

**COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 7, 2006**

A regular meeting of the Statesboro City Council was held February 7, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. Present were Mayor William S. Hatcher, Council members John Morris, Gary Lewis, Tommy Blich and Will Britt. Absent was Mayor Pro Tem Joe Brannen. Also present were City Manager George Wood, Director of Finance & Administration Judy McCorkle, City Engineer Maz Elhaj and Planning Director Jim Shaw.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES-JANUARY 18, 2006**

Councilman Blich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Morris to approve the minutes of January 18, 2006. Councilmen Brannen, Blich, Britt, Lewis and Morris voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Case RZ 06-01-01 Mr. Sam DePoliti on behalf of Mr. Haywood D. Fry requesting the rezoning for a 2.75 acre tract located at 223 Vista Circle from R-20 (Single Family Residential) to R-4 (High Density Multi—family Residential)**

Planning Director Jim Shaw presented a request to council by Sam Dipolito for Haywood D. Frye to allow construction of apartments at 223 Vista Circle. On a sketch plan submitted, it shows thirty-six new units, plus an existing house which will remain. The staff's greatest concern is density development not renter occupied versus owner occupied.

The zoning ordinance permits a maximum density of twelve units per acre which would allow only thirty-three units. A variance would be required to allow the development as shown on the plan. The majority of properties fronting Vista Circle are occupied by single-family residences. Multi-family residences are concentrated close to South College Avenue. Currently there are single and multi-family duplexes and one triplex, with two to four units per acre. If approved it will be twelve units per acre.

The Planning Commission and City Council considered a policy last year to discourage rezoning property R-4 due to an over supply of multi-family developing units. Mr. Shaw said no information had been presented to indicate this development had any qualities that will distinguish it from any other. The greatest concern is the impact of a high-density, multi-family residential development where the surrounding properties are a much lower density and primarily single-family residential.

This request was properly advertised and the staff and Planning Commission recommended denial of the request.

Mayor Hatcher asked if there was anyone to speak in favor of against the request.

Mr. Sam Dipolito spoke in favor of the request stating his client, Haywood D. Frye, would like to construct thirty-two one bedroom units. Each would be 560 square

feet. Vista Circle is mostly multi-family units and most development in the last five years has been **parental** and he would like to make a change in the area. Mr. Frye feels this is the highest and best use for this property. City Manager George Wood asked is there was a site plan of what you are doing. Mr. Dipolito replied a preliminary plan, you have a copy of it.

Mr. Wood, speaking to City Attorney Sam Brannen, asked if this is rezoned would he be limited to the one bedroom unit. Attorney Brannen said no. Mr. Dipolito said this could be stipulated if need be and certainly you could standby what I am saying. Mr. Wood said that is not the request, the request is a straight rezone. Mr. Dipolito said no, the request is the site plan you have in front of you which is one bedroom. Mr. Wood responded saying no, the request is to go to R-4. Mr. Dipolito replied if you would like to stipulate that it would be O.K.

. Mr. Wood asked Planning Director Jim Shaw if the request is to go to R-4 or is the request to go to Planned Unit Development with R-4 density. Mr. Shaw replied R-4. Mr. Wood then asked if the request was for R-4 with no stipulations. Mr. Dipolito replied to Mr. Wood that you can say that however you want, but I'm telling you we would like to present this plan. Mr. Wood said I'm making the Council aware if they vote on this, you are not bound to go with thirty-three one bedroom apartments. Mr. Dipolito remarked if they vote on it, pass it and stipulate it then this is what we will do.

Mr. Wood asked Mr. Shaw how long has this been zoned R-20. Mr. Shaw said he assumed it originally was R-1 rezoned to R-20. Councilman Morris asked if he sold this zoned as R-4 can he do whatever he wants to do with the property. Mr. Wood replied that's right. He could get R-4 zoning today, drop that plan and sell the property. Councilman Morris asked without a proper request. Mr. Wood said that is correct.

