

City of White, GA
City Council Meeting
Aug. 5, 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 July 1 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.

Mayor Billue called on the Chatham's as they asked to address the council about putting a temporary camper on their property after a recent fire destroyed their home. Councilmember Buttrum asked what the address was and when did this happen. Mr. Chatham replied 34 Oak Street Lot 36 and Sunday night. Councilmember Huskins stated that council had just granted a similar request for the Ashe Family and stated whatever guidelines we used for them we can do the same thing here. Councilmember Evans made a motion that the Chatham's could put a camper on their property for up to a year while waiting on the insurance company. Councilmember Buttrum seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Reports were given by Jimmy Nichols, Chief Barnes, Robin Deal, and Billy Baker.

Jimmy Nichols spoke on behalf of the water department. Mr. Nichols reported on the recent rash of water leaks. He stated the City has 3-4 miles of the old galvanized line that has been in the ground for about 60 years and we need to get that replaced. Nichols continued by saying most of the service lines are poly and they are worn out, popping every day. Nichols stated we need to look into getting the money from somewhere. We started that process today getting some numbers together. Nichols stated we have approximately 4 miles of water line that need to be replaced. Councilmember Buttrum asked if Kirkpatrick fixed that leak out E Rocky Street? Nichols stated yes that's the one that's give us so much trouble. It was a service line that was just wore out. Nichols stated they were going to put in a new service line and went to pulling and it would not pull. They tried both sides, neither would pull. The line broke so they had to get the boring machine so they could bore under the pavement. Nichols stated that it kept caving in. It took them about 2 days for them to get it so they could get a new water line in. Nichols stated the distance was not far from the main to the meter. Councilmember Buttrum asked what the costs was? Nichols stated he didn't know. Buttrum asked Mayor Billue and she stated Robin will know. City Clerk Robin Deal stated the costs was between 2-3 thousand dollars. Nichols stated that's why we need to start working on

these water lines. Jimmy continued with other items that are worn out: backhoe/tractor (leaking hoses) we have had it about 14 years, the pickup that I drive is worn out, the mower (which was mentioned at an earlier meeting) we are going to have to see about getting another mower, and the sewage pumps at the lift stations need to be serviced. Nichols stated that Billy Baker will give more information on how much replacing the water lines will cost. It's going to be high; but we've got Kirkpatrick working on a rough estimate. They are supposed to get back to us in a few days. Councilmember Huskins stated a name to add to the bid list would be Terry Lanning. Huskins stated he would be really competitive and put his name in there for handling situations that we can't handle. Huskins stated they don't rip you off and they are good people. Huskins told Nichols he would get him their information later. Nichols stated we would start getting some prices. Councilmember Buttrum asked Nichols again about getting a price on a mower. Buttrum stated its cheaper to get a new mower than to keep repairing the old one. Buttrum stated too it would be a better investment as much as you have to use one.

Chief Barnes reported on the Police Dept. stating that they had a good month. Barnes stated they had 131 calls for service, (up 40 calls from last month) wrote 35 citations last month and made 3 or 4 arrests. Chief stated they had about 17 investigations going on. He stated he had promoted Cordell to Sgt so that he could help get the cases taken care of. Barnes stated they were gearing up for the 100th celebration. He stated they were excited about being a part of it. Chief reported he has reached out to the GOHS about hosting a road check similar to what we had last year. Several agencies from the North Georgia area and do a road check in October. Chief stated that the grant that was given by Toyo Tire was used to cover the equipment they needed. All of it should be here in 6-8 weeks as the vests had to be custom made. Chief stated his department would be putting out flyers/newsletter once a month or quarterly trying to get information out to the citizens. Making them aware of issues and what we can do for them. Chief stated we have been having some car issues this last month. One of the cars had a front axel replaced, one of the cars had to have a fuel pump and some other services done on them. Chief said we are at the point where we need to start looking at replacing them with new cars. He stated we are just going to keep going over our budget with repairs until we replace them. In the next few months if we don't do something it might start effecting the services provided and we certainly don't want that. Chief stated we had been looking at our camera system because we have been having some issues with some vandalism with some kids and stuff. We're at the point where we need to upgrade the camera system around city hall. Councilmember Huskins asked if this guy over here is doing the repairs now? Chief stated we are still using a place in Cartersville that is insured. He continued by stating it was the cheapest place he could find. Chief stated that the two chargers (80,000 miles and the other 50,000) were not kept up on their maintenance. So, we are fixing a thing or two here and then something else breaks.

