

Mayor
Rhonda Haight

City Council
William Whaley, Mayor Pro
Tempore
Jack Taylor
Christy Kay
Bill Bivins
Angie Arp



City Clerk
Amy Mintz

City Attorney
Chuck Conerly

City of Blue Ridge
City Council Meeting Agenda
March 19, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Blue Ridge City Hall

480 West First Street

Blue Ridge, Ga 30513

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting**
 - a. February 20, 2024 – Council Meeting
 - b. February 28, 2024 – Special Called
- 4. Approval of Agenda or Motion to Amend Agenda (if applicable)**
- 5. Public Hearings**
 - 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”) TP 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**

Our Mission Statement

Our mission is to enrich the quality of life in Blue Ridge for all our citizens. We pledge to work in partnership with our residents, all stake holders and the Fannin County government to protect, preserve and secure the quaintness of our small-town community and to enhance the natural beauty of our environment.

6. Consent Agenda

- 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.
- b. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION REGARDING INVESTIGATION.
- 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**
- 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**
- e. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION FOR THE SIDEWALK AND STREET AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.

8. Discussion Agenda Items

9. Reports

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.

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11. Executive Session (If Needed)

12. Adjournment

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City Clerk
Amy Mintz

City Attorney
Chuck Conerly

City of Blue Ridge
City Council Meeting
Minutes

February 20, 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, Bill Bivins, City Attorney Chuck Conerly and City Clerk Amy Mintz.

2. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Council Member Whaley.

3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

- a. January 16, 2024 – Council Meeting

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

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

A motion to amend the agenda to remove items 6D and 7B and to move item 6C to 7B was offered by Council Member Arp.

Removal of 6D - Whaley (Y) ARP (Y) TAYLOR (Y) KAY(Y) BIVINS (Y)

Removal of 7B - Whaley (N) ARP (Y) TAYLOR (Y) KAY(Y) BIVINS (Y)

Move 6C to 7B - Whaley (Y) ARP (Y) TAYLOR (Y) KAY(Y) BIVINS (Y)

Motion passed.

5. Public Hearings

Chuck explained the following to be voted on:

- a. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 24-3 (“WATER AND SEWER SERVICE IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT”) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA TO INCREASE THE SURCHARGE TO BE PAID BY APPLICANTS FOR WATER AND/OR SEWER SERVICES AT A LOCATION NOT PRESENTLY SERVED OR FOR EXPANDED SERVICES TO A SITE PREVIOUSLY BEING SERVED; TO INCREASE THE TAPS FOR WATER AND SEWER AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **SECOND READING BR2024-02**

A motion to adopt was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Bivins, passes unanimously. Adopted as BR2024-02.

Chuck explained the following for the First Reading:

- b. A ZONING ORDINANCE/ACTION AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA, BY REZONING A PARCEL OF LAND WITHIN THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, BEING TAX PARCELS 0045-20E, 0045-20C01, AND 0045-20C02 OWNED BY CHNA HOLDINGS LLC AND BEING APPROXIMATELY 4.14 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN THE DEED(S) ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO THIS ZONING ORDINANCE (“PROPERTY”), AND REZONING THE PROPERTY FROM MANUFACTURING (“M-1”) TO COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (“C-2”); REPEALING

CONFLICTING ZONING ORDINANCES APPLICABLE TO THE PROPERTY; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. **FIRST READING BR2024-07.**

Scott Kelley and Jackie Self spoke in favor of the rezoning.

6. Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the revised consent agenda was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Bivins, passed unanimously.

- a. MOTION TO REMOVE CITY ADMINISTRATOR ERIC SOROKA AND CITY CLERK AMY MINTZ AS SIGNATORIES AND TO ADD COURT CLERK BARBARA GERALD, UTILITIES DIRECTOR REBECCA HARKINS, AND CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER GINA QUINTON AS ADDITIONAL SIGNATORIES FOR CHECKS ISSUED FROM OR WITHDRAWALS MADE FROM ACCOUNTS MADE BY THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE.
- b. A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, STATE OF GEORGIA, TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT FOR THE DRINKING WATER SRF SERVICE LINE PROGRAM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,500 FROM THE GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY, GRANT NO. DWLSL2022023, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **BR2024-04.**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, STATE OF GEORGIA, TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT NO. GF2023011 WITH THE GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000,000 BR2024-05. **MOVED TO 7B.**

MOTION TO ADOPT THE GMEBS RETIREMENT PLAN RESTATED AGREEMENT. **REMOVED**

FROM THE AGENDA.

- c. A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, STATE OF GEORGIA, TO APPROVE THAT CERTAIN SECOND MODIFICATION TO THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 LAON FROM THE GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY, LOAN NO. CW2021037, ORIGINAL AMOUNT OF \$3,500,00. **BR2024-01**

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

Matt Smith explained the following:

- a. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA AWARDED AND LETTING A BID/CONTRACT FOR C&S PROJECT No. B7970.010, DOWNTOWN BLUE RIDGE STORM SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, TO NORTH GEORGIA CONCRETE, INC. AT THE LOW BID PRICE OF \$3,892,362.38; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE NOTICE OF AWARD AND ASSOCIATED CONTRACTS; PROVIDING FOR THE APPROPRIATION AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR SAID BID AWARD; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **BR2024-06**

A motion to adopted was offered by Council Member Bivins, seconded by Council Member Taylor, passed unanimously. Adopted as BR2024-06.

- b. A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, STATE OF GEORGIA, TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT NO. GF2023011 WITH THE GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000,000. **BR2024-05**

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

DOWNTOWN RESTROOM PROJECT REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA

c. PURCHASING POLICY **FIRST READING BR2024-08**

Motion for the Mayor to be substituted for the City Administrator in the existing purchasing policy ordinance until a new purchasing policy is passed.

8. Discussion Agenda Items

None.

9. Reports

None.

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. Troy Shirbroun
- b. Cesar Martinez
- c. 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 6:40 PM.

A motion to adjourn executive session was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor, passed unanimously. Executive adjourned at 9:02 PM.

A motion to hire Heather Burke as the accounts payable clerk was offered by Council Member Whaley, seconded by Council Member Taylor. Passed Unanimously.

A motion to retain an independent investigator to investigate allegations made against a city council member for violating the City Charter and to allow the City Attorney to make a recommendation to the Council as to who the investigator should be was offered by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Whaley. Motion

passed with Council Member Bivins recusing.

12. Adjournment

Mayor Haight adjourned the meeting at 9:04 PM.

Mayor Rhonda Haight

City Clerk Amy Mintz

Date



City of Blue Ridge
Special Called Meeting
February 28, 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 p.m.

Present were Mayor Rhonda Haight, Council Members Bill Whaley, Angie Arp, Jack Taylor, Christy Kay, Bill Bivins, City Attorney Chuck Conerly and City Assistant Jennifer McDaris.

2. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Council Member Council Member Bill Whaley

3. Public Hearings

a. A ZONING ORDINANCE/ACTION AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA, BY REZONING A PARCEL OF LAND WITHIN THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, BEING TAX PARCELS 0045-20E, 0045-20C01, AND 0045-20C02 OWNED BY CHNA HOLDINGS LLC AND BEING APPROXIMATELY 4.14 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN THE DEED(S) ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO THIS ZONING ORDINANCE (“PROPERTY”), AND REZONING THE PROPERTY FROM MANUFACTURING (“M-1”) TO COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (“C-2”); REPEALING CONFLICTING ZONING ORDINANCES APPLICABLE TO THE PROPERTY; TO PROVIDE A SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. *BR2024-07*

A motion to approve the second reading for item *BR2024-07* was offered by Council Member Angie Arp, seconded by Council Member Jack Taylor. All Council Members voted in favor.

4. Consent Agenda

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

A motion to remove/table item “a” from the Consent Agenda was offered by Council Member Jack Taylor, seconded by Council Member Bill Bivins. All Council Members voted in favor, with the exception of Bill Whaley.

b. Motion to Adopt the GMEBS Retirement Plan restated agreement.

A motion to adopt the GMEBS Retirement Plan was offered by Council Member Jack Taylor, seconded by Council Member Bill Whaley. All Council Members voted in favor.

5. Action agenda items

a. Downtown Restroom Project

A motion to remove/table item “a” of the Action Agenda was offered by Council Member Jack Taylor, seconded by Council Member Angie Arp.

