**Council Minutes**

**Millen City Council**

**October 1, 2024**

**A regular meeting of the Millen City Council was held on October 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Mayor King Rocker, Council Members Joel Carter, Sr, Darrel Clifton, Regina Coney, Ed Fuller and Robin Scott arrived at 6:08 p.m. Also Present were City Attorney Hubert Reeves and City Manager Jeff Brantley.**

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. **Public Hearing to Discuss the 2024 City of Millen Millage Rate**

Mayor Rocker opened the Public Hearing for the Millage Rate at 6:01 p.m. After discussion and no comments from the public Mayor Rocker closed the hearing at 6:05 p.m.

1. **Consent Agenda**
2. **Approve Minutes from September 3, 2024 Regular Meeting**
3. **Approve Minutes from September 19, 2024 Public Hearing**
4. **Approve Minutes from September 25, 2024 Public Hearing**

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Coney to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0. Council Member Scott was not present for the vote.

1. **Discuss and Vote to Set the City of Millen 2024 Tax Millage Rate**

Council Member Fuller made a motion, seconded by Council Member Clifton to approve the 2024 City of Millen Property Tax Millage Rate at 5.800. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0. Council Member Scott was not present for the vote. Council Member Scott arrived after the vote was cast.

1. **Review and Approve Bids on the 2023 CDBG project**

* **Shockley Plumbing, Inc - $873,452.00**
* **K-Dug - $850,206.55**

A vote on the 2023 CDBG Project was tabled due to the project engineer, Parker Engineering has not completed a reference check on the low bidder. The company was not a known contractor to the engineer and efforts to verify references were delayed due to Hurricane Helene.

1. **Review Application for Honorary Road Naming of Old Waynesboro Road for Beulah Ramsey**

Council Member Coney made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approve the application by Delphine Swanson for the Honorary Naming of Old Waynesboro Road in Honor of Beulah Ramsey. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **City Manager Report**
2. **Storm Update**

Council was given updates on Hurricane Helene cleanup efforts.

All City streets are now open, and all city properties, wells, lift stations and waste water treatment plant have power restored. Allgreen is going to run the grapple truck all week. Allgreen will resume normal garbage pickup this week and hold off on starting pickup with the sidearm garbage truck.

Mayor Rocker informed council that the City had helped Georgia Power secure locations to set up a “tent city” for outside utility workers helping restore power to the area. He also said Georgia Power would have 95% of the power restored by Thursday night.

Mayor Rocker had to leave the meeting and turned the meeting over to Mayor Pro Tem Scott.

1. **Financials**

Council reviewed the finances. The net revenue month end for September was -53,361.44. YTD was -120,811.77. The year-to-date deficit will be corrected in October when the Insurance Premium Tax funds are received. These funds are estimated to be $260,000.00.

1. **Health Insurance Update**

Council was informed that the initial quote from Anthem showed a 0% increase in the health insurance for 2025. Quotes are being sought from other companies. The results will be presented at the November meeting.

1. **EDA Grant Update**

Council was informed a draw of $690,944 was pending on the EDA grant. The payment would not come until after October 19th. Once received the City would replace about $404,000 to the city’s contingency fund. The water line is about 95% complete and digging of the well is complete. The well has been tested and it meets the flow requirements. The construction of the well house has begun.

1. **Mayor’s Comments/Report**

No comments

1. **City Attorney Comments/Report**

No comments

1. **Council Member Comments/Reports**

Council Member Fuller commended the City workers for the clean up efforts of clearing the streets so quickly.

Council Member Clifton inquired about House Bill 581. City Manager Brantley stated a training class was schedule for October 2nd by the GMA but was counseled due to Hurricane Helene.

1. **Executive Session**

Council Member Coney made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller at 6:31 p.m. to exit regular session and enter executive session for Consultation with the city attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, Settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the city or any officer or employee or in which the city or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-2(1). The motion carried by vote of 5-0. Mayor Rocker was not present for the vote.

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Coney at 7:04 p.m. to exit executive session and enter regular session. The motion carried by vote of 5-0. Mayor Rocker was not present for the vote.

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business Mayor Pro Tem adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

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

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

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