Robin Deal reported on City Hall. Deal stated that a couple of weeks ago the air conditioning was not working at City Hall. Mike Jones Heating and Air gave a quote of \$5672 to fix the main unit that effects our offices during the day. It is for a single-phase heat pump, 5 year warranty, 10 kw strip heater, one 5 ton heat pump and it will be connected to the existing ductwork. Mayor Billue asked if this was for just one unit and

Deal replied yes. Mayor Billue then asked how many units are there and Deal stated 6 units. They are all in band-aid shape. This is not the first time we have had to call them to come and take care of the unit because of the frost build up on the unit. Deal stated this is the one in the worst shape and we need to see what we can do about getting it fixed. Councilmember Buttrum asked again for the amount to replace the unit. Deal stated \$5672. Buttrum asked if this was the only bid and Deal stated it was the only one so far. Deal stated she would get with a couple of other companies and get quotes as well. Deal reported that it was time to talk about this year's millage rate. She stated that we don't have city taxes in the City of White, but we are still required to set a rate. The Mayor and I had a conversation and we are going to set the millage rate and 3.0 and roll it back 3.0 which means the millage rate will be zero. Councilmember Buttrum made a motion to approve the millage rate. Councilmember Evans seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Deal continued with a request to repeal the resolution on the annexation moratorium. She stated that the recent annexations passed by the council were not affected by the moratorium as these properties were not properly annexed the first time. Deal presented the resolution to the council to repeal the moratorium. She stated so that anybody now new that wanted to annexed can be annexed into the city. Councilmember Evans made the motion to accept the resolution. Councilmember Buttrum seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Deal stated that the audit is still ongoing and the auditor and there almost finished. Unfortunately, during the audit, they uncovered a bill that was not paid from 2016. It is a retainage that was put up on a contract from T. J. Lyle Company. The company moved a waterline. Deal continued by stating that relocated a six-inch water line. The whole contract was for \$44570.00 and 10% of that should have been held back. Deal stated after a 30-day period the city should have paid the 10% which is \$4457.00. The auditor and T. J. Lyle would like us to clear this up. Deal noted the funds will come from the water fund as it was a water project. Councilmember Huskins asked if Jimmy Dean remembered that and Deal responded with yes, he did remember that. Deal stated that Jimmy remembers a relocating of the water line. Councilmember Huskins stated you got to pay your bills to which Deal replied I know you do. Deal went on to say that she was sorry, but this is what happens when you do an audit; they find things that are great and things that are not so great. Councilmember Huskins asked if we had an inherited mess loan anywhere in there. Deal stated that she had not found one yet. She stated that these people have been pretty patient in not asking for this money. Deal asked for permission from the council to tell her that is was okay to pay the retainage. Councilmember Evans made a motion to pay the bill. Councilmember Huskins seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Billy Baker stated he wanted to elaborate on what Jimmy Nichols had talked about earlier with the water lines. Baker stated it took two days to look at and measuring water lines. Baker stated Richards Rd, Hendrix Rd, Whispering Pine Subdivision, Old Tennessee Hwy (North and South), Cass White all of these have galvanized pipe 2" in size is where we got a lot of problems. Baker stated the total footage that we measured out 19,188 ft and we got another 1,000 to add to is. That involves 180 services

(residential houses is some of it). Baker noted it is a lot of water line. It's strapped and its giving trouble. Richards Rd has had two in the last thirty days. Baker stated that E Rocky is full of wet spots, you can see them in the road. The subdivision is the same way. Baker said there had been two or three already and there were two there now. Baker said the main is plastic PVC. He stated that about two years ago we had a main that bust because of a pine tree root kept pushing against it and it bowed out. All these lines are old and giving us trouble. Baker stated we are paying out for repairs we can fix a lot of this stuff. We are going to request and require all ductile iron pipe and copper service lines with brass fittings. Baker stated that's the standard that everybody uses. Very few people use plastic or polyurethane in their service lines. We are working on getting some rough estimates. Baker stated we need a general idea of what this total project was going to be. 16ths ductile iron pipe today it was \$12 and some odd cents per foot. In about 30 days it will be over \$13 per foot. You take that kind of money and take it times 19,000 feet and you got some big bucks. Baker said we would be looking at grants and low interest loans to help alleviate some of these water line breaks.

Baker continued with an update on Richards Rd. He stated starting tomorrow morning the surveyor will be onsite. Baker said he had a meeting with him in the morning to kind of go over the project. He has all his permits and will start that phase so we can see what we have got out there. The other part Baker mentioned was about Aqua Guard and their proposal to help us on that road. Baker stated it was very positive. We have been working with them. Their solution for stabilizing the road on the vertical both sides of the road and help preserve the roads structural integrity. That is the main part of that road. Baker said their approach to stabilize the road is by drilling and injecting hydro insensitive high-density structural grade two-part polyurethane. Baker stated you all have information on this; and it shows the way they are going to do this. Baker continued by saying he sent them back some questions. He stated they are going to be drilling 4 to 8 feet deep to stabilize the road. One other thing here is the benefit of this product, stabilization of the soil and voiding, filling deep under the road surface and adjacent storm case basin in the drainpipe, restore strength to the compromised soil and provide stability for heavy surface loads, provide a solid foundation for vehicular traffic and solid sealant on the asphalt so it can be replaced if needed. Baker continued by saying the area would be prepared for area for remediation. Baker stated they can do this in a day. This is only a part of the whole project; but we have got to the surveyor will becoming tomorrow and that will be when it's completed; we will have the drainage system. The cost of this is \$38,400 and the major part of it is that it will stabilize the road and help the city with repairs. Our first estimates were to do a lot of rebuilding. If we go in there and stabilize what we've got we can knock off \$300,000-\$400,000 off this cost. Cause we are getting this road stabilized. They have used this project in Cobb County and Baker stated he had a list of other places they have used this. They are approved by the DOT. Baker stated this will help us get to the point where we can open this road and get the project moving along. We just have to wait on the survey which will be about 10 days. Then we look at the total drainage system. All of this is beginning to come together. Baker stated the Mayor saw this product when she was at GMA and she followed up on it. And it's solving a big problem. All that is left to do is work on that drainage system. Once they are done we come back and stabilize the erosion after we get the drainpipe in and we will have enough room to extend those pipes out. We will

have enough room to stabilize those banks with rip-rap. It will be a tremendous savings for the whole project. What we need to get it going to get it done is approval to go ahead and spend this money so we can get this road stabilized. Baker stated it was the right move. Councilmember Huskins asked which should they do first, if you go do boring is this going to compromise what they have done after you have spent all this money for nothing and it starts doing this and they will come back if it sinks ¼” he’s talking about in the printout they are not going to do anything but if it sinks so far how they will come back and fix it for free but how do you know the boring won’t do that? Baker stated they recommend that they go ahead first. Basically, they will be way up on the railroad property. The drainpipes, one is one railroad property and the other is just at the edge of it. And they recommend they go ahead and get this done before we do the other. We are going to be below the depth they are going to be drilling. Baker said we can let them get in there and get out. When they bore that they will be concentrating on that diameter of pipe. Huskins asked from the 8ft deep down to the actual drainage that’s not compromised, that’s all solid. Baker said this will help us a lot. Councilmember Buttrum asked if we get the road stabilized are we going to open it back up or wait till we get the drainage done. Mayor Billue responses by saying as soon as they do this you can open the road back up within 24 hours. Baker stated they recommended in their presentation that once they do this we open the road back up. Councilmember Buttrum made a motion we let them go ahead. Councilmember Huskins asked no liability for guard rails? Mayor Billue stated that’s the way it’s always been. Buttrum said well we are getting the road stabilized. Huskins stated again he thought there would be a liability because the guardrail issue came up. Baker stated it’s been like this all these years. Mayor Billue stated we didn’t want to spend a lot of money because they are going to open the overpass which should take a lot. Baker stated that the traffic will probably decrease after that. Buttrum said they closed the road but they have not gotten anything done since we closed it so we have got to do it in steps and we have got to start somewhere. First part should be to stabilize the road. Baker talking about guard rails we can work with that and see what we can do about it. Councilmember Huskins said it was a big issue when we started and if someone went off the sides and sues us and we had knowledge of it and now it would be back on us if we didn’t finish what we started it would be back on us. Huskins continued by saying he was all for the super glue and asked if Charles made the motion. Councilmember Huskins seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Baker continued his report with a safety issue. He stated that Old Tennessee from the 4 way stop out here going north and south the double yellow stripes on those roads are gone. Baker has been working trying to find someone to put in yellow stripes from Old Tennessee from city limits to city limits. Baker stated he had one proposal come back at 5600 ft at \$.40 cents per foot plus mobilization for \$3240. Baker stated he had called around to try and rent a striping machine. Baker got a recommendation from the county for Peek Paving. That’s what we got to do to stripe that road from city limits to city limits. Councilmember Buttrum made a motion to have the striping done. Councilmember Huskins seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote. Just as Baker was wrapping up his report Councilmember Buttrum asked about the 19,000 ft of pipe Baker stated that needed to be replaced and asked if it was all 2” galvanized. Baker stated part of it, the subdivision has 3200 ft in there and it’s 4” plastic. Buttrum