Questions will be gathered and phoned in on Monday March 4th, 2024. A “Special Called Meeting” will be scheduled to follow.

6. Executive Session

A motion to enter executive session was offered by Mayor Rhonda Haight. Motion made by Council Member Bill Whaley, seconded by Council Member Christy Kay, passed unanimously. Executive session began at 6:42 p.m.

The executive session concluded at 8:02 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the executive session was offered by Council Member Bill Whaley, seconded by Council Member Jack Taylor.

A motion to approve the employment of the new Tax and License Clerk, Jennifer McDaris was offered by Council Member Bill Whaley, seconded by Bill Bivins.

All votes yes, with Christy Kay abstaining.

7. Adjournment

Mayor Rhonda Haight adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Mayor, Rhonda Haight

City Clerk, Amy Mintz

Date

RESOLUTION NO. BR2024-10

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 ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BLUE RIDGE GEORGIA ("CODE") TO PERMIT A 14.8 FEET FRONT SETBACK WHERE A TWENTY FIVE FEET SETBACK WOULD OTHERWISE BE REQUIRED BY THE CODE FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 341 E. MAIN STREET AND IDENTIFIED AS TAX PARCEL BR01-024.

WHEREAS, the property described in Exhibit "A" is zoned C-2 ("Community Commercial District"); and

WHEREAS, the applicant Angry Hops Brewery is requesting a variance from Section 140-213 entitled Area, Yard and Height Restrictions of the city code for property located at 341 E. Main Street, Blue Ridge Georgia 30513. ; and

WHEREAS, following proper notice, the City Council held a public hearing as provided by law: and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds the application meets the criteria set forth in the Code for the approval of variances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of Blue Ridge that:

Section 1. The application for a variance from Section 140-213 ("Area, Yard and Height Restrictions") of the Code to a 14.8 feet front setback where a twenty five feet front setback would otherwise be required by the Code is hereby granted.

Section 2. The City is authorized to cause the issuance of permits in accordance with the approvals herein provided and to indicate such approvals upon the records of the City.

Resolution No. BR2024-10

Section 3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by _____ who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by _____, and upon being

put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Councilmember Angie Arp	_____
Councilmember Jack Taylor	_____
Councilmember Christy Kay	_____
Councilmember Bill Bivins	_____
Councilmember William Whaley	_____

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _ day of March, 2024.

RHONDA HAIGHT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

AMY MINTZ
CITY CLERK

Resolution No. BR2024-10

Exhibit "A"



CITY OF BLUE RIDGE

480 WEST FIRST STREET, BLUE RIDGE, GA
706-632-2091

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED VARIANCE REQUEST

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Blue Ridge will hold a Public Hearing on March 19, 2024 to hear the following rezoning request:

Applicant: **Angry Hops Brewery**

Address: **The subject property is located at 341 E. Main St. (tax parcel #BR01 024)**

Request: **Front Setback variance from the city code requirement of 25 feet.**

The Planning Commission Hearing will be held at 6:00 pm, at Blue Ridge City Hall, 480 West First Street, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513. All interested parties are invited to attend.

Any opponent to the request shall file a written disclosure statement concerning political contributions made to any member of the Council or Mayor of the City of Blue Ridge. This disclosure shall be filed with the City Clerk a minimum of (5) days prior to the hearing.

Any questions should be directed to the City of Blue Ridge Planning & Zoning Department, 706-632-2091.

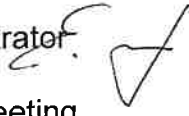
**Amy Mintz,
City Clerk**

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE

OFFICE OF THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor/City Council

FROM: Eric M. Soroka, Zoning Administrator 

DATE: March 19, 2024, City Council Meeting

SUBJECT: **Staff Report – Request for Approval of Variance from Front Setback Requirement of 25 feet for the Property at 341 E. Main Street (Angry Hops)**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council approve the variance request of the owners of 341 E. Main Street to permit a 14.8 feet front setback instead of the twenty-five feet setback required by City code to construct a shed roof structure over an existing concrete slab for seating in a C-2 zoned property.

THE REQUEST

The owner of the property where Angry Hops Brewery is located is requesting a variance from Section 140-213 entitled Area, Yard and Height Restrictions of the city code for property located at 341 E. Main Street, Blue Ridge Georgia 30513. The code requires a 25 foot front set back in the C-2 zoning category. The applicant proposes to have a 14.8 foot setback to construct a shed over an existing concrete slab for seating.

Standards for special exception variance approval found in Section 140- 642 (b) of the City of Blue Ridge Code

1) Would not cause substantial detriment to the public good.

The variance request is not a detriment to the public good.

2) Would not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of the environment or of other property in the immediate vicinity.

No impact is expected based upon the existing zoning and development of the area surrounding the subject property. Surrounding properties are zoned C-2.

3) Would not diminish and impair property values within the surrounding neighborhood

No impact is expected based upon the existing zoning and development of the area surrounding the subject property. The existing slab used for seating currently encroaches into the twenty five foot setback.

4) Would not impact the purpose and intent of the Code.

The request has no impact on the purpose and intent of the Code.

PUBLIC NOTICE



**CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
NOTICE OF PROPOSED VARIANCE REQUEST**

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Blue Ridge will hold a Public Hearing on March 19, 2024 to hear the following variance request:

Applicant: Angry Hops Brewery.

Address: The subject property is located at 341 E. Main St. (tax parcel #BR01 024)

Request: Front Setback variance from the city code requirement of 25 feet.

The Hearing will be held at 6:00 pm, at Blue Ridge City Hall, 480 West First Street, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513. All interested parties are invited to attend.

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Amy Mintz

City Clerk

REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETING VARIANCE APPLICATION CITY OF BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA

The following items are required for submitting an application for a Variance:

1. **Original** notarized signatures of titleholder(s) and representative(s).
2. If the titleholder(s) is a domestic or foreign corporation, then the following documentation shall also be required:
 - (a) A notarized statement under oath that the individual signing on behalf of the Corporation is duly authorized to execute the variance application on behalf of the Corporation and that the execution of this specific variance application has been duly authorized;
 - (b) That any officer of the corporation executing the document does in fact occupy the official position indicated, that one in such position is duly authorized to execute such document on behalf of the corporation, and that the signature of such officer subscribed thereto is genuine; and
 - (c) That the execution of the document on behalf of the corporation has been duly authorized.
3. A copy of the warranty deed that reflects the current owner(s) of the property.
4. A current legal description of the subject property.
5. A copy of current plot plan and current boundary survey drawn to scale and stamped by a registered engineer, architect, land planner, or land surveyor currently registered in accordance with applicable state laws. These plans must include: a) north arrow; b) land lot lines; c) district lines; d) lot lines e) angles; f) bearing and distances; g) adjoining street with right-of-way (present and proposed); h) paving widths; i) the exact size and location of all buildings along with intended use; j) buffer areas; k) parking spaces; l) lakes and streams; m) utility easements; n) limits of the 100-year floodplain and acreage of floodplain; o) cemeteries; p) wetlands; q) access points; and r) stream buffers.

NOTE: Two (2) full size drawing to be no larger than 36" x 48" and two (2) copies of the site plan must be 8 ½" x 11".
6. A copy of the paid tax receipt for the subject property. Properties with delinquent taxes may be withdrawn by Staff and/or delayed or denied by the Zoning Board of Appeals
7. Applicant, or representative for applicant, **must** attend the Variance Hearing. Failure to attend may result in dismissal with prejudice, rejection of the application or continuance of the hearing at the Board's sole discretion.

8. Application Fees: *Residential - \$200.00 *Commercial - \$300.00

Make all checks payable to "City of Blue Ridge".

*To qualify as a residential request, the applicant must be the present or future resident.

9. Signs will be posted on or near the right-of-way of the nearest public street fifteen (15) days before the public hearing. The notice sign will be posted for every 500 feet of public road frontage. The variance fee includes the cost for one sign. To the extent a parcel or property has more than 500' of road frontage an additional sign will be required. Additional signs will be \$35 each. While City Staff will post the signs initially, it is the applicant's sole responsibility to maintain the signs continuously and failure to do so may prohibit consideration of the application at any scheduled public hearing. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that signs remain posted throughout the advertising period, **including the day of the public hearings and to remain posted until the final decision by the Board of Zoning Appeals.**
10. Any sign variance request **must** provide a sign rendering showing: size, height, shape, illumination (external/internal) and structural details (footings).

