**Council Minutes**

 **Regular Meeting**

**January 5, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Millen City Council was held on January 5, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Mayor King Rocker, Council Members Darrel Clifton, Ed Fuller, Robin Scott and Walter Thomas. Absent was Council Member Regina Coney. Also, Present were City Manager Jeff Brantley and City Attorney Hubert Reeves.

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Rocker called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

1. **Invocation**

City Attorney Reeves gave the invocation.

1. **Consent Agenda**

**Approve Minutes from December 1, 2020 Regular Council Meeting**

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2020 Regular Meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Mandy Underwood – Main Street Millen Annual Report**

Main Street Millen Director Mandy Underwood gave a summary of the programs provided in 2020 by Main Street Millen and the Downtown Development Authority. A summary of the report is attached to the minutes.

1. **Vote to Appoint Mayor Pro-Tem for 2021**

Council Member Scott made a motion, seconded by Council Member Thomas to appoint Council Member Darrel Clifton as Mayor Pro-Tem. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Vote to Appoint City Attorney for 2021 – R. Hubert Reeves III currently serving**

Council Member Thomas made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott to appoint R. Hubert Reeves III as the City Attorney for the year 2021. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Vote to Appoint City Auditor – Reddick, Riggs, Hunter & Colson PC currently serving**

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to appoint Reddick, Riggs, Hunter & Colson PC as the City’s Auditor for 2021. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Vote to Appoint Municipal Court Judge – April Stafford currently serving**

 Council Member Thomas made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to appoint April Stafford as the City Municipal Court Judge for 2021. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Vote to Appoint Municipal Court Solicitor – Duff Ayers currently serving**

Council Member Fuller made a motion, seconded by Council Member Clifton to appoint Duff Ayers as the City Municipal Court Solicitor for 2021. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Vote to Appoint Municipal Court Public Defender – Christopher Gohagan currently serving**

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott to appoint Christopher Gohagan as the City Municipal Court Public Defender. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Vote to Appoint Council Member to the Jenkins County Family Enrichment Center- Walter Thomas currently serving**

Council Member Fuller made a motion, seconded by Council member Clifton to appoint Council Member Walter Thomas to the Jenkins County Family Enrichment Center Board. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Vote to Appoint Council Member to the Jenkins County Health Department – Darrel Clifton currently serving**

Council Member Thomas made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott to appoint Council Member Darrel Clifton to the Jenkins County Health Department Board. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Vote to Appoint Member to Planning and Zoning Board 1 position for a 5-Year Term 2021-2025 – Bobbye Cobb currently serving**

Appoint to the Planning and Zoning Board was deferred until the February Council Meeting.

1. **City Manager Report**
2. **Financials**

City Manager Brantley reviewed the financials with the Mayor and Council. He informed them that the City had positive net revenues of $137,179.29 for the period ending December 2020, which is half way through the fiscal year. They were also informed that the City Auditor was almost complete with the 2020 audit and may be present at the February regular meeting to present the findings.

1. **Water Meter Project Update**

Mayor and Council were informed that the water meter project was moving along on schedule. After a meeting with Georgia Power representatives, it would be more economical for the City to contract with Georgia Power to provide the AMI reading services to the City of all Water and Gas meters. This would save the City upfront installation of reading equipment at a cost savings of $95,000.00. Also, the annual software and maintenance cost of the equipment was more than the cost of Georgia Power reading the meters. The City would have full access to the Georgia Power readings on a daily basis.

1. **Discuss Sanitation Proposal**

Mayor and Council were informed that the County is moving rapidly toward an agreement to sell the landfill and contract out trash pickup services in the county. The City and County would need to revise the current Intergovernmental Agreement for Fire Fighting and Rescue Specialist Services and the use of the Landfill by the City. Currently the City receives reduced tipping fees at the landfill for Construction and Demolition waste in the amount of $35/ton to provide the Fire and Rescue Specialist Services to the County.

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Thomas to revise the IGA for a one-year term with an annual fee of $45,000.00 to the County for Fire and Rescue Specialist Services. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **2021 CDBG Application**

Mayor and Council were informed that the City’s 2021 CDBG application would be submitted in April of 2021. The videoing of all the sewer lines from Winthrope Avenue up to Drexel Avenue and between Buckhead and Gilmer Streets was complete. The streets included in the application will be Palmer Row, Waters Avenue, Atwell Avenue (west of US Highway 25), Part of Gilmer and Buckhead Streets and possibly Williams Avenue.

1. **Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Rocker informed council he was still in conversations with representatives from Norfolk Southern regarding the trains blocking City streets for extended periods of time.

1. **City Attorney Report**

 Nothing to report

1. **Executive Session**
* **Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a city officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6)**

 Council Member Scott made a motion, seconded by Council Member Clifton to exit regular session and enter executive session at 6:59 P.M. to discuss compensation of City Employees as provided for in O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6) and to consult with City Attorney on pending or potential litigation as provided for in O.C.G.A. 50-14-2(1). The motion carried by unanimous vote.

 Council Member Thomas made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to exit executive session and reenter regular session at 7:12 P.M. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

 Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Thomas to approve employee raises in the amount of 1.5% for all full-time employees that were employed on July 1, 2020. The raises would go in effect with the January 8, 2021 pay period. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business Mayor Rocker adjourned the meeting at 7:13 P.M.

**Approved by Mayor and Council: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Mayor’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Attest by City Manager: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**