Mr. Dipolito asked if the request was approved, would it not be restricted to whatever you say and would it not carry over to the new buyer. Mr. Wood said yes. Mr. Dipolito asked can't you alter this to fit you needs. I think you have the authority and power to suit whatever requirements you want. Mr. Wood said yes they can do that. Mr. Dipolito asked Mr. Wood if they could alter this to suit his needs. Mr. Wood replied yes they can do it.

Mayor Hatcher asked if anyone wanted to speak against the request.

Mike McDonald, a resident and property owner that has lived at 213 Vista Circle for nineteen years, spoke as a representative for himself and others in the area. He said when he bought his property it was his understanding this was a single family neighborhood. He now understands there are a few multi family units for the University and would hate to think the property owners, especially the elderly, living in an older section of Statesboro would be faced with a high density problem. The speed limit is 15 mph. And every day there are dozens of college students speeding through this area going 35 or 45 mph. He is asking Council to please do the right thing with this matter.

Councilman Lewis stated that he is the Councilman for this area and he travels through checking to see if everything is O.K. even if no one knows he is there. He says this is a quiet and old neighborhood and it should not be disturbed. But he will do what his constituents want him to do.

Mayor Hatcher asked if anyone wanted to speak for the request. No one spoke. Then he asked if there was anyone to speak against the request.

Mary Sue Hodges spoke saying she lives on Azalea Drive and her neighbor's property backs up to the Georgia Power right- away. There is a traffic problem at this section at the present time when you need ingress or egress onto South College Street. This section of the street is narrow, and we do not need seventy-five to one hundred extra cars on this street. There are homes that are not up to city code. These things need correcting before adding multi-units. When you drive through this section at night there are between one hundred thirty-five to one hundred fifty cars parked on both sides of the street. She said she tried to go down the street one night and had to back up and go another route because she could not go between the cars. We do not want a ghetto but that's where we are going.

Mayor Hatcher asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of the request. No one replied. He then asked if there was anyone to speak against the request.

Alice Schmidt spoke saying she has lived on Azalea Drive for eleven years. She lives on the opposite side of Mrs. Hodges. She said this is a quiet neighborhood. She walks on Vista Circle and sees no reason to rezone the property except so someone can make money. She said she is appalled to see the clear cutting there. Even though there might be some duplexes, the atmosphere still gives the impression of a family neighborhood, not apartments.

Mayor Hatcher asked if anyone wanted to speak on either side.

Virginia Russell Black is the spokesperson for the elderly in the area. They are very concerned about this issue including the Curlins, Browns and her mother, Mrs. Fielding Russell. Mrs. Black states she would like to add her voice to the people that have already spoken about the cars, noise, parties, trash and speeding. She is concerned about South College which is a narrow street, being used as a short-cut and where they can go faster than the 35 mph posted. We feel assaulted in this neighborhood. In collecting information on the area, it shows one half of the property is wetlands. This means the type of work presently in progress will change the flow water. In general we want Statesboro to be a place where people want to live. I want to continue to live here, but I don't want to live in the slums and I don't want to live in a neighborhood with loud noise and a lot of traffic. I know all of you want the same thing, and if we don't reverse this, it will be that quality of life and the elderly have no other options.

Bonnie McDonald stated the apartments on Vista Circle are not full. The parties are getting worse and the trash is getting worse. If you add more apartments this means it

will only get worse. The students are continuously traveling on the streets. The economic value of our property is going to deteriorate and it is already going down. All the houses are rented by students and that's what happened around the college.

Mayor Hatcher asked if there were anyone else to speak on this issue. With no response he closed the Public Hearing.

Councilman Blich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Britt to deny the request to rezone 223 Vista Circle from R-20 (Single-Family Residential to R- (High Density Residential). Councilman Blich stated there are enough R-4 and we do not need high density in residential area.

Council Britt stated he would have a different opinion if these were high end luxury apartments like the ones Holmes Ramsey did on Tillman Street. He made very nice, high quality apartments, but these do not fit the neighborhood. There needs to be something to increase, not decrease the neighborhood.

Councilman Lewis remarked before someone wants to rezone an area, they need to consider the welfare of the people, not the money. At all times of the night he travels this area and has witnessed cars backed up to the Woodlands Apartments. No matter what side of town it is on, the people should be considered.