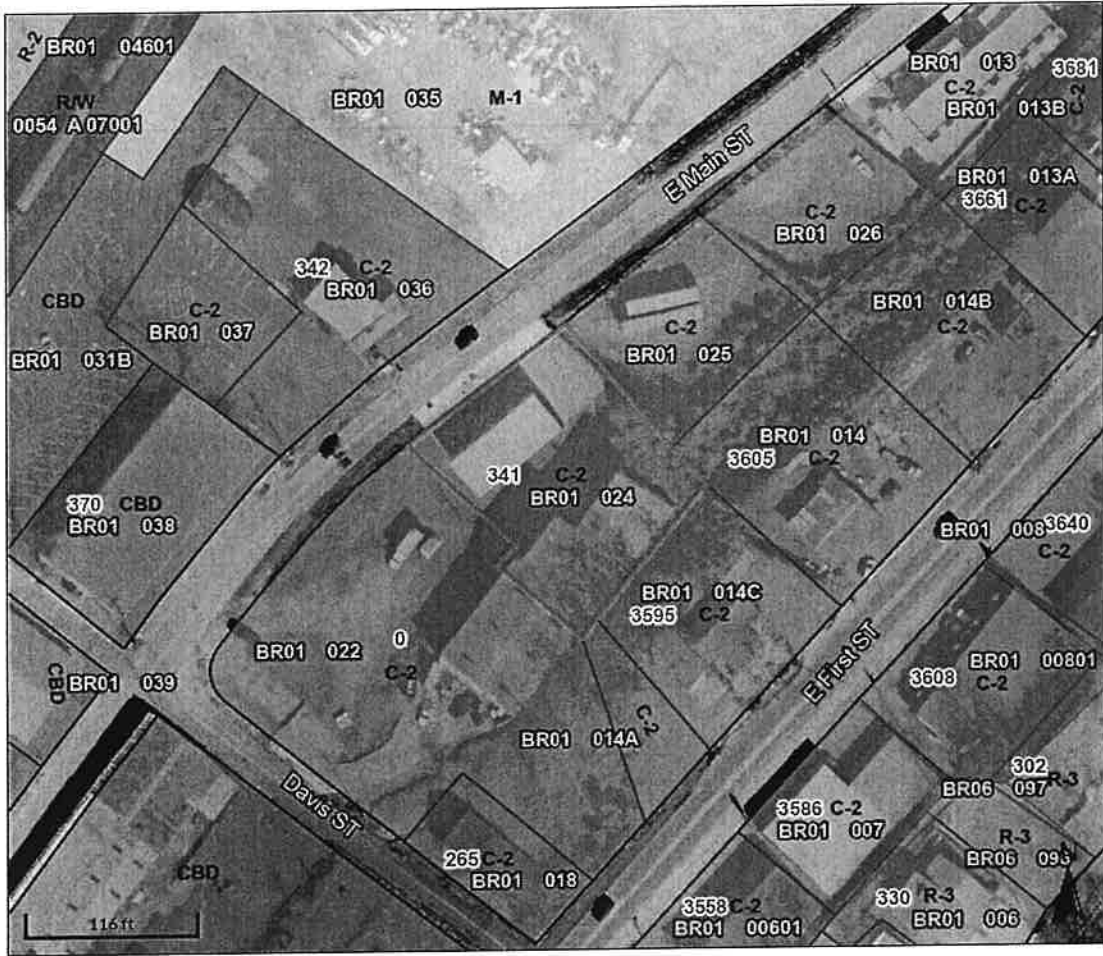
NOTE: All information submitted, and filled in on the application is a public record and is subject to the Open Records Act. This information will be posted online; please do not place any sensitive or personal information on the application, or in your submitted application packet.

List type of variance requested and why: _____

Reduce front yard setback from 25' to 14' for the construction of a shed roof structure over existing seating. The roof not only provides a covered seating option for patrons but also protects the building from excessive heat gain during warmer months.

We roughly have around 730 sq.ft of indoor space. When the weather is bad it gets cramp fast inside. With this covering we plan to get clear curtains to enclose it in the rain and winter. Then we can roll up our doors and increase our space. It will also keep our building cooler in the summer. About 5pm in the summer the sun is shining through the front and gets unbearable. Customers usually start leaving then. We have central air, but with the sun coming in it doesn't cool the building.

(Attach additional pages if necessary)



Overview



Legend

- Parcels
- Parcel Numbers
- Address Numbers
- Zoning**
- C-1
- C-2
- CBD
- M-1
- R-1
- R-2
- R-3
- R-A
- R/W
- <all other values>
- Roads

Parcel ID	BR01 024	Owner	NORTH GA ENERGY SAVERS LLC	Last 2 Sales			
Real Key / Acct	13158		38 ROME POINT	Date	12/23/2011	0	QC U
Class Code	Commercial		BLUE RIDGE, GA 30513		12/23/2011	0	QC U
Taxing District	BLUE RIDGE	Physical Address	341 EAST MAIN STREET				
Acres	0.54	Fair Market Value	\$470736				

(Note: Not to be used on legal documents)

Date created: 2/6/2024
 Last Data Uploaded: 2/6/2024 11:01:35 AM

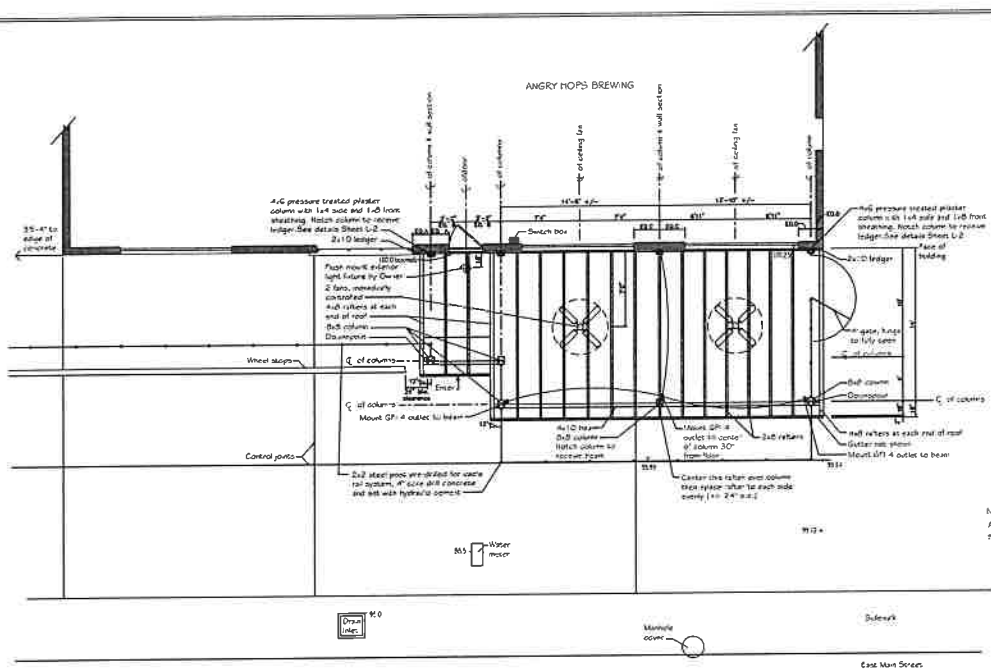
Developed by Schneider
 GEOSPATIAL



GARDEN ARCHITECTS

Landscape Architecture
Construction Management

1167 East Main Street
Blaine Ridge, Georgia 30513
678-338-8004
www.gardenarchitects.com



PLAN
1/4" = 1'-0"



ELEVATION
1/4" = 1'-0"

NOTE:
All electrical wire to be in 3/4" conduit
surface mounted to structure

No.	Revised Issue Description	Rev.

