**Council Minutes**

**Regular Meeting**

**March 1, 2022**

**A regular meeting of the Millen City Council was held on March 1, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Council Members Darrel Clifton, Regina Coney, Ed Fuller, Robin Scott and Giovanni Shumake. Absent was Mayor King Rocker. Also present were City Attorney Hubert Reeves and City Manager Jeff Brantley.**

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Pro Tem Clifton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. **Invocation**

City Attorney Reeves gave the invocation.

1. **Consent Agenda**

**Approve Minutes from February 1, 2022 Regular Council Meeting, February 17, 2022 Called Meeting**

Council Member Scott made a motion, seconded by Council Member Coney to approve the February 1, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes and February 17, 2022 Called Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **City Auditor Patricia Hunter to review Fiscal Year 2021 Audit**

City Auditor Patricia Hunter from the accounting firm Reddick, Riggs and Hunter PC reviewed the City’s fiscal year 2021 audit results with Council. She stated there were no findings or discrepancies found during the audit. She commended the City staff for having documentation organized and accessible during the audit. She informed Council that the City’s overall financial position improved during the year ended June 30, 2021.

1. **Review request from the Chamber of Commerce to block portions of Daniel Street and Cotton Avenue for the Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet on March 10, 2022**

Council Member Coney made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approve to block a portion of Daniel Street from 6:00PM on March 9, 2022 to 9:00 am on March 11, 2022 and a portion of Cotton Avenue from 4:00pm – 11:00 pm on March 10, 2022. The motion carried by unanimous vote. A copy of a map showing the areas to be blocked is attached to the minutes.

1. **Citizen Request to be placed on the Agenda – Bessie W. Collins – Alcohol Ordinance**

Bessie Collins addressed Council about State Code O.C.G.A. 3-4-23 Certificate of Residence required for retail dealer’s license; intension of Code Section.

1. **Citizen Request to be placed on the Agenda – Steve Burke – Water Problems, Liquor License**

Steve Burke addressed Council about a drainage issue in his yard and the ditch along Marolyn Circle. City Manager Brantley informed Council that Parker Engineering had prepared a flood drain survey on behalf of the City for that area and Mr. Burke was given a copy of the report. The study showed that due to the ditch only having a 2-inch fall to the State Highway drainage culvert there was nothing the city could do other than keep the ditch clean. The City plans to clean out the ditch on the opposite side of Georgia Highway 23 when it dries out. The City also had utility contractor Shockley Plumbing look at the area and both stated the solution was for Mr. Burke to bring in several loads of dirt to build up his property. The City is going to measure the road right of way to see if we can assist and stay on the right of way. Mr. Burke stated he had no comment about the liquor license.

1. **Approve payment to Core & Main for 46 Commercial Water Meters in the amount of $59,725.00 from the Contingency Fund. Funds to be replaced from a GEFA Loan Draw**

Council Member Coney made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approved payment to Core and Main from the Contingency Fund in the amount of $59,725.00 for the purchase of water meters which are part of the water meter changeout project. The funds will be replaced from a GEFA loan draw once available. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Approve Amended Version dated March 1, 2022 of the City of Millen Language Access Plan (LAP) originally adopted October 2, 2018 and last amended December 7, 2021**

Council Member Coney made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott to approve the Amended Version dated March 1, 2022 of the City of Millen’s Language Access Plan. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Review the Voter Redistricting Maps provided by the State Redistricting Office**

Council Member Fuller made a motion, seconded by Council Member Coney to approve the Voter Redistricting Maps as drawn by the State Redistricting Office. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Council Member Shumake made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approve the Voter Redistricting Maps by Amending the City Charter by using “Home Rule”. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Review and Approve Renewal Beer and Wine Alcohol Licenses**

Council Member Scott made a motion, seconded by Council Member Coney to approve all renewal Beer and Wine Licenses on the renewal list except Robert’s Grocery. Robert’s Grocery’s application is pending an inspection from the Fire Chief. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Review and Approve New Beer – Wine and Distilled Spirits Alcohol Licenses**

Council Member Shumake made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to table the vote on new beer and wine and distilled spirits alcohol licenses until the City Attorney can get a ruling on State Code O.C.G.A. 3-4-23. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

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

City Manager Brantley reviewed the monthly financials with Council. He stated that the monthly net revenues were positive $102,624.

1. **2020 CDBG Update**

Council was informed that the sewer pipe bursting was complete, curbing, and gutters were being installed currently installed. The storm drains were partially installed. The remaining storm drains were waiting on a floodwater permit from the Georgia Department of Transportation. Once the curb, gutter, and storm drains are completed, resurfacing of the streets can begin.

1. **Water Meter Project**

Council was informed that the pre-construction meeting for the water meter project was held on March 1, 2022 and the Notice to Proceed was signed by the City and Meter Install Group, LLC. Work was to begin on March 1, 2022 and would take approximately 4-6 weeks to complete.

1. **American Rescue Plan (ARP) Projects**

Council was informed that approximately 1100 feet of sewer pipe bursting had been completed. The City has not received an invoice. The 3 sewer lift stations that are being replaced have been ordered at a cost of $220,018. Delivery of the stations could take up to 20 weeks. Parker Engineering is preparing to submit bid procurements for the installation and electrical changeout.

1. **Sanitation Update**

Sanitation issues were discussed and efforts by Allgreen management to improve services were discussed with Council.

1. **Code Enforcement**

City Manager Brantley updated Council on the efforts of Code Enforcement and reviewed a list of junk cars and overgrown-dilapidated houses that notices have been served in the month of February.

1. **Mayor’s Comments/Report**

Mayor Pro Tem Clifton discussed the railroad blocking crossings.

1. **City Attorney Comments/Report**

No Comments

1. **Council Member Comments/Reports**

Council Member Shumake inquired about steps to implement the Blight Tax on properties.

City Attorney Reeves stated that the City would need to follow City Code 22-195 Identification of blighted property. The City would need to follow the ordinance to identify and impose a Blight Tax.

A tentative date for the next Council Work session was set for April 19, 2022.

1. **Executive Session**

**If Needed**

Not needed

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business Mayor Pro Tem adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

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

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

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