asked are we having trouble with it. Baker stated it was brittle. We had a pine tree that a root came down beside it and it busted out a whole section. Buttrum asked was it 2" plastic. Baker stated it's a 4 inch in the subdivision. Baker stated that everything else Richards Rd, E Rocky is new ductile lines; but the 35 service lines are polyurethane. And that stuff is pin holing. Buttrum said someone out of Jasper put those lines but they didn't replace any service lines. Baker said it's just wearing out. He stated that copper pays for itself in the long run.

Veronica Mingo gave a report on upcoming projects. She is working on the playground. Mingo stated we got a quote on some new turf to go out there. It is a pretty good estimate. She has samples to show the council. She stated that rocks would be two levels to help the drainage. Veronica stated there were 14,000 square ft that we would need to cover. The estimate total is \$94,981 just for the turf. Mingo stated some of the work we could do ourselves and that would lower the price. She stated the salesman was going to do everything he could to help us with the price. She continued by stating she was working on grants to replace the playground equipment as well. Mingo stated that we were approached by someone wanting to have a wrestling match as a fundraiser.

Veronica continued her report with information about the senior center. We need to do something with the house on Richards Rd. She has been trying to come up with donations for the senior center. She and the Mayor met with members of the board at Hickory Log and they would like to partner with us to find volunteers to do some work around there. Painting, building, floor covering whatever needs to be done. She stated the Kennesaw Transportation is sending us a donation check to help purchase some things. We will need appliances, floor work, crack in the wall fixed free of charge. We need cosmetic work done to the house. We need to purchase items to fill up the house. Mingo stated she is trying to get lots of emails out so that nothing is out of pocket for us. She changed subjects to the baseball field. We are going to try and get the baseball field in playing order again. She has a representative from Cobb Parks and Rec that has agreed to help us and he has also agreed to donate some bases, and equipment for the kids. She also recognized Mr. Barbee from Catoosa Parks and Rec did also offer to help us out. Mingo also has emails out for lighting. She stated she had connections with Georgia Power in hopes they would help us get the lights installed. She is also looking for scoreboards, bleachers, and dugouts. If you have any leads, please let he know.

Travis Barbee addressed the council. He stated that there were somethings about the playground that need to be fixed. The playground is in disrepair. It is not a commercial structure. He stated if someone is injured on it it's you guys. He stated multiple boards were missing over 8 ft tall, the surface used to be sand, and a I know you are looking at turf; but a cheaper way would be engineered wood fiber. He said that could be done for about 4-5 thousand dollars. The barriers we have now are not ADA compliant. You are missing all kinds of climbing handles. It is falling apart. Just to let you know I am here to help you guys. The county has a playground inspector that I am sure would be able to help you guys. Barbee stated he guessed there are no maintenance records for the playground. There should be a monthly check of all bolts, washers and structures. He stated he had to tear down a playground in Catoosa County similar to this. If you notice anything that's a square structure is a playable area. There are a million of those things

about playgrounds. Anywhere you have kids that run, jump and fall that's where you expose yourself. I will help you guys if you have any questions. Mr. Barbee stated that in his opinion the playground should be closed.