ANGRY HOPS BREWING
381 East Main Street
Blaine Ridge, Georgia

Plan and Elevation

Project Number
Date
October 4, 2013

4' 2' 0' 4' 8'
SCALE IN FEET
1/4" = 1'-0"



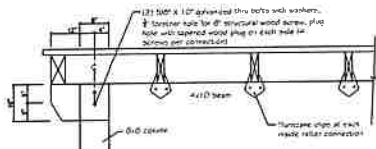
No.	Drawing Name	Date

Details

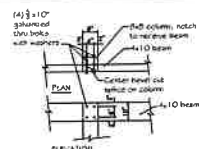
Project Number _____

Date
October 4, 2021

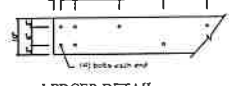
Drawing No



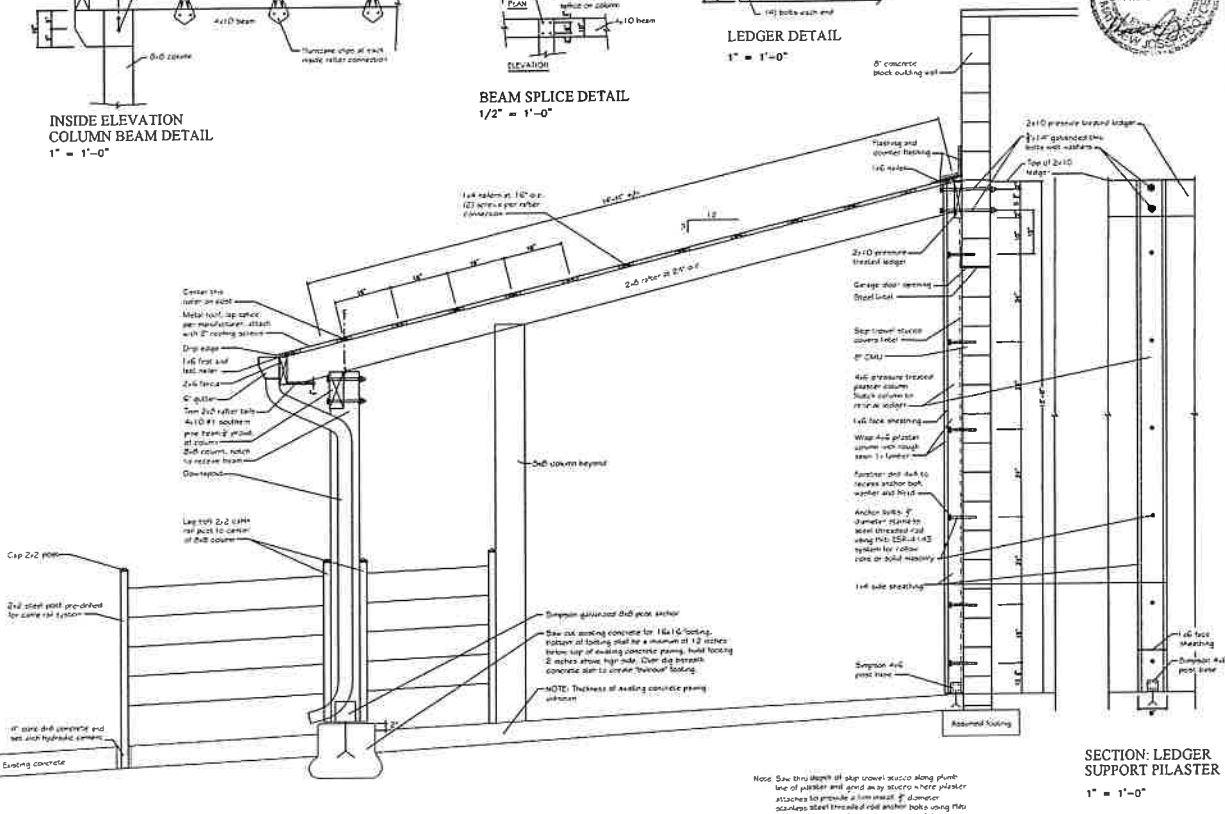
INSIDE ELEVATION COLUMN BEAM DETAIL
1" = 1'-0"



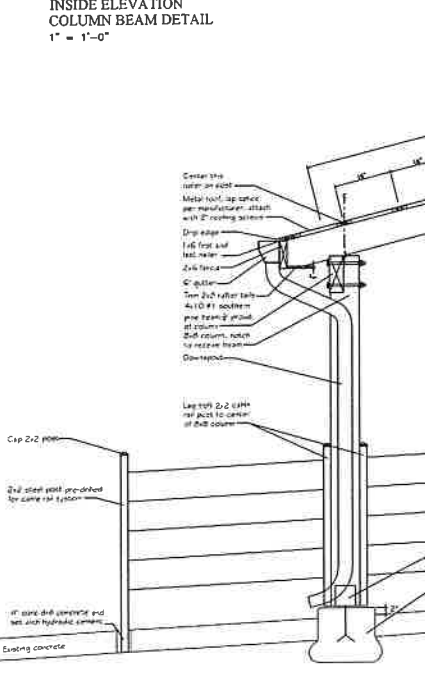
BEAM SPLICE DETAIL
1/2" = 1'-0"



LEDGER DETAIL
1" = 1'-0"



SECTION: LEDGER SUPPORT PILASTER
1" = 1'-0"



SECTION: SHED ROOF DETAIL
1" = 1'-0"

Note: Saw thru depth of skip crown stud along plumb line of pilaster and grid as by section here pilaster attaches to provide a rim track of diameter slightly less than threaded rod anchor bolts using the ESH-A143 system for hollow core or solid masonry.

CVS WET WELL REHAB

The wet well of the sewer lift station that is in the area of CVS is severely deteriorated from sewer gasses. If the wet well were to crumble this station would become inoperable. It currently carries all of the sewer from the intersection of 515 & Orvin Lance connector back toward the Toccoa River. This includes Blue Ridge Village, Ingles shopping Center, the apartments on Industrial Park Rd, University of North Georgia, and more. Included in our 5-year plan is the abandonment of this old station. However, the rerouting of necessary sewer mains that will allow the abandonment will not be complete for another 2-4 years. The work needed on the wet well currently is urgent and necessary. **It is the recommendation of James Weaver, Wastewater Superintendent, and myself that we approve the quote for Engineered Spray Solutions. We believe this gives us the most value for the money.**

CVS WETWELL REHAB QUOTES

COMPANY	ADDRESS	QUOTE	INCLUDES BY-PASS	IN HOUSE BY-PASS PUMP COST EST.	TOTAL COST
ENGINEERED SPRAY SOLUTIONS	LAKELAND, FL	\$36,586.00	N	\$12,741.00	\$49,327.00
UTILITY ASSET MANAGEMENT	TUCKER, GA	\$27,540.00	N	\$12,741.00	\$40,281.00
RDJE, INC	NEWNAN, GA	\$96,500.00	Y	\$0.00	\$96,500.00



1306 Banana Road, Lakeland, Florida 33810

Local Phone • 863-859-3889

Toll Free • 800-329-3889

January 26, 2024

To: James Weaver
City of Blue Ridge Utilities

Project: Blue Ridge – One (1) Lift Station in Blue Ridge, GA is to be lined with SprayWall Polyurethane Protective Lining System.

Scope of Work:

- One (1) Lift Station dimensions as provided of 6' diameter and 18' deep as provided is a total estimated 368 square feet to be lined.
- Mobilize competent crew of four (4) and capable equipment to the Blue Ridge, GA project site.
- Pressure Wash entire structure with 5,000 psi pressure washer.
- Inspect the manhole surface area for defects. Euclid V100 high strength profile cement is estimated for patching and profiling.
- Make suitable repairs to concrete surface area to prepare surface for the SprayWall Protective Lining System.
- Spray-apply a maximum of 1000 mils of SprayWall Polyurethane protective coating to chimney, walls, and bench area. An anchor groove will be cut at the sump to ensure proper adhesion. The sump is not to be coated to prevent cracking due to normal pump vibrations.
- Visually inspect and electronic holiday inspection on SprayWall Polyurethane protective coating on manhole to ensure a pinhole free monolith coating.
- Any MOT that includes flaggers, lane closures, detours or other is not provided for in this proposal.
- Bypassing is not provided for in this proposal.
- Structure must be past 28-day cure time to allow for proper cure and off gassing prior to liner application.
- Two to Three (2-3) days of work estimated to complete structure.

