



**CITY OF STATESBORO
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
September 17, 2013**

A regular meeting of the Statesboro City Council was held on September 17, 2013 at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Mayor Joe R. Brannen, Council Members: Will Britt, Phil Boyum, John Riggs, Gary Lewis and Travis Chance. Also present were City Manager Frank Parker, City Clerk Sue Starling, City Attorney Alvin Leaphart, City Engineer Robert Cheshire and Director of Community Development Mandi Cody.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Joe Brannen

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was given by Councilman Gary Lewis

Recognitions/Public Presentations

- A) Proclamation presented to the Averitt Center for the Arts for their 10th anniversary and a performance by youths from the Averitt Center**

- B) Swearing In of Three New Firefighters**
 - a) Joseph Glenn**
 - b) Spencer Rowe**
 - c) Nathaniel Janney**

- C) Swearing In and Badge Pinning of Four New Company Officers**
 - a) Captain Ricky Hutchinson**
 - b) Lieutenant Jamie Strosnider**
 - c) Lieutenant Jason Gammon**
 - d) Lieutenant Brent Conner**

Tim Chapman, Executive Director of the Averitt Center for the Arts was presented a proclamation by Mayor Brannen for the Arts Center 10th anniversary. President of the Arts Council, Dr. Francys Johnson gave some history behind the organization as he updated Council of the Centers accomplishments and future plans. He also thanked Council for their support in the success of the organization. The 4th and 5th graders of the Statesboro Youth Corrale sang a song and 2 of the ballet students performed a snippet of one of the plays that will be performed at the Arts Center.

Chief Commander Tim Grams introduced the newest firefighters and company officers of the Statesboro Fire Department. Mayor Brannen swore in the firefighters and officers. The officers were then pinned by members of their family. Lieutenant Brent Conner was not present for the event.

Public Comments (Agenda Item): None

Consideration of a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

- A) Approval of Minutes**
 - a) 08-29-2013 Public Hearing Minutes**
 - b) 09-04-2013 Council Meeting Minutes**
 - c) 09-04-2013 Council Work Session Minutes**
 - d) 09-12-2013 Called Council Meeting Minutes**
- B) Notification of alcohol license application:**
 - a) Licensee: Heath Charles Robinson**
DBA: The Hall by 40 East Grill
Location: 19 East Vine Street
Type of Alcohol License: Pouring – Beer, Wine & Liquor
Type of Business: Restaurant
 - b) Licensee: Deng Feng Huang**
DBA: Chow Time Buffet
Location: 408 Northside Drive East
Type of Alcohol License: Pouring-Beer & Wine
Type of Business: Restaurant
- C) Consideration of a Motion to approve “Vehicle for Hire”**
 - a) Spells Taxi Service – Cathy Dianne McDonald (Driver)**
- D) Consideration of a Motion to approve Resolution 2013-33: A Resolution Authorizing the Hedging of Natural Gas Through the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia**
- E) Consideration of a Motion to approve Resolution 2013-34: A Resolution Authorizing the Opening of a Separate Bank Account for the FY2013 Community Development Block Grant**

Councilman Chance made a motion, seconded by Councilman Boyum to approve the consent agenda in its entirety. Councilman Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Public Hearing and Consideration of a Motion to approve the following:

- A) APPLICATION # V 13-08-01: Whitfield Holdings, LLC, requests a variance from Article X of the Statesboro Zoning Ordinance to reduce the side yard setback for property located at 41 Bernard Lane (Tax Parcel Number MS84000102016).**

John Dotson of Maxwell Reddick representing Whitfield Holdings spoke in favor of the request. Jim Anderson representing Janice Gray, owner of Customer First, a lube center, spoke against the request. He stated they were hoping to talk with Whitfield Holdings about a land swap. Councilman Chance asked if they had done so. Mr. Anderson said the time was too short and they had not had the opportunity to talk at length. Councilman Chance then asked John Dotson if the Whitfield Company would be interested in the land swap. Mr. Dotson referred to one of the owners, John Whitfield, who stated they were not interested in the swap. Janice Gray then spoke against the request and asked Council to give her time to negotiate with the Whitfield Holdings Company. Councilman Riggs made a motion, seconded by Councilman Chance to table this item until the next Council meeting. Councilman Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Consideration of a Motion to approve the donation of K-9 Max and vehicle transport cage to the Bulloch County Sheriff's Office

Councilman Chance made a motion, seconded by Councilman Lewis to approve the donation of K-9 Max and vehicle transport cage to the Bulloch County Sheriff's Office. Councilman Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Councilman Phil Boyum left the meeting. He did not return.

Comprehensive Storm-water Management Program Assessment presentation by the Ecological Planning Group

Courtney Reich, AICP of the storm water management program gave a presentation of some of the findings within the City of Statesboro concerning the drainage problems. The company will work with the City to find ways to correct some of the issues and help with the storm water run-off.

Consideration of a Motion to award a contract to purchase four trucks to Wade Ford in the total amount of \$102,396.00

Councilman Riggs made a motion, seconded by Councilman Lewis to award a contract to purchase four trucks to Wade Ford in the total amount of \$102,396.00 for the Statesboro Gas Department. Councilman Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 3-0 vote.

Other Business from City Council

City Manager Frank Parker asked Council to appoint Parker Engineering to continue as the engineer of record for the CDBG. Councilman Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 3-0 vote.

Mayor Brannen asked for Council's opinion on holding the December 3rd Council meeting at the Statesboro High School. Council was in favor of the request.

Public Comments (General)

A) Mr. Bill Thomas request to speak to Council

Mr. Thomas stated he did not understand why Council was not required to pay their utility bills on time. He also talked about the called council meeting that was held on Thursday to approve a special event held at the University Plaza on Saturday. He stated that bar owners seem to make a habit of assuming they will get their way even before a permit is approved. He also stated the event was advertised before the approval from Council.

Consideration of a Motion to Adjourn

Councilman Chance made a motion, seconded by Councilman Riggs to adjourn. Councilman Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 3-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.