

City of White, GA  
City Council Meeting  
Dec 2, 2019

Present at the meeting were Mayor Kim Billue, Councilmember Dennis Huskins, Councilmember Tina Wilhite, Councilmember Ryan Evans, Councilmember Charles Buttrum, City Attorney Leslie Simmons and City Clerk Robin Deal.

The meeting was called to order by our Mayor Billue at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Dennis Huskins opened the meeting with an invocation. Mayor Billue lead us in the saying of the pledge.

The minutes from the meeting of Nov 4th were read. Councilmember Wilhite made the motion to approve the minutes and Councilmember Evans seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Robin Deal reported on City Hall. She stated there was one annexation request from a property owner that thought they had been annexed in 1987. The property is owned by Bobby Lowery and made up of two parcels where his business is located on Industrial Drive. 32.61 acres with most of the property being zoned agricultural except for the part with his business on it which is zoned industrial. Councilmember Huskins made a motion to approve the annexation of the 32.61 acres owned by Bobby Lowery. Councilmember Buttrum seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote. Deal continued with information from the Mayor concerning some reserve accounts connected to the City of White Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds from 2014. Deal said that the monies needed to be deposited into these accounts in order to be USDA compliant. Monies should have been deposited every year since 2014. Deal stated that \$26,163 must be transferred into the Reserve Fund and \$41,789 must be transferred into the Short-Lived Fund. Deal reported the funds will be transferred from the Water/Sewer Fund. City Attorney Leslie Simmons asked questions concerning the remaining balances. Deal stated herself it had been several years since any funds were transferred. Councilmember Huskins asked the question about past auditors missing this as well. Deal stated apparently and that our current auditors found it. Councilmember Huskins made a motion to move the funds to the reserve funds to make the accounts in compliance. Councilmember Evans seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Deal continued her report with a resolution certifying the results of the 2019 General Election. She read the resolution aloud stating Gary Crisp got 66 votes, Charles Buttrum got 84 votes and Ryan Evans got 73 votes. Deal said in the Mayor race Kim Billue received 74 votes and David King received 53 votes. Deal stated that Charles Buttrum and Ryan Evans are the winners and will remain on the council. Deal also stated that Kim Dupree was reelected Mayor. Councilmember Wilhite made a motion to accept the results of the election. Councilmember Huskins seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Deal continued her report with the swearing in of our reelected councilmembers Ryan Evans and Charles Buttrum. She followed with the swearing in of our reelected mayor, Kim Billue. Deal presented the 2020 Budget with one correction due to a 4.5% increase in the cost from the City of Cartersville in their treatment of sewage. Councilmember Wilhite made a motion to approve the 2020 Budget. Councilmember Huskins seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote. Deal presented the 2019 Budget Amendments for approval with the following explanations: Mayors salary, required training, audit costs, full staff, equipment due to additional staff, increased animal control contract, demolition of house at 30 School St, maintenance of vehicles, increase in electric bills, increase in sewage treatment from the City of Cartersville in 2019 and continued water leaks. Councilmember Huskins made a motion to approve the 2019 Budget Amendments. Councilmember Wilhite seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Deal wrapped up her report with a review of the proposal for a local company to install a billboard at the intersection of Richards Rd/Oak St/Stamp Creek across from the First Baptist Church. Councilmember Wilhite stated she thinks its dangerous intersection to have a billboard. Councilmember Huskins stated that the billboard at Nutter's met the standards and we must make sure this request meets them. City Attorney Leslie Simmons said we would get together and review the paperwork submitted concerning the billboard to make sure this application was compliant.

Jimmy Nichols gave the report for the water department. He stated that all the main line water leaks are fixed with only a few small ones remaining. He stated his staff took care of the playground removing any unsafe equipment and cleaned up the area. Nichols stated we had a broken fire hydrant around 66 Richards Rd that has been repaired as of last week. Nichols reported we got one new sewer customer since our last meeting. Jimmy said that the city had used 2,955,000 gallons of water in the month of October.

Billy Baker reported that one year ago we purchased the garbage truck. We are moving between 6700-7000 pounds of garbage a week. Baker stated that the city would put a dumpster at city hall for the Christmas overflow garbage. Baker continued his report stating that the city needs a qualified building inspector due to the tremendous amount of liability. He said the inspector must be a member of International Association of Building Inspectors and be certified through them through training. He stated some of the building codes to be familiar with are electrical, plumbing, building residential, building commercial, high voltage, low voltage, intermediate voltage, fire safety codes, life safety codes plus the state and federal soil/erosion rules and regulations and land disturbance permits. Baker stated the inspector must continue their education points and requirements and maintain their certification in each one of these fields.

