

City of White, GA

City Council Meeting

May 14, 2020

Present at the meeting were Mayor Kim Billue, Councilmember Dennis Huskins, Councilmember Tina Wilhite (via telephone), 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.

Mayor Billue stated the purpose of the special called meeting is because we didn't have a quorum at the last council meeting. She stated she had reviewed the charter to see how we needed to do it and we are here to correct it.

City Clerk Robin Deal stated we had voted on three things at the last meeting; two USDA Loan/Grants and the repaving of Railroad Street. Deal stated the first one that was voted on was for the trash truck which is a loan for \$66,000 with a grant of \$35,000 at 2.375% payable over 10 years. Deal asked for a motion to accept the USDA loan. Councilmember Huskins made a motion that we accept the loan/grant. Councilmembers Buttrum and Evans both seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Deal continued with the second USDA loan/grant for the purchase of two patrol vehicles and a pickup for the water department. Deal stated the loan was for \$91,000 with a grant of \$49,000 at 2.375% payable over 5 years. Deal asked for a motion to accept the USDA loan. Councilmember Huskins made a motion that we accept the loan/grant. Councilmember Evans seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Deal stated lastly that Billy Baker presented the LMIG project for 2020 to repave Railroad Street. Baker had asked for two bids, we only got one because our project is such a short street. Baker informed the council that big contractors don't want to do the short streets. Deal said the bid we got was from Bartow Paving for \$20,069. Deal asked for a motion to accept the contract from Bartow Paving to pave Railroad Street. Councilmember Evans made the motion to pave Railroad Street. Councilmember Wilhite seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0-0 vote.

Mayor Billue stated that concluded our business and needed a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Buttrum asked a question of Mayor Billue to see if you could address a problem at our council meetings. Buttrum continued by asking if we were allowed to talk about police procedures. He stated that if you complain you get put on a hit list. Buttrum stated this is a bad way to do business. He restated facts mentioned at a previous meeting about his residence being broken into. Buttrum wants the citizens to be able to come to a meeting and voice their grievances. He stated that he had all the respect for the police department.

Mayor Billue asked Chief Barnes to address the councilmembers comments. Chief stated that if folks don't call 911 we don't know what's going on. Barnes stated he didn't know how he expected the department to act if we don't have a report. Councilmember Buttrum stated he had told him three to four times but that was after the fact. Buttrum stated he had been called out because he had made the department look bad at the meeting. Chief Barnes said that you have to call when things happen not a month after and make a report. Councilmember Huskins said that we all need to meet, talk and get our next move together. Huskins said that the negative is getting out and we need to use executive

session to air these issues. Barnes stated that Mr. Lowery made a report and the guilty party was charged/locked up. He did things the right way. Barnes continued by saying make reports, call 911, contact your legislature. Huskins stated that by making all these calls to 911 just in case something happened. Buttrum stated he tried not to bother anybody and be a respectful neighbor. Barnes continued by stating report things and make a record of what's happening.

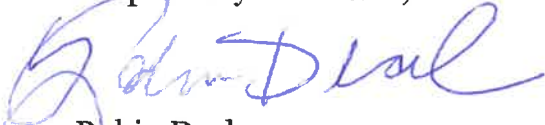
Mayor Billue stated she didn't think we had that atmosphere. She feels like folks can come to the meeting and say what's on their mind. Barnes stated he could continue to work hard on handling the complaints as they come in. He wants citizens to participate in an upcoming ride along.

Citizen William Watkins stated that it is sad to hear about all the bickering going on in our town in other places. He suggested that you try and work it out before you air it out in public.

Councilmember Buttrum made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Evans seconded the motion. Motion passed with a 4-0-0 vote.

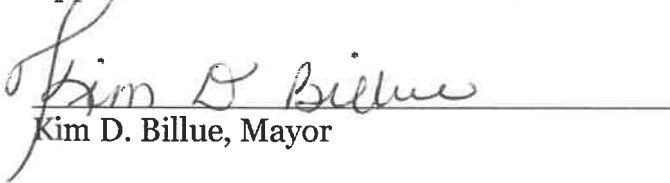
The meeting ended at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Deal
City Clerk

Approved:



Kim D. Billue, Mayor