Included: ESS professional crew and equipment, MOT set up

Exclusions: By-passing of any wastewater, dewatering, bonding

Notes: At the assessment of the structures, a determination will be made regarding the need for additional Black Beauty Abrasive Media beyond the zero (0) square feet estimated will be invoiced at \$9.00/square foot via approved change order. The number of bags of Euclid V100 cement beyond

the thirty (30) proposed will be addressed via approved change order. Additional abrasive blasting, cement and workmanship will be addressed via change order. Twelve (12) gallons of 355 1k chemical grout for water stop is accounted for in this proposal. However, chemical grout for water stops if required beyond twelve gallons, will be invoiced at \$125.00/gallon, at a minimum of 6 gallons, with approved change order. Standby of crew for situations beyond our control could result in additional charges. Any items not included in the above Scope of Work are considered excluded and would be completed only by approved change order. Project is bid based on standard daylight work hours. Balance is due upon completion. Proposal price is valid for 30 days.

Blue Ridge Utilities- CVS Lift Station Project

Lift Station 1- \$36,586.00

Project Total- \$36,586.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Cody Paradis

Cody Paradis
Business Development
(770) 296-7548
cparadis@ess-1.net

It is mutually understood that in undertaking to correct/repair conditions present, other conditions that were hidden may become known. Such consequences will be beyond ESS's control, and ESS assumes no responsibility for such consequences. ESS will, however, use its best skills and experience to avoid or minimize them. The owner assumes responsibility for any hazardous waste uncovered at this site.

1. The *buyer* has furnished pre-bid information used in planning the work covered in this proposal to ESS, and ESS assumes no responsibility for its accuracy. If the conditions are not in accordance with the information furnished to ESS by the *buyer* or others, the recommended procedures and scope of work in this proposal may not apply. The *buyer* will reimburse any additional expenses incurred by ESS as a result of this difference to ESS.
2. Any items of work not specifically included in this proposal shall not be the responsibility of ESS. Any alteration or deviation from the attached or referenced specifications, involving extra costs will be executed only upon written orders, and will become an extra charge over and above this proposal. All agreements are contingent upon strikes, accidents, or delays beyond our control.
3. It is mutually agreed that ESS shall retain all rights conferred upon it by the lien statutes of any State, Federal, or Territorial Government and will exercise lien rights if necessary. If ESS is not paid when required by this contract, interest of 1.5% will be charged per month. If the delinquent amount is referred to an attorney for collection, the buyer will pay all costs of collection including reasonable attorney fees and court costs. Should any legal action be required as a result of this contract, venue for such action shall be Polk County, Florida.
4. Our proposal is based on carrying out the work in a continuous manner during regular working hours. Should our work be delayed or interrupted for any reason beyond our control we will be compensated for standby of the crew and equipment.
5. If conditions beyond ESS's control make it impossible for us to render performance as specified, and buyer elects to terminate the contract, ESS will be entitled to a cancellation charge for any job set-up, in addition to reimbursement in full for all of ESS's costs (including labor, materials, and overhead), plus reasonable profit for all work performed to date of written notification by the buyer.
6. By executing this contract, owner agrees that all vendor requirements, including but not limited to pre-qualification, insurance, W-9, etc., have been adequately met.



Quote No.: GA23273

January 3, 2024

To: Carter & Sloope Engineers
Attn: Matt Smith

Re: **CVS Wet Well Rehabilitation**

Scope of Work:

Furnish materials, equipment, labor and supervision to rehabilitate existing 6' dia x 18 VF wet well by applying SewperCoat PG 100 % calcium aluminate to a finished thickness of 1-inch.

Cost of Work: \$27,540.00 / LS

Notes:

1. We will need access to a potable water supply for materials mixing and equipment cleaning.
2. Based on existing flow conditions it is our understanding that the flow cannot be completely bypassed. We will spray down to the low-level water line and exclude spraying the bottom of the well.
3. Others to provide:
 - a. Pump down / bypass pumping for the duration of the liner installation and 24 hours beyond final installation to allow for cure time (estimate three days total).
 - b. Temporary inside drop for the gravity line that cannot be bypassed.
 - c. All other ancillary work associated with the project.
4. Schedule: We can begin this work within 30 days of notice to proceed.

Sincerely,

Anita Clyne – President
Utility Asset Management, Inc.

Licensed In:

Alabama * Georgia * Florida * South Carolina * North Carolina * West Virginia

Corporate Office:
2025 US Hwy 41 S. ♦ Perry, Georgia, 31069
Office: 478-847-2301 ♦ E-Fax: 678-623-0282
www.uamonline.com

Metro Atlanta Office:
1902 Tucker Ind. Rd. ♦ Tucker, Georgia, 30084
Office: 678-691-1558
www.uamonline.com

CVS Lift Station Wet Well Rehab



RDJE, Inc.

679 Hwy 29 South, Suite A
Newnan, GA 30263

Contact: Joe Webb
Phone: 678-633-2632
Email: jwebb@rdjeinc.com

Quote To: Matt Smith
Carter & Sloope, Inc

Job Name:
Date of Plans:
Revision Date:

Phone:
Email:

I&I is unknown and I&I repairs are not included.
If Needed, Price per gallon will be negotiated.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
1	Mobilization	1.00	LS	5,000.00	5,000.00
2	By-Pass Pumping	1.00	LS	34,500.00	34,500.00
3	Rehab Ex Wet Well w/Cementitious & Epoxy coating	1.00	LS	57,000.00	57,000.00
GRAND TOTAL					\$96,500.00

NOTES:

This document along with the referenced documents can serve as our contract upon your approval and authorization as indicated by your signature in the space provided.

Accepted
For: _____

Accepted
For: RDJE, Inc.

By: _____

By: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____



Equipment Rental Rate Quotation

Form: 031621

Customer Information		Quote# 0124-109-rev1		
Company: City of Blue Ridge		Contact: James Weaver		
Phone:	Email:			
Job Location: CVS Bypass		Date: 2/15/24		
Equipment Requested:				
Equipment	Quantity	Daily Rate Ea	Weekly Rate Ea	4 Wks Rate Ea
Atlas Copco PAS150 6" pump, trailer mounted, CS - Primary	1		\$ 832.00	\$ 2,495.00
Floats w/atleast 50' cable	1		\$ 50.00	\$ 150.00
Atlas Copco PAS150 6" pump, trailer mounted, CS - Standby	1		\$ 624.00	\$ 1,875.00
Floats w/atleast 50' cable	1		\$ 38.00	\$ 115.00
6" Bauer 90 Elbows	2		\$ 40.00	\$ 120.00
6" x 10' Black Rubber Suction Hose w/BF	7		\$ 108.00	\$ 324.00
6" x 50' Discharge Hose w/BF	5		\$ 85.00	\$ 215.00
6" Female Bauer x Flange (100-7004)	4		\$ 17.00	\$ 50.00
6" Flanged Check Valve	2		\$ 40.00	\$ 120.00
6" Flanged Tee	2		\$ 23.00	\$ 69.00
6" Bolt Packs	8		\$ -	\$ -
4 - 8 Air Plug - no flow thru	3		\$ 45.00	\$ 135.00
Equipment Total:		\$ -	\$ 3,134.00	\$ 9,201.00
Delivery / Pick up:	\$150.00 Ea way			\$ 300.00
Set Up:	2 men @ 7 hrs			\$ 1,890.00
Tear Down:	2 men @ 5 hrs			\$ 1,350.00
RENTAL TOTAL:		\$ -	\$ 3,134.00	\$ 12,741.00

This price quote is good for thirty (30) days unless noted

Matt DeLong 770-315-1247

Please call me with questions regarding this quotation or for inquiries on additional equipment.

All consumable fuel/oil/spill containment is customer's responsibility. Pump watch is available upon request. Maintenance is due every 250 hours and is the responsibility of the customer. All material is subject to engineers or owners final approval of submittal. Price is plus any taxes that may apply. Labor is not included unless otherwise noted on the quote. Not Included: any applicable taxes, concrete work, electrical connections, offloading equipment, unless otherwise noted. All permits must be pulled by owner or general contractor.



City of Blue Ridge Comprehensive Pay Plan



2024

Prepared by the City
Clerk Administrator

Approved by City Council 3/21/23

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE



COMPREHENSIVE PAY PLAN
20232024

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT

There is hereby established a Comprehensive Pay Plan (and hereinafter referred to as Pay Plan) for the City of Blue Ridge, pertaining to classes of positions authorized by City budget.

SECTION 2. COMPOSITION

- A. The Comprehensive Pay Plan shall provide for a minimum and maximum rate of pay for each classification or type of employment.
- B. The Comprehensive Pay Plan shall provide for a yearly merit bonus, as defined herein, based on the performance of the employee.
- C. A ~~cost of living~~cost-of-living adjustment shall be provided, as outlined herein, and applied to the permanent employees hired before January 1, 20243.