Councilmen Lewis, Blich, Britt and Morris voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF DR. DEL PRESLEY TO NAME THE LINEAR PARK FROM DOWNTOWN TO GSU THE WILLIE McTELL TRAIL, IN HONOR OF BLIND WILLIE McTELL**

Dr. Pressley thanked the Council for safe guarding the quality of life in Statesboro. He presented a proposal to Council stating recently the City completed a project of about ten years, the Linear Part Greenway, which begins at the Triangle Park and ends at the northeast corner of Georgia Southern University.

Dr. Presley wants a permanent name for the property and the name he is recommending is not a prominent name or a politician in Statesboro, although there are many families that could be recognized. Instead, a humble name is chosen. Someone that did not have a lot of material possessions when he moved to Statesboro, but was well known to the city. His name is Willie McTell. The McTell Trail will honor a local citizen that brought fame to Statesboro.

Willie McTell would sit on the steps of the Jaeckel Hotel, now City Hall, and sing, play his guitar and entertain citizens. His musical career attracted international attention. Singer-songwriter Bob Dylan has written McTell is one of the most significant individual performers and composers of the blues. As local historian, Smith Banks, remarked this man has probably walked this trail down to Darby Lumber Company.

McTell once told John Lomax of the Library of Congress, Statesboro is my home. He immortalized his hometown in his legendary and much recorded "Statesboro Blues."

At each end of the trail descriptive markers will introduce Blind Willie McTell and explain the origin of the trail.

Councilman Blich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Lewis, to accept the recommendation of Dr. Del Presley to name the Linear Park from downtown to Georgia Southern University the Willie McTell Trail in honor of Blind Willie McTell. Councilmen Blich, Lewis, Britt and Morris voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

### **MOTION TO APPOINT THREE MEMBERS TO THE ALCOHOL BOARD**

City Manager George Wood stated three terms have expired on the Alcohol Control Board including Ron Hane, Marshall Mikell and Nancy Waters. Mr. Mikell and Mrs. Waters are citizens at large while Mr. Hane is a license holder.

Mayor Hatcher nominated Rob Hanes, license holder for Longhorn Steakhouse, for a two year term. He previously had been serving on the committee in an unexpired term. He also nominated Nancy Waters, citizen at large, for another two year term and Mr. Paul Ferguson, Director of Health Science at Georgia Southern University, to replace Marshall Mikell, also a citizen at large.

Councilman Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Blich to accept the nomination of the three members to the Alcohol Control Board. Council Lewis, Morris, and Blich voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Britt voted against the motion stating again he thinks this should be advertised. The motion carried by a 3-1 vote.

### **MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATORY COMPLIANCE SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE MUNICIPAL GAS AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA**

City Manager George Wood stated the city entered into an agreement with the Municipal Gas Authority to handle the regulatory compliance and the primary purpose is to oversee the operators training since the Department of Transportation has tightened down dramatically on operator training for gas. He stated gas is such a volatile substance.

Mr. Wood explained rather than have each city provide their own training, control their own records, etc. that is more feasible to do it in aggregate then MGAG can hire more qualified trainers that can answer questions from a regulatory standpoint with the Department of Transportation. He said when we entered into the agreement the start date was to be May 1, 2006. It has taken longer than expected, but this agreement will back up to September 1, 2006. He asked Natural Gas Director Steve Hotchkiss if he would like to speak. Mr. Hotchkiss replied this is a housekeeping measure to amend the start up date and they have now hired an Administrator.

Councilman Blich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Morris to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the first amendment to the Regulatory Compliance Service Contract with the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia. Councilman Lewis, Blich, Morris and Britt voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

**MOTION TO AUTHORIZE A CREDIT FOR ALL RESIDENTIAL NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS FOR THE AMOUNT OF THE STATE AND LOCAL TAXES (5%) NOT WAIVED BY THE STATE'S RECENT WAIVER OF THE OTHER 2% TO BE EFFECTIVE FOR THE SAME TIME PERIOD AS THE STATE'S RECENT WAIVER OF THE OTHER 2%**

City Manager George Wood referred to a memo stating the Legislature passed and the Governor signed a bill that will temporarily waive 2% of the states 4% states sales tax for a four month period on all residential natural gas sales. He also stated the reason for residential rather than commercial and industrial use is because it doesn't spike, but in winter the residential really spikes and the bills are much higher so they are trying to give relief for all residential natural gas customers.