Baker continued with a report on our local paving program for 2020. He stated we are looking at a \$13-\$14000 project. Last year he stated we used the funds to pave Oak St. Baker stated we are going to try again this year to get the county to help us with the paving of Old Tennessee Hwy by helping us with the labor. Baker stated we would cover

the costs of material which should run the city about \$30-\$40000. Baker reported on Richard Rd drainage project. He said the city finally has a set of preliminary drawings. Baker stated the drainage is the big issue and we will have to have a drainage basin area. He continued by saying the city will purchase a piece of equipment for the backhoe that will help clear out some of the area and save the city about \$30000. Councilmember Huskins asked a question about the piping for the project and could we not purchase it from someone else cheaper. Baker stated it's 3/8" steel pipe and that the boring will be put out for competitive bid and all the specs will be included. Baker said we wanted to keep the work under one umbrella to ensure a smooth project.

Chief Barnes reported on the police department. He stated the month had been busy with 156 case numbers, 1038 case number for the year compared to 600 for last year. The department issued 22 citation for December and for the year 319. Barnes stated the department will be participating in Shop with a Hero on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. Each kid gets \$150 to spend, \$100 on clothes and \$50 on anything. Barnes stated that a non-profit organization sold ads to make a calendar for the Police Department. The funds will be spent on equipment maybe for part-time officers. Chief stated the loud music seems to be better. He had spoken to the home owner and stated what a nuisance it had become.

Mayor Kim Billue reminded everyone about Cookies with Santa on Dec 14<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 and the White Christmas Dinner from 6-830 on the same day.

Mayor Billue continued the meeting by asking the council if they had time to review the proposal on the turn for the playground. Councilmember Huskins stated he knew it was time to do some improvements. He was not sure we should spend the money for the artificial turn. Huskins stated that falling should not be a problem and he was not worried about a lawsuit. He said just put up a sign play stating play at your own risk. Huskins stated it is time to upgrade the equipment but not to spend a lot of money on the turf. Huskins also stated that we need the safest playground area have grass and we don't need to use all that money on turf. Instead let's use it towards the playground equipment. Councilmember Evans said that the turf would be low maintenance. Councilmember Huskins stated again that the turf would be destroyed by the dogs. He continued by stating that sand would be less expensive. Huskins suggested we could have a work day to maintain the upkeep of the sand and playground equipment.

Mayor Billue presented the council with an idea to make money off the acreage. She asked the council to approve getting bids on the timber to see if it would be worth our while to pursue. Councilmember Buttrum asked if she had contacted anybody. Billue responded that was what she was asking permission to do. Councilmember Evans said it was worth looking into to see if we could make some money. He stated too there would be replanting. Huskins stated too that it would be worth looking into. Billue stated that if it was not going to be enough money we would just hold out till we got ready to use the land.

Councilmember Huskins addressed the council asking to have a community meeting during the winter months. He stated the citizens are asking lots of questions and we

need to start the ball rolling with better communication. Huskins stated we need to get together in Jan/Feb and have a meeting.

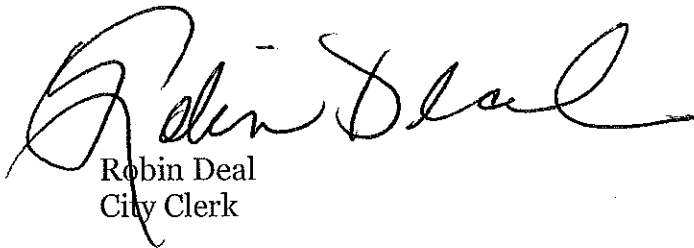
Citizen Ricky Rogers asked to address the council regarding the recent burglaries in the city. He wanted to know the plan to get this stopped. Chief Barnes stated this person is a juvenile and their court handles things differently. He stated they are doing all they can to make an arrest. Many citizens and councilmembers joined in on this conversation. City Attorney Leslie Simmons stated the citizens could write the judge a letter explaining their side of the situation and what action they want taken.

Citizen William Watkins asked to address the council. He stated he has helped the previous administration and is helping the current one as well doing anything he can. Watkins continued by stating he was doing work at his church and that they have permits. He said if anyone has any questions please stop by and he would be glad to show them.

Councilmember Dennis Huskins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Tina Wilhite seconded the motion. Motion passed with a 4-0-0 vote.

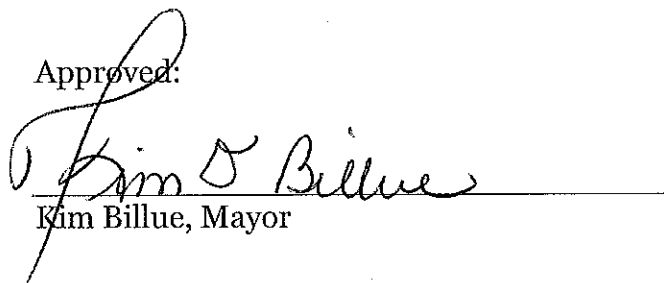
The meeting ended at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Deal  
City Clerk

Approved:



Kim Billue, Mayor