

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**Mayor and Council**  
**City of Fitzgerald, Georgia**  
**December 10, 2018**  
**6:00 pm**

Mayor and Council of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia, met in a **Regular** meeting in the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 302 East Central Avenue, with Mayor Puckett presiding and with Council members Coney, Griffin, Jefferson, Johnson, Jones, Roberts, Tillman, Webb and Williams being present.

Minutes of November 12, 2018, Regular Council meeting were read. Mayor Puckett entertained a motion for approval. Council Person Griffin made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Council Person Johnson. Having a motion and a second, Mayor Puckett asked if there were any additions or corrections. With none being heard, called for a **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Puckett welcomed everyone in attendance.

Mayor Puckett called on Kelly Lane with the Department of Community Affairs to come forward. Ms. Lane presented the City of Fitzgerald with the PlanFirst designation. This will allow the city to apply for CDBG yearly and a decrease on loan rates. We also received word that the memorandum of agreement was received and explains what PlanFirst means to the City.

Mayor Puckett called on Sandy Hester. Ms. Hester is the director for the coastal plains regional library. The Fitzgerald Ben Hill County Library is now a part of the Coastal Plains Regional Library system. We have a branch manager, Jennifer Johnson. Ms. Johnson began her position November 1. Ms. Johnson spoke of the Lego club for ages 4 years to 12 years every Monday from 4:30 – 5:30. The Lions Club is sponsoring the Grinch and vision screenings this Saturday, December 15, from 9am-12pm. Ms. Hester thanked the city and county for their support of the library.

At this time, Mayor Puckett presented thirteen employees with service awards.

Mayor Puckett called on Scott Spivey to come speak. Mr. Spivey thanked council for the opportunity to speak and give his opinion. Mr. Spivey spoke regarding his concerns over the chicken infrastructure and cost related to this build after researching other structures. He thinks that the money could be spent in a better capacity for the City. The information requested through open records gave information for the SPLOST but no language regarding tourism. He is in agreement that we need tourism but Fitzgerald could benefit with better focus. He did not believe we need to rely on people from outside to come to be the solution. If this is the case, where will they eat, lodge, and shop. One focus item on tourism was Big Bart and becoming associated with the Fox theatre to which this did not live up to hype. Mr. Spivey expressed focusing on Fitzgerald, the people and community then tourism.

Mayor Puckett called on Philip Jay to come speak. Mr. Jay thanked Mayor and council for the opportunity to come and speak. Mr. Jay provided a hand out of his prepared speech to mayor and council. In summation of the written report, Mr. Jay presented his thoughts on several topics but ended in support of the Mayor by stating, "I'm proud to associate myself with an initiative as

imaginative and courageous as your chicken.” (The copy of the written comments is on file with the City Clerk)

Concluding hearing from visitors, Mayor Puckett stated that his plan is to clean up Fitzgerald and make it a great place. We

A communication was read from Central State Hospital for the donations made through the annual Mayor’s Motorcade.

Under reports of city officers, Mayor Puckett called attention to the calendar items. Mayor Puckett took the time to mention the filming going on in our town. The right people were chosen to help build this industry. He asked if there were any questions of the department heads and with none moved to reports of special committees.

Reports of Special Committees were presented. Council Person Neesa Williams presented an alcohol license for Brahmani MMA, LLC, for beer and wine only off premise, located at 167 Ocilla Highway. This application has been through the proper channels of the Police and Sheriff Departments, Public Works, Zoning and Administration. Council Person Williams made a motion to accept this license, seconded by Council Person Webb. Mayor Puckett asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, called for **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor motion approved.**

Council Person Neesa Williams presented another alcohol license for Diwan Food Mart, LLC/DBA Taylor’s. This application is for beer only off premise and located at 316 N Merrimac Drive. This application has been through the proper channels of the Police and Sheriff Departments, Public Works, Zoning and Administration. Council Person Williams made a motion to accept this license, seconded by Council Person Coney. Mayor Puckett asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, called for **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor motion approved.**

Mayor Puckett stated we have no Ordinances or Resolutions and moved to New Business.

Under new business, Mayor Puckett recognized the upcoming called meeting for December 27, 2018, for the 2019 budget approval.

Deputy Administrator Cam Jordan took a moment to mention the two new reports located in each council member’s packet. There is the alley bulk pick up totals and the storm debris totals. The alley cleanup has been compiled since August and is now consolidated with pounds and billable amounts as well as volunteer weights. These reports fall into the mission from the Mayor to help clean up the City.

Council Person Williams thanked everyone involved with this year’s Christmas parade. Mayor Puckett commented that he received many compliments on the great parade and reiterated thanks.

Council Person Webb called on Fire Chief Dobbins. Chief Dobbins mentioned the invitation to Council for the Fire Department’s Christmas Dinner at the Grand Conference Center.

Council Person Johnson thanked everyone on behalf of his family for having his granddaughter, Ashlyn, as Grand Marshall for this year’s parade.

In closing, Mayor Puckett thanked everyone for what they do for the city and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



*Christina Evans*  
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CITY CLERK

The seal is circular with a double-line border. The outer ring contains the text "CITY OF FITZGERALD, GEORGIA" at the top and "1888" at the bottom. The inner ring contains "CORPORATE SEAL" at the top and "APPEST" at the bottom. A five-pointed star is located at the bottom center of the seal.

APPROVED:  
*[Signature]*  
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MAYOR