SECTION 3. DEVELOPMENT OF SALARY RANGES

The Pay Plan shall establish a salary range for each class of employment. Such established salary ranges of pay are determined with due regard to ranges of pay for other classes, relative difficulty and responsibility of positions in the class, availability of employees in particular occupational categories, prevailing rates of pay for similar employment in the North Georgia area and the financial position of the City and other economic considerations. Each year the salary ranges shall be reviewed and adjusted as necessary.

SECTION 4. MINIMUM ENTRANCE SALARY

- A. Employees of the City, except as provided elsewhere, shall be paid in accordance with Schedule I or II, depending upon their primary job classification and status (full-time or part-time).
- B. The minimum rate of pay for the appropriate position classification shall be paid to the employee upon his/her original appointment to the City.
- C. When there has been a demonstrated inability to recruit at the minimum rate of pay or the applicant possesses exceptional qualifications or higher level of experience warranting employment at a higher rate of pay, the City ~~Administrator~~Council may authorize a higher salary rate.
- D. All employees hired after January 1, 2023 shall receive, at least the minimum pay plan's stated salary for their particular job classification at the time this plan is placed in effect.

SECTION 5. COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT

All permanent employees, hired before January 1, 20243, shall be granted a ~~cost-of-living~~cost-of-living adjustment of 3.0% of the employee's salary or hourly rate or be placed at the minimum salary rate of their particular position, whichever is higher, effective on the first pay period of January 20243. At the time this pay plan is adopted the 3% cost of living increase has already been implemented. New employees who are in their introductory/probation period are not eligible for ~~Cost of Living~~Cost-of-Living Adjustments or Merit Bonus.

SECTION 6. MERIT BONUS

- A. Employees of the City, except as provided elsewhere herein, shall be eligible for a merit increase applied to their then current salary or as a one-time merit bonus check, in of April of each year.
- B. The merit bonus is granted, provided the employee has performed satisfactorily, based on the City approved employee evaluation form. Employee Performance Appraisals shall be conducted in accordance with City Administrative Directives policies.
- C. The amount of the merit bonus shall be based on the quality point average the employee receives on his/her employee evaluation form. The following schedule shall be used to determine the amount an employee is eligible to receive, based on the quality point average indicated on his/her employee evaluation form.

<u>QUALITY POINT AVERAGE SCORE ON EVALUATION</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF MERIT BONUS</u>
4.5 - 5.0	3%
3.75 - 4.49	2%
3.0 - 3.74	1%
< - 3.0	0%

- D. Employees over the maximum salary, as stated in the attached salary/hourly range schedules, shall not be eligible for a merit increase bonus added to their then current salary, as stated herein, but shall be eligible for the one-time merit bonus check and the Cost-of-Living Cost-of-Living Adjustment. In addition, employees who would reach the maximum salary if the bonus amount was applied to their current salary shall only be eligible for a merit bonus-increase amount based on difference between their current salary and the maximum salary range.

SECTION 7. PROMOTIONS

In the event of a promotion, an employee will receive the minimum pay rate for the new classification or an adjustment determined by the City Administrator Council, whichever is higher.

SECTION 8. PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

Part-time employees shall be paid hourly wages, as outlined in the Salary Schedules, attached hereto, in bi-weekly increments. Part-time employees are only eligible for cost-of-living cost-of-living adjustments.

SECTION 9. TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT

The City Administrator-Mayor may appoint personnel, temporarily, or in an acting capacity. Such appointments must be confirmed by the City Council.

SECTION 10. LICENSES, CERTIFICATES AND TRAINING INCENTIVES INCENTIVES

Employees receiving the following state licensing/training that is pre-approved by the Department Head and City Administrator prior to registering, shall receive the following incentive increases:

- Water & Wastewater Treatment Licensing Class II or Class I from Secretary of State - \$2.00/hr
- State Distribution License - \$1.00/hr.
- State Maintenance certification for soil and erosion card (red card)- \$.50/hr.
- Level II Card - \$.50/hr.
- Other state required certificates - \$.25/hr

Schedule I

Grade	Position	Minimum		Maximum	
		Hourly	Yearly	Hourly	Yearly
GRADE 1	Grounds Maintenance	\$ 16.00 <u>16.48</u>	\$ 31,200 <u>32,136</u>	\$ 25.00 <u>25.75</u>	\$ 52,000 <u>53,560</u>
	General Laborer				
	Customer Service				
	Meter Reader				
	Distribution Crew Laborer				
	Park Maintenance Worker				
	WTP Trainee/No License				
	Street Crew †				
GRADE 2	Meter Technician/Shop Manager	\$ 16.50 <u>17.00</u>	\$ 34,320 <u>35,349</u>	\$ 26.50 <u>27.30</u>	\$ 55,120 <u>56,773</u>
	GIS Coordinator/Locates				
GRADE 3	Distribution Crew Leader	\$ 19.00 <u>19.57</u>	\$ 39,520 <u>40,705</u>	\$ 29.00 <u>29.87</u>	\$ 60,320 <u>62,129</u>
	Lead Equipment Operator				
	WTP Class 3				
	WWTP Class 3				
	Taxes and Licensing Clerk				
	<u>Accounts Payable Clerk - PT</u>				
GRADE 4	WTP Class 2	\$ 21.00 <u>21.63</u>	\$ 43,680 <u>44,990</u>	\$ 30.00 <u>30.90</u>	\$ 62,400 <u>64,272</u>
	WWTP Class 2				
	Customer Service Manager				
GRADE 5	WWTP Class 1	\$ 23.00 <u>23.69</u>	\$ 47,840 <u>49,275</u>	\$ 31.00 <u>31.93</u>	\$ 64,480 <u>66,414</u>
	Distribution Supervisor				
	Street Division Leader				
	Park Division Leader				
	City Clerk			*	
GRADE 6	Special Projects/Plan Reviewer	\$ 26.00 <u>26.78</u>	\$ 54,080 <u>55,702</u>	\$ 36.00 <u>37.08</u>	\$ 74,880 <u>77,126</u>
	Police Lieutenant				

Court Clerk

GRADE 7	Water Plant Supervisor	\$ 29.00	\$ -60,320	\$ 39.00	\$ 81,420
		<u>29.87</u>	<u>62,129</u>	<u>40.17</u>	<u>83,553</u>

Sewer Plant Supervisor

GRADE 8	Utility Director	\$ 31.00	\$ 64,480 *	\$ 41.00	\$ 85,280
		<u>31.93</u>	<u>66,414</u>	<u>42.23</u>	<u>87,838</u>

Asst. Police Chief

GRADE 9 Finance Director	\$ 33.00 <u>33.99</u>	\$ 68,640 <u>70,699</u>	*	\$ 43.00 <u>44.29</u>	\$ 89,440 <u>92,123</u>
GRADE 10 Police Chief	\$ 36.06 <u>37.14</u>	\$ 75,000 <u>77,250</u>	*	\$ 46.00 <u>47.38</u>	\$ 95,680 <u>98,550</u>

* Salary Exempt Employees

Schedule II

Police Officer Pay Plan based on 2084 hrs/year

<u>Years of Experience</u>	<u>Minimum</u>		<u>Maximum</u>	
	<u>Hourly</u>	<u>Yearly</u>	<u>Hourly</u>	<u>Yearly</u>
0-5 Years	\$ 21.00 <u>21.63</u>	\$ 45,864 <u>47,239</u>	30.00 <u>30.90</u>	\$ 65,520 <u>67,485</u>
6-10 Years	\$ 21.42 <u>22.06</u>	\$ 46,781 <u>48,184</u>	30.60 <u>31.52</u>	\$ 66,830 <u>68,834</u>
11-15 Years	\$ 21.85 <u>22.51</u>	\$ 47,717 <u>49,148</u>	31.21 <u>32.15</u>	\$ 68,167 <u>70,212</u>
16-20 Years	\$ 22.29 <u>22.96</u>	\$ 48,671 <u>50,131</u>	31.84 <u>32.80</u>	\$ 69,530 <u>71,615</u>
21+ Years	\$ 22.73 <u>23.41</u>	\$ 49,645 <u>51,134</u>	32.47 <u>33.44</u>	\$ 70,921 <u>73,048</u>

*Lateral hires with Georgia P.O.S.T. certification and law enforcement experience.