Mr. Wood also said the rates are higher and our rates are adjustable, so if the price of gas goes up, our rates go up. When our wholesale price goes up our retail price will go up, but the margin does not change. He explained it is not like sales tax which is based on the amount of the dollar value. Our margin is based on the actual amount sold, so whether the price is \$8.00 per mcf or \$16.00 per mcf, the amount the city makes on this does not vary.

Mr. Wood stated the state has the authority to waive sales tax temporarily. We do not have the authority to waive either the state sales tax or the 3% local sales tax. It has to be paid, so the city will pay from the Natural Gas Fund the 5% sales tax. Including the other 2% in states sales tax and 3% local sales tax ( 1% local option sales, SPLOST which the county and city split and the 1% Education SPLOST which goes to the Board of Education).

Mr. Wood said this is proposed for a four month period during which the state is waiving the two per cent state sales tax and that will be for consumption from January thru April, but on the February thru April bills.

Councilman Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Blich to approve the recommendation to authorize a credit for all residential natural gas customers for the amount of the state and local sales taxes (5%) not waived by the State's recent waiver of the other 2%, to be effective for the same time period as the State's recent waiver of the other 2%.

Mayor Hatcher said everyone is aware of the natural gas prices we currently have and never expected it to go to this extent, but our margin is no different since it is based on the units. He realizes this is not a large reduction, but all we can do.

Councilmen Blich , Britt, Morris and Lewis approved the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDY DATED JANUARY, 2006, BY AHMANN BOYETTE AND TO APPROVE THE INCENTIVES POLICY**

City Manager George Wood referred to the copy of a study and resolution from the Development Authority of Bulloch County which approves in principal the study by Ahmann Boyette. He recommended the adoption of the incentives policy to attract new industry. He said the press was invited to a series of meetings to discuss the study. Its main purpose is to produce a more formal policy on when the Development Authority will be authorized to use incentives for the attraction of major industries.

He said this study is not just for new industry, but existing industry that wants to expand within Bulloch County. He participated in the study and thinks it is a good program for Bulloch County. He said most counties do not like to give incentives to get large industry, but because we are in a competitive situation with other counties, we must have some sort of incentives policy. If not, we can not compete with other location that will be doing it.

Mr. Wood emphasized if the city does this, the rule of thumb is generally to off set the amount of taxes they would pay and also the amount of payroll turned within the local economy and increase the quality of life for our people. Mr. Wood stated no one really wants to give these, but other communities in Georgia and the United States use them, so if we do not have a policy it says we do not want any more manufacturing jobs in Bulloch County. Mr. Wood said the City and the Development Authority recommends this and it goes to the County Commission on February 21, 2006.

Councilman Blich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Morris to approve the Economic Development Study by Ahmann Boyette and the incentives policy. Councilman Blich stated the communities around us are beginning to use incentive policies. Manufacturing companies are looking for these incentives, quality of life, schools, etc. and he thinks our only choice is to participate with them.

Councilman Blich, Britt, Lewis, and Morris voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

**MOTION TO APPROVE A CHANGE IN THE WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE TO CHANGE FROM A \$1,000 DEDUCTIBLE TO A \$50,000 DEDUCTABLE PER INCIDENT, RESULTING IN A \$120,000 SAVINGS AFTER A RESERVATION FOR ESTIMATED OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES.**

City Manager George Wood referred to the memo from GMA concerning the Workers Compensation Premium and Deductibles stating one reason for the increase in the insurance premiums is because the State phased out of the SITF, which helps reimburse the employer for claims. Mr. Wood stated the City has considered self-insuring, like our medical and dental insurance. The advantage is if there are savings on

a good year, the savings will stay in the City Treasure as a cushion against a bad claims year.

