

**COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 15, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Statesboro City Council was held on January 3, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Mayor William S. Hatcher, Council Members Will Britt, Joe Brannen, Travis Chance and Gary Lewis. Also present were City Manager George Wood, Director of Finance and Administration Judy McCorkle, City Attorney Sam Brannen, and Planning Director Jim Shaw. Absent were Councilman Tommy Blicht and City Engineer Mazhar Elhaj.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DECEMBER 18, 2007 AND JANUARY 3, 2008.

Councilman Brannen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Britt, to approve the December 18, 2007 minutes. Councilman Brannen, Britt, Chance, and Lewis voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Councilman Brannen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Britt, to approve January 3, 2008 minutes. Councilman Brannen, Britt, Chance, and Lewis voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

MOTION TO ADOPT ON FIRST READING ORDINANCE #2008-01: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE STATESBORO MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES (TECHNOLOGY FEE)

City Manager George Wood stated Captain Wendall Turner researched this with other cities and City Attorney Sam Brannen drafted the ordinance based on four other cities ordinances. He stated the City received a federal grant to purchase the mobile data terminals for the police cars. Mr. Wood stated there is a monthly fee for wireless connection and maintenance cost. He stated we're proposing the City apply a \$5.00 add on fee for any case going into municipal court. Councilman Britt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Brannen, to approve Ordinance 2008-01. Councilman Brannen, Britt, Chance, and Lewis voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2008-01: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF STATESBORO, GEORGIA.

Police Chief Stan York stated effective October 1, 2007 the Criminal Information Center Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation implemented fees for finger printing based criminal record checks. He stated the revision was the result of an analysis of the current cost to the FBI for conducting fingerprint criminal history records information searches. He stated the fee changed from \$24.00 to \$26.00 per set. Chief York stated currently the charge for alcohol permitting is \$25.00. This amendment is on the alcohol service permit to account for the increased cost. He said we're asking for \$28.00 for the cost of finger printing and supplies.

Mayor Hatcher asked if the fee applies to C.H.R. Chief York stated yes and they also do finger printing for daycares and the school board. Mayor Hatcher stated the resolution should state everything the fee is for. Councilman Britt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Lewis, to approve Resolution 2008-01 with an addition to alcohol permitting for all criminal information

checks for a fee of \$28.00. Councilman Brannen, Britt, Chance, and Lewis voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2008-02: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION TO OPEN A CHECKING ACCOUNT FOR THE 2007 SPLOST PROCEEDS UNDER THE CITY'S BANKING SERVICES AGREEMENT.

Councilman Brannen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Britt, to approve Resolution 2008-02. Councilman Brannen, Britt, Chance, and Lewis voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

MOTION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #5 TO THE POLICE STATION CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH POPE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$37,828.00 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ARCHITECT AND CITY MANAGER.

Councilman Brannen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Lewis, to approve Pope Construction Change Order 5. Councilman Brannen, Britt, Chance, and Lewis voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

UPDATE ON WATER AND SEWER PROJECTS BY VAN COLLINS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF WATER AND WASTEWATER.

Wastewater Assistant Director Van Collins gave a presentation on projects that were recently completed, current project, and future projects. Mayor Hatcher thanked Mr. Collins, Wastewater Director Wayne Johnson, and their department for their hard work. He stated the great thing about these projects is that they are laying the foundation for future growth.

UPDATE ON THE FINAL COLLECTIONS FROM THE 2002 SPLOST.

City Manager George Wood asked to give the update at the next Council meeting. Mayor Hatcher deferred item 11 to the next Council meeting.

MOTION TO SET A DATE FOR A QUARTERLY WORK SESSION.

City Manager George Wood stated there are two items that may be discussed at a quarterly work session:

- 1) Reuse Water, which is processed water. He stated Georgia Southern has hired Maxwell Engineering for the possibility of a reused water system. He said EPD is going to look to the supplier which the City would have to hold that permit.
- 2) Councilman Gary Lewis has expressed a concerned if his district is still a minority district with all the growth in the area. He stated legally you have to create a minority district. Mr. Lewis checked with Washington D.C. and checked with the Justice Department and it is not a minority district. Mr. Wood stated every ten years the City re-districts after the census comes out. He stated this situation requires us to redistrict earlier to be in compliance with the Voting Rights Act. He stated the City needs to have a work session and discuss these two items.

Mayor Hatcher suggested February 6, 2008 at 6 p.m. Council agreed.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ALCOHOL CONTROL BOARD.

City Clerk Judy McCorkle stated the Alcohol Control Board held hearings on ordinance violations on January 8, 2008 and their recommendation for the seven license holders are:

- 1) Apex, Retrievers, Locos, Statesboro Brews, Oasis, and Dos Primos – first offense violation and a three day suspension;
- 2) Rumrunners – second offense and a ten day suspension.

She stated all of these recommendations are in accordance with the City’s Alcohol Ordinance. Mrs. McCorkle stated the date for the hearings before the City Council will be January 31, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

CITY MANAGER GEORGE WOOD: Mr. Wood stated he would like to add an item to the agenda. On the Central Street sewer replacement and repairs contract and we have the final change order. He stated it will cost the City \$8,394.60 on an \$184,000,000 project. He stated the City owes the contractor this money and recommends the Council’s approval. Councilman Brannen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Britt, to authorize payment to the contractor in the amount of \$8,394.60 for true-up on the quantities used. Councilman Brannen, Britt, Chance, and Lewis voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Wood read his letter of resignation to the Council. He was offered and accepted the position as County Manager for Lincoln County, North Carolina. He stated it has been a pleasure to work for the City. He stated he will stay with the City until mid February.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION/CITY CLERK JUDY MCCORKLE: Mrs. McCorkle requested the Council to set a date for the budget retreat. Mayor Hatcher recommended April 4, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. Council agreed.

PLANNING DIRECTOR JIM SHAW

Application V 08-01-01; Randell Adam Thigpen, on behalf of Lower Mill Creek Primitive Baptist Church, requests a variance to reduce the front yard setback along Lee Street from 25 feet to 6 feet and a variance to eliminate the required 15-foot landscape buffer for property at the northwest corner of Lee Street and Northside Drive East.

Application V 08-01-02; Suites at Market District, LLC requests a variance to increase the limit of ground signs for a planned commercial development from one to three for property located at 1201, 1203, and 1205 Brampton Avenue.

Application RZ 08-01-03; Monster Self Storage requests rezoning from R-40 (Single-Family Residential) to CR (Commercial Retail) and approval of a special exception for a self-storage facility for property located at 1000 Stambuck Lane.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session of the Statesboro City Council was held on January 15, 2008 to discuss

possible litigation. Present were Mayor Hatcher, Council Members Joe Brannen, Will Britt, Travis Chances, and Gary Lewis. Also present were City Manager George Wood and Director of Finance and Administration Judy McCorkle. No action was taken and the meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

RECONVENED SESSION

The regular meeting of the Statesboro City Council reconvened after the executive session on January 18, 2008. Mayor William Hatcher announced possible litigation was discussed in executive session and no action was taken.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor Hatcher read a note from the retired County Clerk, Evelyn Wilson thanking the City for the flower. He stated this Friday night, January 18, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. the Dixie Divas will be at the Emma Kelly Theatre. He encourages the Council and citizens to come out and watch this show. It should be fantastic.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.