

Draft

City Council Meeting

June 6, 2017

7:00 PM

The Young Harris City Council met Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 7:00 PM for their Regular Monthly Meeting. Those present for the meeting were the Mayor, Andrea Gibby; City Attorney, Marvin Harkins; The City Council Members: Matthew Miller, Jared Champion, Stuart Miller, Samuel Leslie and John Kelley; City Employees: Shirley Jarrard, Nicolette Wade and Gary Willer; City Auditors: Lee Jennings and Marvin Chance; Patrick Malone of WJRB/WJUL Radio; Lilly Avery, Writer for the Towns County Herald; Reid Dyer with Hayes/James and SuSu Davis and Margaret Guthman with Towns County Homeowners Association. Angela Smith was absent from the meeting.

Mayor Gibby called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and noted that all City Council Members with the exception of Angela Smith were present and there was a quorum.

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Gibby added the SPLOST Budget to Old Business. Stuart Miller made a motion to approve the Agenda with the noted change, seconded by Samuel Leslie and approved unanimously. A copy of the Agenda is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Approval of Minutes from the May 2, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting: Stuart Miller made a motion to approve the Minutes from the May 2, 2017 Regular Monthly City Council Meeting as presented, seconded by Samuel Leslie and approved unanimously. A copy of the Minutes is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

2016 Audit Repost: Mayor Gibby introduced Lee Jennings and Marvin Chance of R.L. Jennings and Associates, PC who brought with them the Financial Report for the City of Young Harris for the year ended December 31, 2016. Marvin noted that the City had a good year and received a “Clean Opinion or “Unqualified Opinion” according to Government Accounting Standards which is the best that can be received. Mr. Chance explained that the auditor’s function is to test your procedures. Mr. Chance told the Council to feel free to call RL Jennings & Associates if they have any questions. The Audit is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Financial Report for June 2017: Shirley Jarrard went over the June 2017 Financial Reports and answered several questions. Mayor Gibby noted that she would provide information about the Seafood Festival when it is finalized. John Kelley made a motion to approve the Financial Reports, seconded by Samuel Leslie, and approved unanimously. A copy of the Financial Reports is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Engineer Reports: Reid Dyer has an estimate from Ricky Rich to pave School Street. He is waiting on one from Colwell. The Mayor said they have divided the project into two phases. If the first part corrects the problem sufficiently the second will not be necessary. She said the funding will come from LMIG and SPLOST. The cost should be \$15,000 to \$20,000. A motion was made by John Kelley to authorize the Mayor to open the sealed bids and select a contractor unless they are not defined well enough to make a decision. The motion was seconded by Samuel Leslie and approved unanimously.

Transportation Enhancement Grant: Reid Dyer reported they delivered the CE documents to the proper authorities and they are waiting for a response.

Maple Street: The Mayor and City Council discussed cost options, asphalt, or concrete, transfer water and sewer or leave as is, lighting, removing, and replacing trees and ownership of the trees for Maple Street. They decided that removing the trees is the first priority. Reid Dyer will determine the ownership and find someone to cut the trees.

SPLOST Money: Mayor Gibby gave the Council a project list for the SPLOST Budget. She said they must complete this list by the end of the year. The Project List includes:

Mayors Park

- Lights on Posts – 8? \$5,000 – 10,000
- Any other needed lights
- Gates – Finish interior gates –
 - New latching mechanism
 - Swing into park not into drive
 - Finalize exterior gates
 - Dropbox for payments
- Children’s Playground equipment \$15,000 - \$20,000
 - Water feature?

Maple Street \$50,000 - \$75,000

- Sidewalks
- Tree Removal?

Bryson Road (LMIG pay for portion) \$17,000

- Culverts
- Ditching
- Paving

School Street (LMIG pay for portion)	\$5,000 - \$15,000
Cupid Falls	\$20,000 - \$40,000

- Bathrooms –
- Finish wooden walk

Ashley Circle (Wait on this per Turnipseed)

Sewer to Ballfields and beyond (School to cover their portion) \$??????

\$112,000 – 177,000

A copy of the SPLOST Proposed Projects and schedule is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Second Reading of the Provident Group – Variance Ordinance: Attorney Harkins explained that the Variance Ordinance, tabled by the Council in previous meetings, has been ruled out by the Overlay District Rezoning. Samuel Leslie made a motion to withdraw the Variance Application as requested by Rebecca Geraghty of Brailsford & Dunlavey, Inc. in an email to the City dated May 22, 2017. The motion was seconded by Matt Miller and approved unanimously. A copy of Ms. Geraghty’s email is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Open Records Officer Appointment: A motion was made by Samuel Leslie to approve a Resolution Designating the City Clerk as the official Open Records Officer, with the Deputy Clerk as backup if the City Clerk is unavailable. The motion was seconded by Stuart Miller and approved unanimously. A copy of the Resolution Designating the City Clerk as the Open Records Officer is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Open Records Request: Nicolette Wade, the Deputy Clerk, and Attorney Harkins received an open records request from Dexter Shook in May. Mr. Harkins met with Mr. Shook and determined that he wants the City to abandon their interest in the old road, located just off Mineral Springs, behind the strip center, declaring that the road has no interest or public benefit to the City. Dr. Kelley said that before this is declared by the City it should be affirmed that the road definitely belongs to the City and the City has the right to work on the road with confirmed right of ways. Reid Dyer will provide Attorney Harkins any information he has acquired in previous searches and Attorney Harkins will research ownership of Mineral Springs Road.

Water/Sewer Ordinance: Since the Administrative Committee consists of all Council Members, Attorney Harkins would like them to schedule a work session in June to finish the proposed changes on the Master Fee Schedule including some final changes regarding the Water/Sewer Ordinance. The meeting is scheduled for June 27 at 6:00 P.M. Attorney Harkins will send the proposed Fee Schedule to Nicolette so that all Council Members will have a copy in advance of the June meeting.

Water/Maintenance Report: Gary Willer reported that the Laurel Hill pump has been replaced. They have done a lot of work for the Seafood Festival in addition to the normal leaks and other routine daily work. He said he hopes the Council will read the Well Head Protection Plan that was emailed to them and see if there are any questions or suggestions.

Ethics Commission: Per Mayor Gibby the GMA has not yet approved our City of Ethics Application because they had a few more questions.

Attorney's Report: As he reported last month, Attorney Harkins sent an easement proposal letter to Dr. Cates' attorney, Mr. Wayne Phillips. In Attorney Phillips' reply he stated that Dr. Cates has some concerns about the placement of the lines on his property causing erosion damage. Attorney Harkins said that the EPD has a say in this situation and at some point the City Council will have to think about condemnation.

Attorney Harkins also has a new Grant of Sewer Easement Agreement that was sent to him by the Attorney for the Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation, Larry Ford. This is an agreement previously introduced by former City Attorney Cary Cox. Attorney Harkins asked for Council approval of this corrected agreement. Matthew Miller made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Samuel Leslie, and approved unanimously. A copy of the Grant of Sewer Easement Agreement is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Gibby reported that the Seafood Festival was a huge success and as soon as she has numbers, she will give them to the Council. She said the electricity would be upgraded for the next festival.

Adjournment: John Kelley made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting, seconded by Samuel Leslie and approved unanimously.

Date: _____

Andrea Gibby, Mayor

Attest: _____

Shirley Jarrard, City Clerk

