

CITY OF BUCHANAN
Minutes of the Work Session
May 15th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Interim Chief David Ratner.

Digital Sign: Mrs. Taylor informed the council that she would be asking for \$60,000 out of city SPLOST funds to purchase a digital sign. The digital sign would be purchased through SignWorks Pro Inc. They are a company in Carrollton, Georgia. The price includes the 4x8 sign, brick work, an arch with our city name, a 10-year warranty, and installation. Mrs. Taylor explained to the council that this is something she has wanted for years and had been saving her SPLOST funds for a big purchase that would benefit the city. The sign would better inform citizens about upcoming events and other valuable information within the city.

Steve Holcombe: Mr. Holcombe suggested that the city use the sign as a municipal enterprise. The city can charge local businesses to use our sign as advertisement. It would benefit the city as well as local businesses.

Stanley Freeland: Mr. Freeland asked how much was available in city SPLOST. Mrs. Taylor told the council there was \$76,375.86 available at that time. The city receives a SPLOST check from the county each month, that amount is split between departments by percentages. Mr. Freeland did not agree to purchasing the digital sign from SPLOST due to the price, and it is not urgent.

Mary Jarrell: Not present.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

Adjourn

CITY OF BUCHANAN
Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
May 15th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Interim Chief David Ratner.

Mayor Scott: Calls the meeting to order. The invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Stanley Freeland.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to approve the agenda. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for April 17th, 2023. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the minutes for April 17th, 2023. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Jana Gentry-Library: Not present.

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: Not present.

Digital Sign: Mrs. Taylor asked the council to approve the purchase of the digital sign in the amount of \$60,000 out of SPLOST funds to replace the outdated sign in the front of City Hall. That price includes the brick, the digital sign, installation, and a 10-year warranty. Mrs. Taylor explained that the sign would be beneficial to the citizens of Buchanan. This company has worked with many others in the surrounding area. Mr. Holcombe stated that the city could use the sign as a municipal enterprise by allowing businesses in the city to pay to advertise. Mr. Freeland stated his opposition to purchasing the sign due to the price and the item not being an emergency. He stated that he does not feel like \$60,000 should be used on a digital sign. Mrs. Hood asked Mrs. Taylor to explain SPLOST funds. Mrs. Taylor explained that SPLOST funds can only be used on items that will last more than five years. The county distributes the funds to each city every month. The funds are then split between each department, 50 percent goes to the Water and Sewer Department, 25 percent goes to the City Administration Department, and the other 25 percent goes to the Police Department. Mr. Scott said Mrs. Sherry has not asked for many things throughout the years and thinks this would be good for the city. Mayor Scott asked for a motion to approve the purchase of the digital sign of \$60,000 out of SPLOST funds. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the purchase of the digital sign of \$60,000 out of SPLOST funds. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 2-4. Stanley Freeland and Kendall Holderfield opposed. Mayor Scott voted yes, breaking the tie.

Security Cameras: Mayor Scott asked for a motion to approve the purchase of security cameras of \$3,810.00. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the purchase of security cameras of \$3,810.00. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Maintenance Building Pay Request: Mr. Lee updated the council on the Maintenance Building. At the last meeting when the amount for the pay request was voted on, it was stated not to exceed \$80,000. The exact amount exceeds the approved \$80,000. Mr. Lee asked the council to approve an additional \$8,000 to complete the pay request. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the additional \$8,000 to complete the pay request. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott opened the public hearing.

Application by Ronald and Kristen Moser to re-zone parcel BU02 0026 to Central Business District (CBD): Ronald and Kristen Moser presented their request to re-zone parcel BU02 0026 to Central Business District (CBD). The plan is to open an antique, vintage type of store at the Wade House. They will not be making any changes to the house; they have just added an air conditioning unit. The business will start out being open three days a week and they would like to have it open during the Fried Pie Festival this year. Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the Planning and Zoning Committee voted to suggest that the council approve the re-zoning request. Mr. Freeland asked the applicants about parking. Mrs. Moser said there will be parking on the right side and the library parking lot.

Public Comment: No Comment.

Mayor Scott: Public comment was closed.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the re-zoning of BU02 0026 from residential to Central Business District. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the re-zoning of BU02 0026 from Residential to Central Business District. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Scott stated that the minutes need to reflect that this property has been used for commercial use for many years. The city is just correcting the issue, the use of the property will not change. The store will be named Kris's Korner.

Budget Hearing for 2023-2024: Mrs. Taylor presented the requested 2023-2024 budget to the council. This year the city is working with a smaller budget due to the decrease in LOST and Insurance Premium Taxes. The city has worked together to adjust our income and expenses to reflect this decrease.

Public Comment: No comment.

Mayor Scott: Public comment was closed.

Departmental Updates

Public Works Director Heath Lee: Mr. Lee updated the council on the maintenance building, Carrollton Street development, Infra-Metals development, and the recent changes in EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) Lead and Cooper testing.

Interim Police Chief David Ratner: Mr. Ratner updated the council on crime and statistics. Mr. Ratner also stated that there were no accidents during the spring fair.

City Clerk Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the slide was replaced on the playground and that she has been corresponding with Parnell to receive our renewal rates for our liability and cyber security insurance.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Freeland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Adjourn