Director of Finance and Administration Judy McCorkle talked to the City of Valdosta who has had great result with self funding worker's compensation to the point they are now fully funded. Each year they transfer their savings over to the General Fund.

Mr. Wood recommends going from a \$1,000 per incident deductible to a \$50,000 per incident deductible. This will get the premium down from \$340,000 to \$98,000., and set aside remainder of money for claims. He stated after reviewing claims over the last seven years, the average is \$78,000 in claim loses. The new premium would be \$98,000, instead of \$340,000. This saves \$242,000, and sets aside \$78,000 for anticipated claims (for an average year). The total cost would be \$176,000, rounded off to \$180,000, versus the \$340,000 this is a savings of \$160,000 for the City. We budgeted \$300,000; therefore the \$180,000 cost would be a \$120,000 reduction from the budgeted amount. Mr. Wood said naturally the first year we may spend a more than the \$80,000, but the claim experience claim has bee -0- or under \$25,000. Several years like this and we could build reserve.

Mr. Wood proposed to change the name of the Health Insurance Fund to the Benefits Insurance Fund, and would account for the health insurance and the workers compensation insurance in this fund.

Councilman Blich, seconded by Councilman Morris voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote. Councilman Britt asked what could be the downfall to this. Mr. Wood replied as with any new thing you can have a bad year on the front end, so you put the extra in the Insurance Fund to help offset it.

Mayor Hatcher asked for a motion to change the name from the Health Insurance Fund to the Benefits Insurance Fund.

Councilman Blich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Morris to change the name of the Health Insurance Fund to the Benefit Insurance Fund. Councilmen Blich, Britt, Lewis and Morris voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #2006-02: A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE SECOND BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2006 BUDGET**

City Manager George Wood stated the primary purpose of this amendment is to make changes in the Workers Compensation Fund and there need to be more money put into the Arts Center. This amendment also includes the Federal Transportation Enhancement Grant through the Department of Transportation.

Councilman Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Britt to approve Resolution #2006-02, to adopt the Second Budget Amendment to the FY 2006 Budget. Councilmen Britt, Blich, Lewis and Morris voted in favor of the motion. The motion

carried by a 4-0 vote. Councilman Blich asked wasn't the overall change \$2400. Mr. Wood replied yes.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **CITY MANAGER-FEBRUARY INTERIM POLICE CHIEF**

City Manager George Wood introduced Larry Colbert as one of the shift captains applying for the Chiefs position. He will serve as Interim Chief for the month of February, 2006.

### **CITY ENGINEER**

City Engineer Maz Elhaj asked if the road west of Lowe's could be named. When Lowe's constructed their hardware store they also built this road. This road is in between Hwy 80 and Brannen Street. Mr. Bernard Olliff owned the right-of-way but he decided to deed the road and the right of way to the City approximately five years ago. Since we are in the process of installing road signs on Brannen Street, we also would like to install a street name sign on this unnamed street.

Councilman Britt asked if it could be named for Mr. Olliff. Councilman Morris made a motion to name it Bernard Olliff Street since we already have an Olliff Street. City Manager George Wood stated it can be done at the next meeting. Mayor Hatcher said it could be taken under advisement and discussed at the next meeting

Councilman Blich asked when you come to the bypass can you make a left turn if you are coming from the opposite direction. Mr. Wood said no, only onto Commercial Drive. Because it is so close, the only way the Department of Transportation would approve it is by making the intersection with Brannen Street a "right in/right out" only. Mr. Wood stated it was designed for the traffic coming in and out of the shopping area are Lowe's and Applebee's. This way you can come down and take a light.

Councilman Britt asked doesn't one business face the road. Mr. Elhaj said yes, but it was not addressed to that road. Mr. Wood stated it does need a name. Then, in case of fire, you can tell them what street to come in.

Mr. Wood shared a Thank You note from the Oertly family from Savannah complimenting the Police Department for the reverence shown in the funeral procession for their mother by their white gloves, hats and standing at attention.

Mr. Wood said the City received a letter from Vernon Martin, Director of RDC, stating Statesboro has a vacancy on the Historical Preservation Board. He said Dr. Presley and Dr. Brent Thorpe have served previously. A citizen, not staff person is preferred, if possible.

