

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA, COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13 AT 10:00 A.M. AT THE LODGE, 696 SKY VALLEY WAY

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Goodgame, President Lively, Councilors Howard, MacNair, Morley and Steil; City Manager Lapeyrouse and City Clerk Fast

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Goodgame called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Lynn Becker and Jane Lively gave invocations. Mayor Goodgame led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting, October 25, 2016

Council Workshop October 25, 2016

Councilor Lively made a motion to approve the minutes of both meetings. Councilor Morley seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Councilor Steil made a motion to adopt the agenda. Councilor Howard seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

Councilor MacNair made a motion to add the Deed for lot to be donated to the agenda. Councilor Lively seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Goodgame stated the year 2016 had been a great year. Events that held were July 4th Event, Beer Festival and 5K Run, and Fall Festival had been a raging success.

During the Fall Festival, a pet costume contest and silent auction had been held and raised \$1,318 for Paws for Life. Carol Hughes with Paws for Life expressed her gratitude for the funds raised and stated Sky Valley community raises 10 times more than other communities in the area.

Mayor Goodgame listed other things that had been accomplished throughout the year included the new equipment shed at CityHall, purchasing our own brine making machine, in addition, the visitor's center was a success with advertisement such as billboards, social media with a number of visitors. Four police cars were purchased during the year.

Mayor Goodgame presented Liz Morley a plaque for her willingness to serve on Council and her dedication to Sky Valley. She stated she has been here four years and this was her home.

Mayor Goodgame presented Neil Howard a plaque for his six years of service to the citizens of Sky Valley. Councilor Howard served 2011 to 2016. Council Howard stated it was an honor, privilege to serve Sky Valley. His accomplishments included infrastructure, equipment facilities and was instrumental in the completing the overlook during his term. Councilor Howard acknowledges Sky Valley has a great staff and it is a beautiful city. He thanked everyone for allowing him to serve.

Mayor Goodgame welcomed Chip Durpo and Connie Larsen to Council in 2017.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilor MacNair thanked everyone for coming.

Councilor Howard said it had been a pleasure and honor.

Councilor Steil thanked the outside firefighters for stopping the fires before they got to Sky Valley. He had the privilege to express his gratitude for the firefighters by assisting with meals for the workers.

Councilor President Lively thank you for allowing me to serve and remember the reason for the season.

Councilor Morley stated it had been an eye opening experience. It has been a pleasure.

CITY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT REPORTS – EXCEPTIONS AND QUESTIONS

2016 Tax bills have gone out. This includes city and county bills. If you have not received your city bill, please call Alyssa Mullins at City Hall and she can reprint you one. They are due December 20th.

City Hall will be closed for Christmas Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26th. We will be closed for New Years on Monday, January 2nd. We will also be close ML King Jr. Holiday on Monday, January 16th.

We had over 32,000 unique visitors to the website last year. So far this year we had 31,386 visitors to the website.

We have an email and crisis communication list. If you are not on this list, please contact City Hall. We are in the process of purging old numbers.

Facebook has a total of 1,693 followers and 145 new followers.

The visitor's center opened on April 4th and so far this year, we have had greeted 2,177 visitors with 197 during the month of November. Travelers come from all over the world including Holland, Ecuador, Brazil, Columbia, South America, Netherlands and from all over the United States.

Public Works is also offering leave vacuuming. We can pick them up, so please call to be placed on the list.

Interim Police Chief Ron Baumes is doing a great job. They had done over 400 residential and business courtesy checks. The Police Chief search panel has been interviewing potential candidates. No recommendation has been made.

Please remember to cut off water at the homeowner valve if you will be gone. We can cut off your water for a \$10.00 fee.

Mayor Goodgame advised the Police Chief Search committee has one last interview tomorrow morning.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Proposal for Sanitary Sewer Feasibility Study**

Mayor Goodgame stated the county has agreed to pay half of the \$15,000 estimate provide by EMI. The City of Sky Valley will pay \$7,500 with county paying \$7,500 of the study for sanitary sewer system feasibility study.

Councilor made a motion to approve the proposal for the sanitary sewer feasibility study. Councilor Howard seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

- **Budget Amendment Resolution for 2016 Fiscal Budget**

City Manager Lapeyrouse presented the budget amendment resolution for the 2016 Fiscal Budget. Mayor Goodgame stated this was the end of year adjustments.

Councilor Howard made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment Resolution for 2016 Fiscal Budget. Councilor Lively seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

- **Discussion of Expansion of Existing Walking Path**

Mayor Goodgame provided information for estimates of expansion of the walking path. This phase of the park improvements was due to the results of the survey submitted earlier this year. Comments had been received at two workshops for park improvements. The path will consist of approximately 1900 linear feet of 6-foot wide walking trail with a bridge. He has spoken with Lowes in Franklin, North Carolina and they have agreed to sell us the pavers for half the price previously quoted. He has also spoken with Vulcan about the crush/run and they are willing to reduce their price to \$5,000 if we commit before the 1st of the year. Steve Mason has agreed to oversea the project. The Club staff will be available to work on the trail when they are not working on the club grounds. The City will pay them for their labor, which will reduce the cost of labor on the project.

Mayor Goodgame recommends that we do what citizens want to provide goods & services for community that are real assets to the community.

Councilor Steil stated we had \$50,000 that we had committed to the park expansion projects.

Councilor Howard asked about the pickle ball courts and pavilion on the site plan. Mayor Goodgame advised we are getting bids on these items.

Mayor Goodgame stated there has been interest in the community to make donations for the park expansion.

Councilor Howard asked it was a dog trail too. Mayor Goodgame advised there are other places to walk dogs.

Debbie Dalhouse Curtis stated there is a greenway in Franklin where it the owner's responsibility to pick up after pets.

Milt Gillespie asked if the city maintains the existing trail.

Carole Hughes inquired if anyone has talked with the club about the pickle ball courts.

Mayor Goodgame stated pickle ball is the fastest growing sport for people our age. There has been lots of interest from the community.

Kristin Whatley asked are pickle ball courts.

Chip Durpo stated with 80% on city property only 20 % is at risk. We need to do a comprehensive land plan.

Mayor Goodgame stated Merrill has done a study to add to the trail.

Howard stated he hoped we proceed with pickle ball and pavilion.

Councilor Morley made a motion to approve the expansion of the existing walking path. Councilor MacNair seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

- **January Meeting Date**

Councilor MacNair made a motion to schedule January 3, 2017 as the meeting date and to cancel the February 2017 Council Meeting. Councilor Steil seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

- **Consider Deed for Lot on Labelle Circle**

Councilor Lively made a motion to approve acceptance of the Deed for Lot on Labelle Circle, Lot 224 in Ridgepole Subdivision. Councilor Steil seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM AND GENERAL COMMENTS

Connie Larsen stated she thanked everyone for giving her to opportunity to serve on Council and do what is right for Sky Valley.

Lynn Becker asked if the city could trim the trees on the right of way as the ones near the timeshares had been done. Mayor Goodgame responded, this is an ongoing project and will continue what is started. City Manager Lapeyrouse stated as long as we work with the club.

Carol Hughes with Paw for Life stated they have \$310,000 annual budget and only receive \$140,000 from Rabun County. They appreciate any help that you are able to give. Newsletters are available and contain envelopes for any contribution you would like to make.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Howard made a motion to adjourn. Councilor MacNair seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Hughel Goodgame, Mayor



Ella Fast, City Clerk