

City of Blue Ridge

480 West First Street • Blue Ridge, Georgia • (706) 632-2091

City of Blue Ridge
Special Called Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall
480 West First Street
(Conference Room)
September 19, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.

Present: Mayor Donna Whitener
Council Members Angie Arp, Harold Herndon,
Rodney Kendall, Bruce Pack and Rhonda Thomas
City Clerk Trainee Sally Smith
Finance Director Alicia Stewart

- 1) Call Meeting to Order:
Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to call the meeting to order. The motion was seconded by Council Member Angie Arp. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried.
- 2) Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance:
Council Member Bruce Pack offered a word of prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Council Meeting Rules of Procedures:
Mayor Whitener announced that the meeting rules of procedures were available at the Council desk.
- 4) Executive Session—Personnel:
Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to close the meeting for an executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bruce Pack. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried. Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to open the meeting from an executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Angie Arp. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried. No actions were taken.
- 5) East Main Street:
The Mayor and Council discussed the bid process for the East Main Street Project. Council Member Angie Arp and Mayor Whitener inquired whether or not a meeting could be called after the bid opening and if Engineer Matt Smith would be available.
- 6) Financing/Budget/Contract Review:
The School Resource Officer contract was discussed and Council Member Angie Arp mentioned removing the automatic renewal section. The Council discussed the W10 Detail Crew and that if they do not show up to work then the City should be refunded. The Council discussed the

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security cameras that were approved at the previous meeting. Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to modify the previous motion and to only approve the purchase of the park/pool cameras and the downtown park cameras. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rhonda Thomas. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried. The Council discussed water bonuses and decided to wait on making a decision until the pay scale is modified. The Mayor and Council reviewed Quote No. 5094 from Johnson Paving. Among the discussion was mention of LIMIG funds. The Council decided to use LMIG funds towards the Johnson Paving invoice for paving/patching throughout the City. Finance Director Alicia Stewart explained that the City's LMIG funds were \$72,000.00 and the City's match would be \$16,600.00. She also explained that the City would need to apply for 2017 LMIG by December of this year. She also explained that the City's Street Supervisor Mark Clemmons is attempting to receive additional quotes for the paving/patching throughout the City. The Mayor and Council discussed the 2017 Budget and Millage Rate. The Farmer's Market property was discussed. Council Member Angie Arp made a motion to pay for all of the Farmer's Market operating expenses out of the 2% restricted hotel/motel funds prior to giving the 2% restricted hotel/motel funds to the Chamber for disbursement. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rodney Kendall. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried. The Mayor, Council and Finance Director Alicia Stewart discussed the City's dental insurance and the option of only paying for employee coverage and requiring the employee to pay for their family coverage if they choose to do so. The Mayor and Council continued to discuss insurance, incentives for not taking the City's insurance, as well as sick and vacation leave. The Mayor and Council discussed the County reassessments and the City's millage rate. Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to leave the millage rate the same as last year. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rhonda Thomas. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried.

7) City Park:

Council Member Angie Arp gave an update on the delivery of the new playground equipment and that the company can install the equipment the week of October 24, 2016 instead of December like the Council previously thought. Council Member Rhonda Thomas discussed a conversation that she had with one of the playground equipment company representatives and explained the possibility of reconfiguring the location of the playground and how the equipment is installed. The Council discussed the location of the playground and having the playground committee that was formed last week to meet soon to discuss the location. Council Member Angie Arp expressed her concerns on relocating the park for the events that take place in the park. The Council discussed whether or not the Council should make decisions based on the fact that the events bring revenue into the City. The Mayor and Council began to strongly discuss their differences of opinions in regards to the park and the location of the playground.

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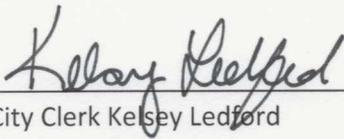
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8) Adjournment:

Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Angie Arp. The Council voted 5-0. Meeting adjourned.



Mayor Donna Whitener



City Clerk Kelsey Ledford

November 8, 2016

Approved