### **PLANNING DIRECTOR-DOWNTOWN STREETScape, PHASE 2**

Planning Director Jim Shaw stated we have been notified that we will receive funding in the amount of \$300,000 for the Downtown Streetscape Project on West Main

Street . We had asked for \$500,000, but this was a very competitive year. He says we are very fortunate to receive this amount.

Councilman Britt said he that Bulloch County had received \$850,000 in grants. Mr. Shaw said that is correct.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilman Morris stated the Alcohol Ordinance should be discussed again. He has had people in his district, the city and downtown area approach him concerning the new in the ordinance. He had a meeting with a gentleman the previous night and the man said he has had two opportunities to sell his restaurant/bar. After the potential buyers realized there was no Happy Hour, they declined the offer. Councilman Morris said we want to help people, not hurt them. It's not justice to those that have followed the rules and regulations.

He proposed two changes; a) from one drink to two at one time and not change the 50/50 ratio; and b) restaurants with bars and no prior violations in the last twelve month, be allowed Happy Hour from 5:00-7:00.

Councilman Blich said he also has had citizens to approach him and these were the most prevalent things mentioned. It would relieve some of the dissatisfaction especially for a man to be able to buy his wife a drink as this was originally approved by the Alcohol Board.

Councilman Lewis, a member of the Alcohol Control Board, stated twelve months was not recommended by the Board.

Councilman Blich agreed with Councilman Morris on the change from one drink to two at one time; change Happy Hour to 5:00-7:00 with no violations, keeping the 50/50 ratio with alcohol and food; and under 55% subject to full audit. If they have a violation, it will be twelve months before they can have Happy Hour again.

Councilman Morris stated twelve consecutive months with a clean record.

Mr. Wood recommended a recess so he and City Attorney Sam Brannen could work up the amendment to make these changes.

Councilman Blich recommending finalizing the first reading after the recess.

## **RECESS**

Councilman Blich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Morris to take a recess. Councilmen Lewis, Morris, Britt and Blich voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed by a 4-0 vote.

## **RECONVENED**

A regular meeting of the City Council was reconvened a recess to develop an amendment to the Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance. Present were Mayor William Hatcher, Council members John Morris, Gary Lewis, Will Britt and Tommy Blitch. Absent was Councilman Joe Brannen. Also present were City Manager George Wood, City Attorney Sam Brannen, Director of Finance and Administration Judy McCorkle.

City Manager George Wood referred to Ordinance # 2005-13. He stated this is what the Alcohol Control Board proposed. Some of it was adopted. Ordinance #2006-1 would amend section 6-166(b)(2) to allow two drinks, instead of one, to be delivered to one person at a time. This would also amend section 6-166(b)(3) to provide for a happy hour from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm if five conditions were met including the establishment could not have had any violations within the previous twelve months.

Councilman Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Blitch to adopt Ordinance 2006-1 amending the Alcohol Beverage Ordinance.

Councilman Britt asked Mr. Wood if an employer hired an employee would the proprietor be guilty if the employee had a noise violation for their personal car. Mr. Wood stated they could come before the Alcohol Control Board and the board would decide if it was legitimate or not. Mr. Wood asked City Attorney Sam Brannen for confirmation and Mr. Brannen said yes. Councilman Morris said each case could be taken to the Alcohol Control Board on a case by case basis.

Councilman Britt stated going from one drink to two drinks per person was a good move and the actual intent of the ordinance was to control binge drinking and underage sales of alcohol. He is not in agreement with the happy hour from 5:00-7:00 because this is not the busiest time. However, he will vote for it since we are going in the right direction.

Councilman Morris stated he thought the purpose of the twelve months was to put more responsibility on the owner to run a clean establishment. If they want privileges they must abide by the law. Councilman Lewis asked if it starts tomorrow. Mr. Wood said they must have a clean record for the previous twelve months. Councilman Morris asked if someone had a violation three months ago, would it be nine months before they can apply and would it be retro back to the last offense. Mr. Wood said yes.

Councilman Morris, Blitch, Lewis and Blitch voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Being of no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

