



**City of Blue Ridge
City Council Meeting**

Minutes

March 19, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Blue Ridge City Hall

480 West First Street

Blue Ridge, Ga 30513

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Rhonda Haight called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Present were Mayor Rhonda Haight, Council Members William Whaley, Angie Arp, Jack Taylor, Christy Kay (VIA Phone Call), Bill Bivins, City Attorney Chuck Conerly and City Clerk Amy Mintz.

2. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Council Member Whaley.

Christy Kay dropped phone call at 6:04 PM.

3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

a. February 20, 2024 – Council Meeting

A motion to approve with the correction of spelling on Page 4 was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor. Passed unanimously.

Christy Kay joined meeting by Phone Call at 6:05 PM.

b. February 28, 2024 – Special Called

A motion to approve was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Arp. Passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Agenda or Motion to Amend Agenda (if applicable)

A motion to approve the agenda was offered by Council Member Arp, seconded by Council Member Taylor, passed unanimously.

5. Public Hearings

City Attorney explained the following:

- a. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA GRANTING A VARIANCE FROM SECTION 140-213 ("C-2 AREA, YARD AND HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS") OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE ("CODE") TO PERMIT A 14.8 FEET FRONT SETBACK WHERE A TWENTY-FIVE FEET FRONT SETBACK WOULD OTHERWISE BE REQUIRED BY THE CODE FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 341 E. MAIN STREET AND IDENTIFIED AS TAX PARCEL BR01-024. **BR2024-10**

Joe Bugg spoke in favor of the variance.

Christy Kay dropped phone call at 6:07 PM.

A motion to approve was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Bivins, passed unanimously. Adopted as BR2024-10.

6. Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the consent agenda was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor. Passed unanimously.

- a. MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROJECT FOR THE WET WELL OF THE SEWER LIFT STATION IN THE AREA OF CVS FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$49,324.00.

7. Action Agenda Items (Items Requiring the Approval of the City Council)

- a. MOTION TO APPROVE THE UPDATED 2024 CITY OF BLUE RIDGE COMPREHENSIVE PAY PLAN.

A motion to approve was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor. Passed unanimously.

b. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION REGARDING INVESTIGATION.

A motion to resend the action taken by the Council at the February 20, 2024 meeting, to retain an independent investigator, to investigate allegations made against a City Council Member for violating the City Charter, and that we authorize no further investigation on this matter, was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Arp. Motion passed with Council Member Whaley voting no.

City Attorney explained the following:

c. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA, ESTABLISHING GENERAL PURCHASING REGULATIONS PURSUANT TO CITY CHARTER SECTION 6.31 ("PURCHASING"); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **BR2024-08**

A motion to add the Mayor to the red line version with a \$10,000 limit was offered by Council Member Whaley. No second, motion dies.

A motion to adopt the red line version of BR2024-08 was offered by Council Member Arp, seconded by Council Member Taylor. Motion passes with Council Member Whaley voting no. Adopted as BR2024-08.

City Attorney explained the following:

d. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 22 ("TRAFFIC CODE") OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE IV ("OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES"); TO ALLOW FOR CERTAIN "OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES" TO BE DRIVEN ON CITY STREETS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF SAME; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. **FIRST READING BR2024-09**

Chief Rob Stuart answered questions for the Council.

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Street Supervisor Denny Cook explained the following:

- e. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION FOR THE SIDEWALK AND STREET AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.

A motion to approve Phase I was offered by Council Member Arp, seconded by Council Member Taylor. Passed unanimously. Phase I attached.

8. Discussion Agenda Items

None.

9. Reports

Mayor provided a report on the Stormwater project starting on April 28th.

10. Public Comment

Do not misconstrue this as a question-and-answer session with the Mayor/Council. Limit 3 minutes per person. Please state name and address before comments. All comments should be addressed to the Mayor.

- a. Kim Deutsch
- b. Sally Pfeiffer
- c. Cindy Gilbert
- d. Dale Greene
- e. Brian Avery
- f. Donna Thompson
- g. Heny Fehrmann
- h. Josh Snider

11. Executive Session (If Needed)

A motion to enter into executive session was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Bivins. Passed unanimously. Executive opened at 7:16 PM.

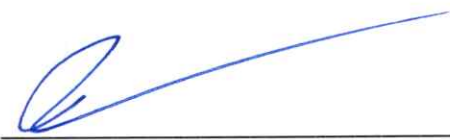
A motion to adjourn executive session was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Bivins. Passed unanimously. Executive adjourned at 8:39 PM.

A motion to add assistant clerk to Jennifer McDaris job duties and add project coordinator to Denny Cooks job

duties was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Bivins. Passes unanimously.

12. Adjournment

Mayor Haight adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM.



Mayor, Rhonda Haight



City Clerk, Amy Mintz

April 16, 2024

Date

