**Meeting Minutes of the Washington City Council**

**Monthly Meeting**

**December 12, 2022**

**Edward B. Pope Conference Center**

**6:00 PM**

The mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their monthly City Council meeting on December 12, 2022, at 6:00PM at the Edward B. Pope Conference Center. Mayor deGolian presided. Councilmen Anderson, Cullars Sr., Denard, Hill, Mahoney and Wagner participated in person.

A work session was held at 5:00 p.m. prior to the City Council monthly meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Hill to approve the December 12, 2022, agenda. Seconded by Councilman Denard. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation by City Administrator to adopt the ECG electric rate reduction proposal. Council discussed and requested further discussion and defer vote until another date.

Recommendation by City Administrator to pay off the $780,000 GEFA loan (4% interest) on the fire station construction loan. Doing so would make the city debt-free except for principle-only loan (0% interest) on the 2008 Water Treatment Plant renovation. Consensus of Council was that up to 50% of the fire station note could be paid off, and the remaining balance could be considered later. Motioned by Mahoney and seconded by Denard. Motion passed with 4 Yeas and 2 Nays. (Yea = Anderson, Denard, Mahoney, Wagner) (Nay = Cullars, Hill).

Motion by Councilman Mahoney to adopt a prorated business and liquor licenses proposal, and to authorize the City Administrator to approve them rather than bringing before Council for a vote. Under the new plan, licenses will be prorated on a quarterly plan that requires full face value from Jan-Mar, 75% of face value from Apr-Jun, 50% face value from Jul-Sep, and 25% face value from Oct-Dec. The intent is to provide another incentive for new business. Motion was seconded by Cullars, Sr. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Councilman Cullars, Sr. that the city take a more active role in use of Hotel Motel Tax funds for tourism. Seconded by Councilman Mahoney. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor called for a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Anderson and seconded by Hill. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned.

Mayor City Clerk: