

**COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2020
7:00 P. M.**

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular business meeting of the City of Statham City Council was called to order by Mayor Joe Piper at 7:00 p.m.

Members present were Mayor Joe Piper and Council Members Tammy Crawley, Betty Lyle, Dwight McCormic, Hattie Thrasher, and Gary Venable. Also in attendance was City Attorney Thomas Mitchell, City Clerk Susan Gabriel, Public Works Director Sam Powell, and Ron Bridgeman from the Barrow News-Journal.

Mayor Piper opened the meeting with the Pledge to the flag of the United States of America.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**WORK SESSION MINUTES – JANUARY 16, 2020
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 21, 2020
WORK SESSION MINUTES – FEBRUARY 13, 2020**

Gary Venable said a correction should be made to the January 21, 2020 council meeting minutes. The item Meeting Structure under Citizens Concerns listed the vote as 3-3 instead of 3-2. Dwight McCormic made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Gary Venable seconded the motion, unanimous.

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. EDMUND NELSON – ROLL OUT BAR FOR BEER & WINE

Mr. Nelson was not in attendance. Mayor Piper said Mr. Nelson was told at the last meeting to go ahead and apply for the beer and wine license.

2. GARY VENABLE/MAYOR PIPER – MEETING STRUCTURE

Mayor Piper said he would like to move the work sessions from the second Thursday to the first Thursday of every month (or two weeks before the council meeting). This would give everyone more time between meetings to prepare for the council meeting. The council meeting would continue to be the third Tuesday of the month. City Attorney Thomas Mitchell read the new dates for the work sessions into the minutes and asked City Clerk Susan Gabriel to publish the dates on the city website. The time of the work session would still begin at 6:30 p.m., and the council meeting would still begin at 7:00 p.m. Gary Venable made a motion to change the dates of the work sessions and keep council meetings the third Tuesday of the month. Tammy Crawley seconded the motion. The vote was 3-2, motion carried.

3. GARY VENABLE/TAMMY CRAWLEY – CITY BUILDINGS & PROPERTIES

Gary Venable said the meeting with the public will be on March 9, and he would like to wait until the April 9, 2020 work session for his part of this discussion. Tammy Crawley discussed the house at 1921 Broad Street and said the city should sell the house. Discussion followed.

Tammy Crawley made a motion to immediately advertise, get appraisal, and auctioneer to sell the house. Dwight McCormic seconded the motion, unanimous.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. GARY VENABLE – SIDEWALKS & BUDGET WORKSHOPS

Councilman Venable said sidewalks in the city are crumbling. He asked that everyone let Sam Powell know where there are sidewalks that need to be repaired.

Budget workshops were discussed. It was decided to have a special called meeting on March 30, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. for the first budget workshop. The meeting will be held at city hall.

2. CHIEF UNDERWOOD – POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Chief Ira Underwood thanked everyone who attended the meet and greet. He reported that he is working on several things to move the department forward.

E. CITIZENS CONCERNS:

1. KURT BOGENRIEDER: NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE/INITIATION NEIGHBORHOOD ALERT

Mr. Bogenrieder resides at 1969 Broad Street. He said there have been recent thefts on Broad Street. Also he has a personal history with a neighbor on Broad Street who has a record of animal cruelty. Mr. Bogenrieder said he would like to see a neighborhood watch started, and he said he would volunteer to serve on the committee. Discussion followed.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no executive session.

G. ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the Council, Dwight McCormic made a motion to adjourn. Gary Venable seconded the motion, unanimous.

The meeting of the City of Statham City Council adjourned at 8:10 p.m.