

MAYOR
Robert Bridges

CITY ADMINISTRATOR
Mai Chang

CITY CLERK
Kay Fortney

City of Statham

P.O. Box 28, 327 Jefferson Street
Statham, Georgia 30666
(770) 725-5455 • Fax (770) 725-0202
www.cityofstatham.com

CITY COUNCIL
Perry Barton
Hattie Thrasher

Dwight McCormic
Betty Lyle

MINUTES COUNCIL MEETING August 20, 2019 7:00 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Bridges at 7:00 p.m.

Members present were Mayor Robert Bridges, Vice Mayor Perry Barton, Council Members present were Betty Lyle, Dwight McCormic and Hattie Thrasher. Also, in attendance was City Administrator Mai Chang, City Clerk Kay Fortney, Public Works Director, Sam Powell, Interim Water Director Jordan McDaniel, Chief Allan Johnston, and City Attorney Thomas Mitchell. Media was represented by Ron Bridgeman of the Barrow Journal News.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING, JULY 11, 2019

Betty Lyle made a motion to approve the minutes from July 11, 2019 Special Called Council meeting as written. Hattie Thrasher seconded, 4/4.

2. COUNCIL MEETING, July 16, 2019

Perry Barton made a motion to approve the minutes from July 16, 2019. Betty Lyle seconded, 4/4.

C. PUBLIC HEARING: HOME RULE AMENDMENT-PLANNER DIRECTOR: Went into Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m.

1. Home Rule Amendment: Planner Director

Questions ask by Citizens about what Planner Director does. Answers given by Council responded.

Public Hearing ended at 7:05p.m.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2nd Reading of Pawn Shop Zoning Ordinance

Perry Barton made motion to approve Pawn Shop Zoning Ordinance. Dwight McCormic seconded, 4/4.

2. 2nd Reading of Massage Parlor Zoning Ordinance

Perry Barton made motion to approve Massage Parlor Zoning Ordinance. Betty Lyle seconded, 4/4.

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3. 2nd Reading of Home Rule Amendment- Planning Director

Betty Lyle made motion to table 2nd Reading of Home Rule Amendment. Hattie Thrasher seconded, 4/4.

4. 2nd Reading of City Department Ordinance

Discussion between Council and Citizens. Perry Barton made motion to approve 2nd Reading of City Department Ordinance. Dwight McCormic seconded. Betty Lyle & Hattie thrasher abstained. Mayor voted and broke the tie. Motion approved, 3/2.

5. Proposed FY20 Budget

Betty Lyle made motion to approve FY20 budget with 3% across the board raise. Perry Barton Perry Barton seconded, 4/4.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Code Enforcement/Bureau Veritas/Police Dept.- Dwight McCormic

Dwight McCormic stated his opinion about the Mayor putting employment ad for CE & PO in the paper. Mayor was within his rights, but Dwight McCormic felt that since Council had already voted down replacing Bureau Veritas, he felt the Mayor had let down the citizens of Statham. Mayor responded by saying we would keep Bureau Veritas until Council changed it.

2. Jackson County Inmate Work Detail

Comparison between inmate program we have now and Jackson County Inmate Program. Perry Barton made motion to approve. No second was given. No vote taken. Motion failed.

3. RFP for Audit Services

Council went over the cost again in comparison with the two companies, Bates & Carter and Rushton. Dwight McCormic made a motion to accept Bates & Carter for the FY2017 audit. Betty seconded, 4/4.

4. Options on Purchasing Wholesale Water

Mai Chang spoke about the cost we are paying for Barrow County Water. She ask for a motion from Council to authorize the Mayor to authorize City Hall staff to start negotiating for lower water prices. Hattie Thrasher made a motion to approve. Betty Lyle seconded, 4/4.

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5. 1st Reading of Small Cell Ordinance-Permitting Department

City Attorney Thomas Mitchell spoke briefly about this ordinance and then recommended Council to waive 1st reading. Perry Barton made motion to waive 1st reading of Small Cell Ordinance. Betty Lyle seconded, 4/4.

6. Easement

City Attorney Thomas Mitchell spoke about how the sewer system goes across Ms. Lyle's yard on Second Street, because back in the 1960's & 1970's that's the way it was done. It was designed by, approved by and maintained by the City of Statham. Ms. Lyle decided the right thing to do is to signed that sewer easement to the city. Perry Barton made a motion to approve easement. Dwight McCormic seconded. Motion passed, 3/1. Betty Lyle abstained.

7. Resolution for Special Called Election

City Attorney Thomas Mitchell spoke about Mr. Jackson's resignation and the Special Election that is to take place at the same time as the General Election to filled the remainder of his term, which is two years. Perry Barton made motion to approve. Betty Lyle seconded, 4/4.

F. CITIZENS CONCERNS:

1. Joe Piper- Code Enforcement/Citizens Trust

Mr. Piper just thanked the Mayor for making what he felt was the right decision to keep the Code Enforcement we already have.

2. Catherine Corkren- Public Corruption

Ms. Corkren spoke about the demands Ms. Lyle has put on the city to replace faulty sewer line on Ms. Lyles property. Ms. Lyle responded to let her know she did not demand city to do the work. She explained that the sewer line was there before she ever moved into the house (work done by city in 1960's). She explained it is not a service line, it is a collection line.

3. Michael Gentry of Ashley Meadows HOA- Water Quality Concerns

He is concerned that the water smells bad. He ask Jordan McDaniel a few questions about the testing of the water and if parts had been replaced and if we are compliant now. Jordan answered all his questions and Perry Barton explained why he had the smell from time to time having to do with the resevoir being on 6' deep and the challenges to keep from not having the odor.

G. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No executive session needed.

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H. ADJOURN:

Dwight McCormic made motion to adjourn meeting with no further business. Hattie Thrasher seconded, 4/4.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.