

CITY OF BUCHANAN

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

February 9, 2021

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Stanley Freeland, Teresa Barger, and Angie Hood were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Police Chief Chad Henderson, Public Works Director Heath Lee.

Mayor Scott: Calls the meeting to order. Asks Stanley Freeland to lead the invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by AJ Scott.

Mayor Scott: Asks for a motion to approve the agenda with a suggested change to add legal to the executive session. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the agenda with the suggested change to add legal to the executive session. Teresa Barger seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Mayor Scott: Asks for a motion to approve the minutes for December 8, 2020 and February 3, 2021. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the minutes for December 8, 2020 and February 3, 2021. Teresa Barger seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Library Update: Updates council on monthly library activity. The genre labeling is finally completed. The library is continuing Monday virtual readings on Facebook live. The library is partnering with The Georgia Public library system and The Georgia Public Broadcasting system to celebrate “Be My Neighbor Day.” The library and the partners are handing out tiger ears to the people who show an act of kindness by being a good neighbor in the community to make Mr. Rogers proud. “Be My Neighbor Day” is on February 20th, 2021. They will be handing out tiger treats, and a list of actions children can do to make a difference within the community.

Mayor Scott: Presents the Library with a donation from the City. Jana Gentry accepts and thanks the City for their continuing support.

Main Street Representative- Tina Southern: The holidays were a success with the help of local organizations. The Buchanan Beautification was able to add more Christmas decoration and help the City with the Bell Tower Bash. They are planning a community Easter Egg hunt on April 3rd at noon, hopefully at the old ballfields located near the Elementary school. The Board of Education will be meeting to vote on the Buchanan Beautification Committee to use this location. They are also planning on the Spring Fling in May. They are hoping that the Buchanan Beautification cookbooks will be finished in time for the Spring Fling.

Website: Asks for a motion to approve the website in the amount of \$5,500. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the website in the amount of \$5,500. Stanley Freeland

seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Website: Asks for a motion to approve website maintenance plan in the amount of \$200 a month for at least three months until the council reevaluates the maintenance plans. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the website maintenance plan in the amount of \$200 a month for the first three months until the council reevaluates. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Gary Garner: Asks the council for help regarding a property on First Avenue and College circle. The property has had a trailer removed and there is a lot of trash that needs to be cleaned up. Also, about one hundred yards from that property is 110 College Circle that needs to be cleaned up as well. The code officers have said it was being remodeled. The property continues to grow and needs to be cleaned up.

Chief of Police -Chad Henderson: The code enforcement officer has sent a letter to the owner. There have been no permits issued though the City so they will cite them for the violations.

Discussion: The public discussed their concerns with special events throughout the City. They are concerned that other small events will take away from the Spring Fling that they have been having for years. The council has discussed the concerns with the public and asks the other organizer to change the event name to prevent confusion. Communication between local organizers is recommended to prevent future complications.

Patty Hutcheson: Presents the council with concerns regarding City Cemetery prices and regulations. The mayor has scheduled a meeting on February 10, 2021 at 3:45 to listen to the suggestions she may have regarding the City Cemetery.

Mayor Scott: Asks for a motion to go into executive session for legal and personnel. Angie Hood made a motion to go into executive session for legal and personnel. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Executive Session: Legal and Personnel

Mayor Scott: Asks for a motion to come out of executive session. Angie Hood made a motion to come out of executive session. Teresa Barger seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Mayor Scott: Asks for any nominations for Mayor Pro-Tem. Angie Hood nominated Stanley Freeland for Mayor Pro-Tem. Teresa Barger seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Departmental Updates-

Public Works Director- Heath Lee: Updates council on the replacement of 28-

year-old pump stations. They are in the process of getting quotes on the Water Shed protection plan monitoring that they are required to do for the new Wastewater treatment plant. The Haralson County Water Authority has increased their wholesale rates by 12%. Our rates will have to increase around 32 cents per thousand gallon to make up for the difference. The council requested this item to be added to the next agenda per attorney recommendation.

Police Chief Chad Henderson: Updates on crime report and citations. The mayor accepts Chad Henderson's resignation letter and thanks him for his time with the City. The Mayor asks the council to allow David Ratner to step in as interim chief effective February 19th, 2021 until the City has gone through the hiring process. Stanley Freeland made a motion to allow David Ratner step in as interim chief until they can go through to hiring process. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

City Clerk- Sherry Taylor: Updates council on the audit and financial reports. The city is also in the process of getting a .gov email for all employees to go along with the new website.

Adjourn:

Mayor Scott: Asks for a motion to adjourn. Stanley Freeland made a motion to adjourn. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried with 3-0.