

**Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Mayor and Council  
City of Fitzgerald, Georgia  
August 14, 2023  
6:00 p.m.**

A Public Hearing was held to receive citizens input on the **alley closure at 506 – 512 North Main Street**. With there being no one present to address or speak; the Public Hearing was closed.

Mayor and Council met on Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chamber, located at 302 East Central Avenue, with Mayor Jason L. Holt presiding and with Council members Brown, Clemons, D. Jefferson, S. Jefferson, K. Johnson, Peavey, and Roberts being present.

The invocation was led by Council member Dennis Jefferson and Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Jason L. Holt.

**Minutes of previous meeting, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Council meeting** were presented. Mayor Holt entertained a motion for approval. Council member Roberts made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Council member Peavey. With there being no additions or corrections, Mayor Holt called for a **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Holt welcomed all guests present and invited City Auditor, Tony Eckler to provide a brief review of the FY2022 Financial Report. Eckler shared his appreciation to the city staff in assisting with the audit process. Eckler added that the city's General Fund balance had improved by \$755,000 with the total being over \$2M. Other items noted were ARPA funds, TSPLOST, Landfill Closure and Post Closure costs increase and suggested implementing a document management system in the near future.

Chief Smallwood presented **Officer Brad Outlaw** who recently graduated from the Police Academy. Smallwood made the official pinning of the Officer.

Assistant Chief Finance Officer, Shalanda Ferguson was recognized and presented her Level 1 Finance Officer Certification from the UGA Carl Vinson Institute of Government. This certification requires the successful completion of 108 hours of government budgeting.

Department of Leisure Services Director, Keith Morris announced that the **Swim Team** had some state winners and had Swim Coach, Jennifer Shoultz to introduce them all. The state winners were Liam Heitzman, Coley Beth Croft and Madi Shoultz.

There were no **communications** or **presentations of petitions**.

Under **reports of city officers**, Mayor Holt called attention to the Administrative Report, sharing some highlights from each department.

Reports of **standing committees** were given by their respective chairpersons.

A motion was made by Council member Dennis Jefferson to approve an **alcohol application for 102 West Central Avenue**, submitted by Johnathan Burch with Coastal Plains Barbeque, for sale of beer and wine on premises, seconded by Council member Barry Peavey. With there being no discussion, Mayor Holt called for a **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney Kyle Cook presented **Ordinance # 23-1594**, an ordinance for alley closure at 506 – 512 North Main Street. Council member Tommy Roberts made a motion to dispense with the full reading, seconded by Council member Earl Brown. With there being no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Motion was made by Council member Tommy Roberts to approve **Ordinance # 23-1594**, seconded by Council member Leslie Clemons. With there being no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney Kyle Cook presented **Ordinance # 23-1595**, an ordinance to amend Chapter 12, “Garbage, Trash and Weeds”, specifically section 12-16, “Disposal of Yard Trimmings”. Council member Tommy Roberts made a motion to dispense with the full reading, seconded by Council member Leslie Clemons. With there being no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Motion was made by Council member Barry Peavey to approve **Ordinance # 23-1595**, seconded by Council member Tommy Roberts. With there being no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney Kyle Cook presented **Ordinance Captions for 2023 Tax Levy and Amend Chapter 4 “alcoholic beverages” regarding “sales to underage persons prohibited.”**

City Attorney Kyle Cook presented **Resolution R23-010**, a resolution adopting Policies and Procedures and Program Design for the CHIP Grant. Motion was made by Council member Tommy Roberts to dispense with the full reading of the Resolution, seconded by Council member Leslie Clemons. **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Holt noted that this resolution and the following two were related to the CHIP Grant which has been discussed in our previous meetings. Motion was made by Council member Tommy Roberts to approve **Resolution R23-010**, seconded by Council member Barry Peavey. Council member Shiela Jefferson asked if this grant was related to the grant that would assist in

renovating homes. Mayor Holt stated it was, but the applicant must live within the area listed in the grant, own the home and reside in the home. The area, noted by Council member Kevin Johnson and Mayor Holt is Oconee Street to Ohoopce Street and Sherman Street to Monitor Drive. With there being no further discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney Kyle Cook presented **Resolution R23-011**, a resolution adopting Policies and Procedures Promulgated under OCGA 36-80-23, 50-42 ET SEQ., and 13-10-91 to comply with requirements of the CHIP Grant. Motion was made by Council member Tommy Roberts to dispense with the full reading of the Resolution, seconded by Earl Brown. **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Motion was made by Tommy Roberts to approve **Resolution R23-011**, seconded by Council member Kevin Johnson. With no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney Kyle Cook presented **Resolution R23-012**, a resolution adopting homebuyer eligibility requirements and home ownership value limits for owner occupied housing rehab and new construction for the CHIP Grant. Motion was made by Council member Tommy Roberts to dispense with the full reading of the Resolution, seconded by Leslie Clemons. **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Motion was made by Tommy Roberts to approve **Resolution R23-012**, seconded by Council member Kevin Johnson. With no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Under new business, Mayor Holt recommended a reappointment of **Susan Smith to the Ben Hill County Board of Health**. Motion was made by Barry Peavey to reappoint Susan Smith to the Ben Hill County Board of Health, seconded by Council member Tommy Roberts. With no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Holt advised that the city had received a recommendation from the Airport Commission to proceed with a land lease agreement for the purpose of a new t-hangar from Sinclair Air. A motion was made by Council member Tommy Roberts to approve Mayor Holt executing the land lease agreement with Sinclair Air for the purpose of a t-hangar, seconded by Earl Brown. With no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Holt recommended reappointment of Brenda Lunsford to the Housing Authority Board of Directors. A motion was made by Council member Kevin Johnson to reappoint Brenda Lunsford to the Housing Authority Board of Directors, seconded by Council member Earl Brown. With no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

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

(SEAL)



APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joe Miller', written over a horizontal line.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cristina Evans', written over a horizontal line.