~~All non-command staff police employees shall receive a \$1.16/hr. pay adjustment effective with the first payroll in April.~~

FIRST READING: February 20, 2024
SECOND READING: February 28, 2024
PASSED: _____

AN ORDINANCE NO. BR 2024-08

**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.**

WHEREAS, Section 6.31 ("Purchasing") of the City Charter provides that "[t]he city council shall by ordinance prescribe procedures for a system of centralized purchasing for the city;" and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to enact purchasing regulations to implement Section 6.31 of the City Charter to establish standards for the acquisition of materials, equipment, supplies, and services used by all departments of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Blue Ridge, Georgia, as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to City Charter Section 6.31, the following General Purchasing Regulations are hereby established for the City of Blue Ridge:

A. Centralized Purchasing. The City hereby establishes a centralized purchasing system where all City purchases will be approved ~~by the Mayor or his/her designee or the City Council,~~ as set forth herein.

B. Guidelines for Purchases.

- (i) Purchases not greater than \$205,000. Purchases of or contracts for materials, supplies, equipment, improvements, or services where the total amount expended is not greater than \$205,000 may be made or entered into by the ~~Utilities Director, Court Clerk, or City Clerk~~ Mayor or his/her designee

without competitive bidding and without City Council approval.

- (ii) All other purchases. Unless otherwise required by state law, any other purchase shall be approved/awarded by the City Council in a regular or special meeting.

C. Exemptions. The following exemptions from the above are hereby established:

- (i) Professional Services. Invoices for services provided by professionals (e.g., attorneys, engineers, architects, consultants, etc.) who have been hired or approved by the City Council may be paid directly by the person responsible for accounts payable within the City without further approval of the City Council.

- (ii) Recurring Purchases or Purchases per Contract Approved by the City Council less than \$20,000.00. Recurring invoices or purchases (e.g., monthly utility bills) and/or invoices or purchases pursuant to a contract already approved by the City Council that do not exceed \$20,000.00 may be paid directly by the person responsible for accounts payable within the City without further approval of the City Council. A listing of such recurring invoices or purchases shall be maintained by the person responsible for accounts payable. Recurring purchases must be reviewed by the Finance Director and the appropriate department head semiannually.

- (iii) Principal and interest payments on loans and bonds. Principal and interest payments on loans and bonds already approved by the City Council may be paid directly by the person responsible for accounts payable within the City without further approval of the City Council.

~~(iv)~~ Payroll Expenditures. Payroll and payroll-related expenses (e.g., retirement and insurance) may be paid directly by the person responsible for accounts payable within the City without further approval of the City Council.

~~(iv)~~(v) Reimbursed costs. Costs for materials such as meters, vaults, and labor paid for by the City upon establishment of City services to a customer that are subsequently reimbursed by that customer to the City.

~~(v)~~(vi) Emergencies. The City Council may make or authorize others to make emergency procurement of supplies, services, or construction items when there exists a threat to public health, welfare, safety or breakdowns of equipment that may cause serious curtailment of services to residents; provided that such emergency procurement shall be made with such competition as is practicable under the circumstances. Department heads shall provide information to the Mayor and City Council on any emergency procurement as soon as practical, or in no case later than the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting after the emergency procurement has been authorized.

D. Preference to Local Businesses for Formal Competitively Bid Purchases.

Businesses located in the ~~City of Blue Ridge~~Fannin County who reply to formal competitive sealed bid requests by the City shall receive a preference bonus of 10% or 10 points during the tabulation of the bid proposals. If a local preference is to be employed as provided for by this section, the invitation for bid documents shall clearly set forth such local preference requirements. Proof of Fannin County residency a City of

~~Blue Ridge Business License~~ shall be submitted with the bid to be eligible for the Local Business preference.

E. Non – Budgeted Purchases. It is understood that every event cannot be foreseen, but the City also understands that the budget is the basis for the City's financial actions for each respective fiscal year. As such, non-budgeted purchases should be kept at a bare minimum and need to undergo the closest scrutiny to determine how necessary each non-budgeted purchase may be. When a department head determines the necessity to purchase a non-budgeted operating or capital item he must justify this need to the City Council and seek City Council approval at a regular meeting.

Section 2. Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable and if any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance but they shall remain in effect, it being the legislative intent that this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption on second reading.

SO ORDAINED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL

By: _____
Mayor

Attest:

Amy Mintz, City Clerk

FIRST READING March 19, 2024

SECOND READING _____

PASSED _____

AN ORDINANCE NO. BR2024-09

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.

WHEREAS, Chapter 22 (“Traffic Code”) of the Code of the City of Blue Ridge, Georgia (“Code”) provides generally for the regulation of traffic within the City of Blue Ridge, Georgia (“City”); and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Georgia General Assembly passed House Bill 121, which Georgia Governor Brian Kemp signed into law on May 2, 2023; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 121 generally allows for the operation of “off-highway vehicles” on county roads and provides certain rules and regulations for same; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council of Blue Ridge find it in the public interest to similarly allow for the operation of “off-highway vehicles” on City streets and to provide certain rules and regulations for same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the authority of the City Charter and general law, that Chapter 22 (“Traffic Code”) of the Code of the City of Blue Ridge, Georgia is hereby amended to provide for a new Article IV (“Off-Highway Vehicles”) as set forth herein:

SECTION 1. CHAPTER 22 (“TRAFFIC CODE”), ARTICLE IV (“OFF-ROAD VEHICLES”)

Chapter 22 (“Traffic Code”) of the Code of the City of Blue Ridge, Georgia is hereby amended to provide for a new Article IV (“Off-Highway Vehicles”) as follows:

Chapter 22

TRAFFIC CODE

...

ARTICLE IV. OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES

Sec. 22-90. Off-Highway Vehicle Defined.

For purposes of this article, *off-highway vehicle* shall mean any motorized vehicle having features specifically intended for utility use and having the following characteristics: (a) has the capability to transport persons or cargo or both; (b) operates between 25 miles per hour (40.2 kilometers per hour) and 65 miles per hour (80.4 104.6 kilometers per hour); (c) has an overall width of 80 inches (2,030 millimeters) or less, exclusive of accessories or attachments; (d) is designed to travel on four or more wheels; (e) uses a steering wheel for steering control; (f) contains a nonstraddle seat; (g) has a gross vehicle weight rating of less than 4,000 pounds (1,814 kilograms); and (h) has a minimum cargo capacity of 350 pounds (159 kilograms).

Sec. 22-91. Off-Highway Vehicles Permitted.

Subject to the rules and regulations set forth in this article, off-highway vehicles shall be permitted on city streets where the posted speed limit does not exceed 35 miles per hour and shall be authorized to cross highways that are part of the state highway system. Every person operating an off-highway vehicle shall be granted all the rights and shall be subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under this chapter except as to special regulations in this article:

(a) All off-highway vehicles are entitled to full use of a lane, and no motor vehicle shall be driven in such a manner as to deprive any such vehicles of the full use of a lane.

(b) The operator of an off-highway vehicle shall not overtake and pass in the same lane occupied by the vehicle being overtaken.

(c) No person shall operate an off-highway vehicle between lanes of traffic or between adjacent lines or rows of vehicles.

(d) Off-highway vehicles shall not be operated two or more abreast in a single lane.

Sec. 22-92. Registration, Licensing, and Equipment.

Off-highway vehicles shall be registered with a state, shall be equipped with a license plate, and shall have the following equipment: (a) headlights; (b) brake lights; (c) taillights; (d) rearview mirror; and (e) safety belts.

Sec. 22-93. Penalty for violation of the article.

Any owner, operator, or driver, or any combination thereof, violating the provisions of this article is subject to a fine and/or imprisonment or community service, or any combination thereof, up to the maximum allowed under the city Charter or general state law for each violation of any provision of this article.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.

If any paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or any portion of this ordinance shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction or if the provisions of any part of this ordinance as applied to any particular situation or set of circumstances shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not be construed to effect the portions of this ordinance not so held to be invalid, or the application of this ordinance to other circumstances not so held to be invalid. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the City Council of the City of Blue Ridge to provide for separate and divisible parts, and it does hereby adopt any and all parts hereof as may not be held invalid for any reason.

SECTION 3. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES TO THE EXTENT OF THE CONFLICT.

