



**CITY OF STATESBORO
Council Minutes
September 01, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Statesboro City Council was held on September 01, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Mayor Jan J. Moore, Council Members: Will Britt, Phil Boyum, John Riggs, Gary Lewis and Travis Chance. Also present were Deputy City Manager Robert Cheshire, City Attorney Alvin Leaphart, City Clerk Sue Starling, Director of Engineering and Public Works Jason Boyles and Director of Planning and Development Mandi Cody.

The Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jan Moore.

The Invocation was led by Director of Downtown Statesboro Development Authority Allen Muldrew and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Phil Boyum.

Recognitions/Public Presentations

A) The Averitt Center for the Arts will be recognizing Betty Foy Sanders as our” 2015 Legend in the Arts”.

Director of the Averitt Center for the Arts, Tim Chapman stated this event will take place on September 10, 2015. Mayor Moore read the proclamation that will be presented to Betty Foy Sanders.

B) Georgia Department of Economic Development Tourism product development grant.

Director of the Averitt Center for the Arts, Tim Chapman stated the grant will be used for the continuation of the Fine Arts and also the Arts Incubator.

C) Recognition of the City of Statesboro “Slim by ’16”- 6 Months Winner

Senior Human Resources Coordinator Flavia Starling presented Rachel Bragg with a certificate and a check for being the “slim by 16” winner for the past six months.

D) Recognition of August Employee of the Month

Senior Human Resources Coordinator Flavia Starling recognized Jason Gawthrop as the employee of the month.

Public Comments (Agenda Item):

A) Bill Thomas

Bill Thomas was not present to speak.

Consideration of a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

A) Approval of Minutes

a) 08-18-2015 Council Minutes

b) 08-18-2015 Executive Session Minutes

B) Consideration of a Motion to award the purchase of a 10-passenger van to Wade Ford per the State of Georgia Purchasing Contract (SWCSPD0000115) price of \$24,618.00. This van will be utilized by the Police Department and is budgeted in the amount of \$25,000 under CIP # PD-30. If approved, this will be purchased using 2007 SPLOST funds.

C) Consideration of a Motion to set the due date of December 20, 2015 for the City of Statesboro Property Tax Bills

Councilman Riggs made a motion, seconded by Councilman Lewis to approve the consent agenda in its entirety. Councilman Britt, Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Consideration of a motion to approve the Deputy City Manager's Employment Contract

Mayor Moore stated there were a few changes that needed to be made to the contract and these changes would be included in the motion. The first change on page 2 Section 6 under "Vehicle Allowance", will be addition language of: "if a city owned vehicle is not available for use". The second change will be on page 4, Section 10, item C to read "for a period of six months following termination." Councilman Chance made a motion seconded by Councilman Riggs to approve the Deputy City Manager's Employment Contract to include the changes Councilman Britt, Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Consideration of a Motion to accept the proposal of a bench with a plaque to be placed in the Rockwell/Edgewood Park commemorating the 125th anniversary of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Martha Wells with the Daughters of the American Revolution asked for Mayor and Council to approve the placement of a bench with a plaque in Rockwell/Edgewood Park commemorating their 125th anniversary. Councilman Lewis made a motion seconded by Councilman Britt to accept the proposal of a bench with a plaque to be placed in the Rockwell/Edgewood Park commemorating the 125th anniversary of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Councilman Britt, Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Notification to City Council that the terms of service for Planning Commission members Nick Propps, Rick Barr, and Rev Charles Lee are expiring on October 4, 2015. Additionally, staff has received the resignation of Planning Commission Member Jeremy Ragan, effective immediately.

Deputy City Manager Robert Cheshire stated there were three open positions for the Planning Commission. Nick Propps is willing to serve another term but Council will have to reappoint him to the Planning Commission. Other nominations to fill the remaining vacancies will be brought back to Council for a vote.

Public Hearing and first reading of proposed Ordinance 2015-06: An ordinance amending Chapter 18 of the Statesboro Code of Ordinance regarding Temporary Vendors.

Councilman Riggs made a motion, seconded by Councilman Britt to open the public hearing. Councilman Britt, Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Director of Planning and Development Mandi Cody stated there have been some changes made to the previous proposed ordinance. One of these changes is the definition of seasonal sales and “non-conforming” vendors. This clause would allow for the few current vendors to be grandfathered in and continue to operate without violation. The goal for this ordinance is to clearly define what a “temporary vendor” is and the guidelines for staff and businesses to follow.

Stephanie Ellis, owner of Ellis Open Air Market, spoke against the revised ordinance. Ms. Ellis presented Mayor and Council with a copy of her own suggestions as to how the ordinance should read. After much discussion, Mayor Moore asked Council to submit any changes regarding the Ordinance to Deputy City Manager Robert Cheshire. These changes will be made and brought back to Council in the next two to four weeks.

Councilman Lewis made a motion seconded by Councilman Britt to close the Public Hearing. Councilman Britt, Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Consideration of a motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Statesboro and Georgia Southern University for conduit and fiber optic cable.

Councilman Chance made a motion, seconded by Councilman Lewis to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Statesboro and Georgia Southern University for conduit and fiber optic cable. Councilman Britt, Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Public Hearing to solicit input regarding the proposed millage rate of 6.358 for the calendar year 2015 ad valorem (property) taxes for the City of Statesboro.

Councilman Riggs made a motion seconded by Councilman Boyum to open the public hearing. Councilman Britt, Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Deputy City Manager Robert Cheshire stated the millage rate for this year will remain at 6.358. There were no comments for or against the millage rate.

During the discussion Councilman Lewis stepped out of the meeting briefly.

Councilman Britt made a motion seconded by Councilman Boyum to close the public hearing. Councilman Britt, Boyum, Riggs and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

Consideration of a Motion to approve Resolution 2015-36: A Resolution setting the millage rate for ad valorem (property) taxes for the 2015 calendar year for the city of Statesboro, Georgia at 6.358.

Councilman Britt made a motion seconded by Councilman Boyum to approve Resolution 2015-36: A Resolution setting the millage rate for ad valorem (property) taxes for the 2015 calendar year for the City of Statesboro, Georgia at 6.358. Councilman Britt, Boyum, Riggs, and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Other Business

Mayor Moore stated the last Alcohol work session was held in July and another one is needed to complete the revision of the ordinance. The next Council Work Session for alcohol will be held on September 21, 2015 at 4:00 p. m.

City Managers Comments

Deputy City Manager Robert Cheshire stated the expansion of the Fire Station is completed and the open house and ribbon cutting will be on September 12, 2015. The hours for the open house will be from 9:00 am till 1:00 pm with the ribbon cutting at 10:00 am. Mr. Cheshire also stated that Sungard, which is the new law enforcement software, is now fully implemented and working well. Mr. Cheshire also commended staff with their use of the SPLOST dollars and ways to do more with less.

Public Comments (General)

- A) Bill Thomas
- B) Annie Bellinger

Bill Thomas was not present for comments.

Annie Bellinger stated she was having problems with incidents that may have happened on her property on Clito Road which is located in Bulloch County. She also made reference to a certain Councilman harassing her but did not call any names.

Consideration of a Motion to Adjourn

At 10:50 am, Councilman Lewis made a motion, seconded by Councilman Chance to adjourn. Councilman Britt, Boyum, Riggs, Lewis and Chance voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.