Mayor Billue called our special guests to address the council. First speaker was Chief Craig Millsap of the Bartow County Fire Department. Chief Millsap stated that he heard at our last meeting it was reflected there was some controversy about what our response protocols were long story short we will go around barricades. Are there any other questions? Chief continued by saying he had not found out who they had spoken too; but Brandon Duncan with Metro EMS is here tonight as well; and their policy is the same as ours. If there are residents passed it and we can access it by roadway, we would simply drive around the barricades. Chief Millsap continued by where the road is cut off we have contingency plans to be able to reach those residences by coming a different route. He stated that they were notified before the road was closed and the plan was already there the day they shut it down.

Brandon Duncan, Operation Manager for Metro Ambulance Services just like Craig said our units will proceed around those road closed signs to the addresses. We mark each one of those in our CAD System and give notification that the crews are on the way. We will access those. Councilmember Huskins stated he hates they had to be here this long.

Mayor Billue recognized our local fire department Captain. The Captain stated he has just started and would be available to answer any questions.

Stephanie Nicholson asked everyone if they knew what Saturday was. She gave a report on the festival. She went over the parade route with line up at 9 a.m. The festival starts at 10:30 and she was still looking for volunteers. Stephanie stated that she, Veronica, Robin and Kim had sent many emails asking for donations. Toyo came through with \$3000, Open Roads RV \$500, Beau Flor \$500 that gave us \$4000 to take care of Fun Services and the sound that was two of the biggest expenses we had. We have a total of \$4806 in the bank to use for the festival. We had some things we had to do like the temporary wiring just to get it to the food trucks. It is a one-time deal that will be here forever. We also purchased picnic tables that can be used over and over again. Those were the major expenses. Stephanie stated there will be a car show going on down at Southern Classic Customs. If anyone knows someone that wants to put an old car in the parade, let us know. After this is all said and done; and we purchase prizes. Keep it simple. Nicholson stated we had items to sell like the History Books, enamel pins, t-shirts and wooden nickels. We hope everything balances out. She has flyers that businesses can put up. Saturday will be fun and hot so come on out. Stephanie thanks Kim, Veronica and Robin for all their help.

Eddie Billue spoke to the council. He is married to the Mayor. He stated he wanted to end the meeting on a positive note. He read a statement to the council. On January 1, 2018 Kim Billue entered the doors of City Hall into a new and exciting challenge. The immediate challenge would be to conduct her business as Mayor being given no transitional training by the previous administration. This would be one of many challenges to overcome in the next year. I would like to go on record to say how proud I

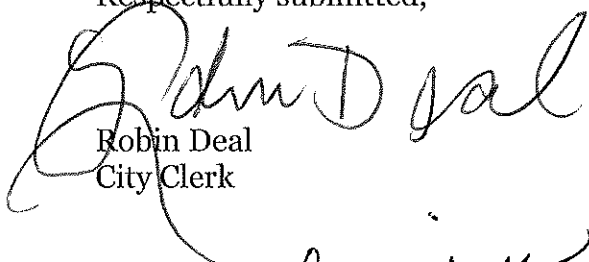
am as a citizen of White GA of our Mayor, the city council members, the city clerk, city hall staff, police department, water department, and public works. All of you have done a tremendous job and it reflects of what our city looks like. Great job everyone! Some decisions are tough and will always leave some citizens not pleased. Doing what is best for the City as a whole, is what the Mayor has strived to do and will always be her main concern. Some decisions have many factors and agencies involved. Protecting all of the cities interests and concerns is her main focus. The Mayor has goals for the future of White and works hard at meeting these goals. I ask the citizens of White to look at what has been accomplished in such a short period of time. Goals are in place and it is up to the citizens to keep the progress moving forward and in the right direction. If we would all look at what positive changes have been completed and projects that are in motion, we all can help in building the future of White, GA. Thank you Mayor and staff for your hard work, Eddie Billue.

Councilmember Ryan Evans reminded everyone about the ribbon cutting for the Clayton Collins Community Center on August 24th at noon.

Councilmember Huskins made a motion to end the meeting. Councilmember Wilhite seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

The meeting ended at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Deal
City Clerk