All parts of prior ordinances, in conflict with the terms of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict; but it is hereby provided, that any ordinance, or any provision of any ordinance, or law which may be applicable hereto and aid in carrying out and making effective the intent, purpose and provisions hereof, is hereby adopted as a part hereof, and shall be legally construed to be in favor of upholding this ordinance on behalf of the City of Blue Ridge, Georgia.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The effective date of this ordinance shall be upon its passage by the City Council.

SO ORDAINED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BLUE RIDGE

Mayor, City of Blue Ridge

Clerk, City of Blue Ridge

EXHIBIT "A"

ARTICLE V. SHORT-TERM VACATION RENTALS

Sec. 10-191. Short title.

This article shall be titled the "City of Blue Ridge Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance."
(Ord. No. BR2019-07, § 1, 7-9-2019)

Sec. 10-192. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Short-term vacation rental means an accommodation for transient guests where, in exchange for compensation, a residential dwelling unit is provided for lodging for a period of time not to exceed 30 consecutive days. The term "short-term vacation rental" shall not include any residential dwelling unit not regularly offered for rental, which shall be defined as any residence offered for rental less than 14 days in any given calendar year. For the purposes of this definition, a residential dwelling shall include all housing types and shall exclude group living or other lodging uses.

(Ord. No. BR2019-07, § 2, 7-9-2019)

Sec. 10-193. Regulations for short-term vacation rentals.

Short-term vacation rentals may be offered to the public for rental only on properties zoned Central Business District (CBD). No short-term rental may be offered to the public for rental until issuance of a short-term vacation rental certificate, receipt of an occupation tax certificate, and payment of any and all applicable state and city taxes. Any taxes owed to the city shall be paid and any failure to remit the same or to register pursuant to this article shall be subject to the penalties set forth in this Code. Owners shall also use their best efforts to ensure occupants do not disrupt or interfere with rights of adjacent property owners to quiet enjoyment of their property and shall adhere to the following requirements:

- (1) Owners shall not allow occupants to violate any federal, state, or local law, statute, rule or ordinances.
- (2) Owners shall not allow overnight occupancy to exceed the maximum capacity as identified in the rental certificate application.

(Ord. No. BR2019-07, § 3, 7-9-2019)

Sec. 10-194. Application; fee.

- (a) An application for a short-term vacation rental certificate shall be submitted, under oath, on a form specified by the city administrator or his designee, accompanied by a non-refundable application fee as set forth by the city council, which application shall include at a minimum the following information or documentation:

- (1) The name, address, telephone and email address of the owner of record of the dwelling unit for which a certificate is sought. If such owner is not a natural person, the application shall identify all partners, officers and/or directors of any such entity, including personal contact information;
 - (2) The address of the unit to be used as a short-term vacation rental;
 - (3) The name, address, telephone number and email address of the short-term vacation rental agent, which shall constitute his 24-hour contact information and who shall:
 - a. Be reasonably available to handle any problems arising from use of the short-term vacation rental unit;
 - b. Be available by telephone within 24 hours following notification from the city administrator, police chief, or their designee, of issues related to the use or occupancy of the premises;
 - c. Receive and accept service of any notice of violation related to the use or occupancy of the premises; and
 - d. Monitor the short-term vacation rental unit for compliance with this article;
 - (4) The owner's sworn acknowledgment that he has received a copy of this section, has reviewed it and understands its requirements;
 - (5) The owner shall state the maximum occupancy for the residence, which shall be the same number as advertised and marketed to potential renters by or on behalf of the owner;
 - (6) The owner's agreement to use his best efforts to assure that use of the premises by short-term vacation rental occupants will not disrupt the neighborhood, and will not interfere with the rights of neighboring property owners to the quiet enjoyment of their properties;
 - (7) A copy of an agreement between the owner and occupant which obligates the occupant to abide by all of the requirements of this article, and other city ordinances, state and federal law, and that such a violation of any of these rules may result in the immediate termination of the agreement and eviction from the premises, as well as potential liability for payment of fines levied;
 - (8) Proof of the owner's (and/or property management company's contract with the owner) current ownership of the short-term vacation rental unit; and
 - (9) Proof of visible rental sign that includes 911 address of property.
- (b) Registration under this section is not transferrable and should ownership of a short-term vacation rental change, a new application is required, including application fee. In the event of any other change in the information or facts provided in the application, the holder of the short-term rental certificate shall amend the filed application without payment of any additional application fee.
- (c) After issuance of a rental certificate, the holder shall identify on each monthly hotel/motel tax return the current identification number of the dwelling unit on any internet based

advertising, listing or on-line rental platform including, but not limited to, www.vrbo.com, www.airbnb.com, www.homeaway.com or other similar services.

(Ord. No. BR2019-07, § 4, 7-9-2019)

Sec. 10-195. Review of application.

Review of an application shall be conducted by the city administrator or his designee, in accordance with due process principles and shall be granted unless the applicant fails to meet the conditions and requirements of this article, or otherwise fails to demonstrate the ability to comply with local, state, or federal laws. Any false statements or information provided in the application are grounds for revocation, suspension and/or imposition of penalties, including denial of future applications. A certificate shall not be issued unless the owner demonstrates compliance with the applicable codes.

(Ord. No. BR2019-07, § 5, 7-9-2019)

Sec. 10-196. Annual Permit Fee.

The owner of a property used for short-term vacation rental shall remit an annual permit fee of \$100.00 to the City's Planning and Zoning Department.

Sec. 10-197. Violations; revocation.

- (a) In any instance in which use of the short-term rental by a guest results in a violation of this article, or any other ordinance of the city, notice of such violation shall be provided to the short-term vacation rental agent. Failure to remedy any notice of violations may result in the issuance of a citation, which shall be prosecuted pursuant to this Code. Upon a conviction of violation, the city clerk or the city attorney may revoke the short-term vacation rental certificate and may reject all applications for the subject premises for a period of 12 consecutive months.
- (b) Short-term rentals occurring on or after July 15, 2019, without a valid rental certificate shall constitute a violation of this article and shall be subject to a minimum fine of \$250.00. Each occurrence shall constitute a separate offense.
- (c) Nothing in this article shall be construed to limit any action by the city to seek the remediation of any dangerous condition at the short-term vacation rental or to take any action seeking to protect and preserve against any threat to public safety.

(Ord. No. BR2019-07, § 6, 7-9-2019)

Sec. 10-198. Appeal rights.

A person aggrieved by the city administrator's decision to revoke, suspend or deny a short-term vacation rental certificate may appeal the decision to the city council. The appeal must be filed with the city clerk's office in writing, within 30 calendar days after the adverse action and it shall contain a concise statement of the reasons for the appeal. A decision from the city council rendered at its next regularly scheduled meeting and the council may hold any hearing deemed

necessary in consideration of the appeal or may simply vote to reverse or confirm the appealed decision.

(Ord. No. BR2019-07, § 7, 7-9-2019)

Sec. 10-199. Effective date; tolling; nonconforming grandfathered use.

- (a) The effective date of the ordinance from which this article is derived shall be immediately upon its passage by the city council and execution by the mayor or upon 15 days expiring from the date of its passage without a veto of said ordinance by the mayor as set forth in the city Charter at section 3.23(b).
- (b) In the event an owner or the owner's agent is currently operating a short-term rental upon property which is not within a category eligible for the issuance of a short-term rental certificate and has been paying the monthly hotel/motel tax as required by law, said operation shall be considered to be grandfathered and allowed to continue operation until there is a change in ownership of said property, unless the property is zoned C-1 (Limited Commercial) or C-2 (General Commercial), in which case the operation may continue even with a change in ownership of the property. However, all other terms and conditions of this article shall apply to any grandfathered short-term rental.

(Ord. No. BR2019-07, § 10, 7-9-2019; Ord. No. BR2022-05 , § 1, 3-15-2022)

Secs. 10-199—10-221. Reserved.

STREET PAVING/STRIPING RECCOMENDATION LIST FOR 2024

1. East First St from Industrial Blvd to Mountain st to be milled, paved.
2. Ada st from Mountain st to City limits – looking at overlay, but may need milled and repaved in areas
3. East 2nd – entire st milled and paved – repair sidewalks where needed
4. Sierra Ln – entire rd overlay
5. Old 76 from 4 way stop at pizza hut to city limits -restripe with some possible patch and shoulder repairs