of sealed timber sale bids

There were five bids received for the timber sales; DG Burns and Sons, Callum Lumber, SA Allen, Savannah River Timber, and Southeastern Ship Services. (The details of said bids are available upon request at City Hall.) City Attorney Smith and Mayor Lariscy discussed putting the bids in chart form and having Councilman Collins review. Councilman Johnson made a motion to table for review by Councilman Collins, seconded by Councilman Goldwire. Motion carried. The vote was followed by discussion regarding the timber process.

C. Mayor Lariscy Conflict of Interest Disclosure regarding the 2019 CDBG project

Mayor Lariscy stated the CDBG target area contains property owned by Councilman Lee, Councilman Goldwire, and Councilman Lee. He asked Councilman Goldwire and Councilman Lee to recuse themselves from certain involvement pertaining to the project, but Councilman Johnson would remain involved to maintain a quorum. Mayor Lariscy then read and reviewed the Conflict of Interest Disclosure with Council and those in attendance. City Attorney Smith stated the benefits to the Councilman residing in the area would be no greater than any other citizen in the target area.

D. Mayor Lariscy

Discussion regarding employee compensation

Mayor Lariscy reminded Council that a phone poll was conducted to approve a \$200/pay period stipend for Interim Police Chief Coppola to be paid from the Police Chief line item. Mayor Lariscy then stated that City Clerk Bruton has been tasked with running City Hall since the resignation of Travis Grubbs as Interim City Manager. He requested a \$250/pay period stipend due to her being on salary, and not hourly. Mayor Lariscy then stated Firefighter Chris Huntley is not being paid to respond to calls after-hours, but the personnel policy states that employees are to be paid 2-hour call-out time. He added this is not required by law for firefighters, but wants Council to consider. Councilman Lee asked Mayor Lariscy how much he wanted to City Clerk Bruton, and he responded with \$250 per pay period to be pulled from the City Manager line item. Councilman Lee then stated the Interim Chief was only getting \$200. Mayor Lariscy stated that was correct, but the Interim Chief also gets overtime, which Ms. Bruton does not. Councilman Lee stated he could not give Ms. Bruton \$250 and only give the Interim Chief \$200. Councilman Goldwire asked what the responsibilities are for Ms. Bruton versus Interim Chief Coppola. Mayor Lariscy stated that she is expected to keep the City running. Councilman Lee then said what about the officers working 12 hours. Councilman Goldwire stated that they are in a unique position and can't be expected to do it without some sort of compensation. Interim Chief Coppola then approached Council and stated if the stipend was an issue, he asked Council to consider a \$2.50 per hour pay increase. City Attorney Smith stated it wasn't smart, but it was possible. Councilman Goldwire made a motion to increase Interim Chief Coppola's pay rate by \$2.50 per hour until a Public Safety Director is hired, seconded by Councilman Johnson. Motion carried. Councilman Johnson then made a motion to approve the \$250 per pay period stipend for City Clerk Bruton, seconded by Councilman Goldwire. Motion carried. Councilman Lee made a motion to approve the two hour call-out pay for firefighter Chris Huntley for calls responded to after hours, seconded by Councilman Goldwire. Motion carried. Mayor Lariscy added that reports would need to be submitted for calls after-hours.

E. Mayor Lariscy

Discussion regarding security systems

Mayor Lariscy stated there are adequate SPLOST funds to cover the costs of the security camera equipment, and funds in the construction account for the system to be installed at the WWTP. Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve the purchase of the security systems using SPLOST and construction funds, seconded by Councilman Lee. Motion carried.

F. Mayor Lariscy

Discussion regarding vehicle damage claim

City Attorney Smith advised he would cover this in executive session, and would need a motion in the following open session.

At this time, Citizen Lucy Powell addressed Council and thanked City Clerk Bruton for her assistance with the Senior's in the Know event.

Reports from Committees

Legal	City Attorney Smith
City Attorney Smith to report in executive session.	
Finance & Taxes	Councilman Goldwire
Councilman Goldwire gave report.	
Streets & Lanes	Councilman Johnson
Councilman Johnson stated he had obtained addresses requiring easements for the CDBG application.	
Water & Sewage	Councilman Collins
Councilman Collins was not in attendance to give report.	
Recreation & City Property	Councilman Lee
Councilman Lee stated the fence was finished at the Ball Field, and work is still being done at the gym.	
Police Department	Interim Chief Coppola
Fire Department	Interim Chief Stringer
Interim Chief Coppola gave the Police and Fire report to Council.	

14. Dates to Remember

Wednesday, April 3, 4pm - Guyton Municipal Court
Monday, April 8, 7pm - Leisure Service Meeting
Tuesday, April 9, 7pm - City Council Meeting
Friday, April 19 - City Hall Closed, Good Friday
Saturday, April 20, 8am-2pm - Sale on the Trail
Saturday, April 20, 2:30pm - Guyton Easter Egg Hunt
Wednesday, May 1, 4pm - Guyton Municipal Court
Monday, May 13, 7pm - Leisure Service Meeting
Tuesday, May 14, 7pm - City Council Meeting
Monday, May 27 - City Hall Closed, Memorial Day

15. Adjournment from Regular Session into Executive Session

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Goldwire, seconded by Councilman Johnson. Motion carried.

16. Executive Session (as needed)

Executive Session was held to discuss litigation and personnel.

17. Adjournment of Executive Session back into Regular Session

A motion to return to open session was made by Councilman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Goldwire. Motion carried.

Mayor Lariscy requested a motion on how to proceed with the incident involving a vehicle, and added that Councilman Lee is recused from the discussion and vote due to a conflict. Councilman Goldwire made a motion to proceed in accordance with the City Attorney's recommendation, seconded by Councilman Johnson. Motion carried.

Councilman Johnson then led a discussion regarding training for Interim Chief Coppola.

18. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Lee. Motion carried.



Jeff Lariscy, Mayor



Alison Bruton, City Clerk

