

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION HELD AT CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA, TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019,
AT 10:00 (CHAPEL), 817 SKY VALLEY WAY**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor MacNair, Councilors Wheeler, Curtis, Piontkowski, Barrick,
Howard and Piontkowski

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Fast, Deputy Clerk Mullins, City Clerk Fleming, Police Chief
Estes, Public Works Superintendent Holbrooks and City Attorney Kidd

1. Call to Order

Mayor MacNair called the meeting to order.

2. Swearing in of Newly Elected Official – Moody Barrick

City Attorney Kidd swore in Moody Barrick as Councilor.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by Councilor Curtis,
unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

4. Bear Ordinance

Mayor MacNair reminded the attendants that the meeting was a work session and any comments could be made after they were finished. City Manager Fast addressed the penalties which would be given to the violators, up to two will be given before possibly having to pay a fine for the violation. Discussion of what constitutes a “bear proof” container ensued and also the prohibition of bird feeders. Questions were brought up concerning how the Ordinance was written. Councilor Curtis stated that it was important to listen to the DNR but also to listen to the citizens and to come up with what is best for Sky Valley as a whole. Facts were addressed concerning what preventative measures are needed, to help with the bear issue, for the safety of the citizens of Sky Valley. Mayor MacNair stated that we need to start with something in place, to address the concerns and it could be changed as the need arises. City Attorney Kidd stated that some of the language, of the Ordinance, could be tweaked as it is presently written. City Attorney Kidd also explained the penalties and the fact that with the third violation, the violator would have to go in front of the Municipal Judge and he would set the fine, which could be up to \$1,000.00. Mayor MacNair asked the attendees if there were any questions. Maureen Platt asked if her container, which she has not had a problem in the past with bears getting into, would have to be replaced. Councilor Piontkowski stated “no” but if a problem arises with bears getting into the container it would have to be replaced. Other comments were made concerning taking away the bears food source and also the specifications of when and where a bird feeder could be used. Council suggested that Sec. 6 (A) being removed from Ordinance, Mayor MacNair concurred.

5. Visitor’s Center

Ella spoke about the Visitor’s Center being moved to the Time Share Office located on Sky Valley Way, with the manager of the company’s permission, as this would be a win/win for both organizations. The office is open seven days a week and is manned if anyone has

questions. Information will be placed in their lobby and a sign outside, designated it as also the "Welcome Center" for Sky Valley. Councilor Piontkowski pointed out that a selling aspect is to get visitors to see the "wow factor" that the valley offers. Maps could be displayed of the "Georgia Trails" at City Hall and at the Welcome Center.

NEW BUSINESS

6. Fence Bids

Mayor MacNair stated that only one bid was submitted for replacing the existing Overlook fence, for \$12,306.00. The fence has to be replaced due to being ran into on two different occasions. Insurance money will be applied from one of the accidents, the other was a hit and run. The specifications for the fence were discussed and Councilor Wheeler stated that an email vote was conducted as to get moving on the renovation and the vote will be ratified during next Tuesday's meeting. The dimensions were talked about and also signs to be posted concerning safety, for liability reasons. City Attorney Kidd stated that he will put something together. The lease agreement was brought up addressing that the City is responsible for maintaining the Overlook.

7. Police Department Vehicle

City Manager talked about the bids that had been submitted and the need for this addition, due to the fact of two new officers being hired, which will be introduced next Tuesday. Police Chief Estes talked about the need of having a vehicle, properly equipped, as the Subarus' can't be. He addressed questions on the need to have a vehicle for each officer. The decision was made to go local, for the bid accepted, as Duvall Automotive Group was within \$50.00.


OTHER BUSINESS

8. Adjournment

Councilor Howard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Curtis, unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:18 am.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert MacNair, Mayor


Karen Fleming, City Clerk