

**Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Mayor and Council  
City of Fitzgerald, Georgia  
November 12, 2018  
6:00 pm**

A Public Hearing took place at the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 302 East Central Avenue, on Monday, November 12, 2018.

A Public Hearing was held to give consideration submitted by Covered Wagon to permanently close Stuart Way from Colony Drive down to the Garden Inn property across from the old Tom's Buffet. Mayor Puckett asked if anyone would like to speak.

Mr. Allen Conger requested to speak. Mr. Conger called attention to a pump station near the closed area that if not able to access would hurt the county ISO rating. He also questioned why the road was being closed. Deputy Administrator Jordan addressed Mr. Conger's concerns. Mr. Jordan stated that the closure was to help avoid and /or prevent any accidents from occurring with the forklifts movement across the road multiple times per day. As far as the movement of the gate, this would not be a problem. Mr. Jordan noted that he did not realize this pump station was in the area.

Ms. Vickie Day voiced concern over where the traffic would be going and would Monitor still be accessible. Mr. Jordan again addressed the concerns. The employees of Covered Wagon will enter at the former Tom's area at the guard gate. Colony Drive will still be accessible to get to Monitor Drive.

Neil Patel, owner of Garden Inn & Suites mentioned the flooding that occurs at the entrance of his business. Mr. Patel noted that the gutters had not been cleaned out and is an issues each time it rains. Mr. Jordan and Mayor Puckett addressed Mr. Patel and let him know that they would help and take his concerns under consideration.

Having no other comments, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor and Council of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia, met in a **Regular** meeting immediately following the Public Hearing with Mayor Puckett presiding and with Council members Coney, Griffin, Jefferson, Johnson, Roberts, Tillman, Webb and Williams being present.

Minutes of October 8, 2018, Regular Council meeting were read. Mayor Puckett entertained a motion for approval. Council Person Webb made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Council Person Coney. 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: 8 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Minutes of October 25 2018, called Council meeting were read. Mayor Puckett entertained a motion for approval. Council Person Johnson made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Council Person Williams. 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: 8 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Puckett welcomed the large audience in attendance.

Mayor Puckett called on Mrs. Vanessa Melton to speak. Mrs. Melton addressed council and guest by stating that Dorminy Medical Center is looking to turn around. Mrs. Melton introduced Mrs. Stacey Mims to come and give details. Mrs. Mims noted that DMC had been struggling for a while but are now focused on rebounding. The past 4 of 5 months have seen positive return. There were some loss of services with the oncology loss and primary care physicians; however, we have been able to grow. We opened a Geri-psych unit on a leap of faith which has been a great investment. We have been able to get back a growing oncology area as well as lab services. The quality for DMC has improved greatly and we have noted low post op site infections. The Rural Tax Credits also helped. We are now starting to see results from 2017 implementations. It is good to come and share good news.

Under reports of city officers, Mayor Puckett called attention to the many calendar items. Mayor Puckett noted the many activities going on in Fitzgerald. He asked if there were any questions of the department heads and with none moved to special committees.

Reports of standing committees were given by their respective committee chair.

Mayor Puckett called on Counselor Gill Braddy.

City Attorney, Gill Braddy, presented **Ordinance 18-1529** an **Ordinance** to close to vehicular and pedestrian traffic a portion of that certain public road known as Stuart Way in the City of Fitzgerald, Ben Hill County Georgia. Council Person Coney motioned to dispense with full reading, seconded by Council Person Griffin. Mayor Puckett asked if there was any discussion and with none heard, moved to **Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Puckett asked for approval of **Ordinance 18-1529** Council Person Williams moved to approve **Ordinance 18-1529** seconded by Council Person Coney. Mayor Puckett asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, moved to **Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney, Gill Braddy, presented **Resolution R18-016**, Resolution to amend the comprehensive tourism plan for the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia. Council Person Coney motioned to dispense with full reading, seconded by Council Person Webb. Mayor Puckett asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, moved to **Roll Call Vote: 6 Yes, 2 No. Motion approved. Griffin and Johnson voting No.**

Mayor Puckett asked for approval of **Resolution R18-016**. Council Person Coney motioned to approve **Resolution R18-016** seconded by Council Person Webb. Mayor Puckett asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, moved to **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 1 No. Motion approved. Tillman voting No.**

City Attorney, Gill Braddy, presented **Resolution R18-017**, a Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia approving and authorizing execution of an intergovernmental agreement between Ben Hill county, Georgia and the City of Fitzgerald Georgia concerning a county one percent (1%) transportation special purpose local option sales tax (TSPLOST) for funding transportation capital outlay projects within Ben Hill County, Georgia and the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia, as authorized by Article 5 of Chapter 8 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia annotated; determining the uses of the proceeds from said TSPLOST. Council Person

Coney motioned to dispense with full reading, seconded by Council Person Webb. Mayor Puckett asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, moved to **Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.**

Mayor Puckett asked for approval of **Resolution R18-017** Council Person Coney motioned to approve **Resolution R18-017** seconded by Council Person Webb. Mayor Puckett asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, moved to **Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No. All in Favor. Motion approved.**

Mayor Puckett took time to say a special thank you to Deputy Administrator Kathy Young, Police, Public Works and Fire Departments during Hurricane Michael. He was very appreciative and proud of everyone involved and how smoothly the process ran.

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



*Cristina Evans*  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED:  
*[Signature]*  
MAYOR