

**ETHICS HEARING
AUGUST 13, 2018**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, conducted an Ethics Hearing on Monday, August 13, 2018, beginning at 2 PM at the Edward Pope Conference Center. Mayor Ames Barnett presided.

Present were: Mayor Barnett and council members Armour, Armour, Cullars, Mahoney and Scarborough. Council member Tutt was not present. Also present were City Administrator Bailey, City Clerk Danner and City Attorney Fleming.

City Attorney Fleming explained that the hearing was taking place because of charges filed against Council member Cullars by Council member Robert Armour for a threat made against Armour by Council member Cullars at the June meeting of council.

Fleming distributed to council a copy of the official complaint that was sent to the Ethics Committee for review and then referred to the full council for a hearing. Fleming also distributed a copy of the transcript from the June meeting as prepared by his office staff from the recording of the meeting made by City Clerk Danner.

Council member Armour stated that he filed the complaint because he had been threatened with physical harm by Cullars and felt that a public meeting was not the place for such threats.

Council member Cullars asked Attorney Fleming several questions about the validity of the complaint since it does not quote the exact ordinance section that it was filed under and also why the transcript was made by the attorney's office staff. Cullars went on to inform council that the Grand Jury had recently "No Billed" charges that Armour filed against him.

Council member Armour provided a certified transcript of the recording as prepared by Court Reporter Kelli Tillman.

The recording of the June 11, 2018, meeting was played for council review.

City Attorney Fleming advised of possible penalties that council could hand down on the charges filed.

On motion by Mahoney, second by T. Armour, council approved 3 to 0 to enter into executive session to discuss the matter.

On motion by Scarborough, second by T. Armour, council approved 3 to 0 to re-convene in open session.

City Attorney Fleming gave report that one personnel matter was discussed with no final action taken.

On motion by Mahoney, second by T. Armour, council approved 3 to 0 to have Mayor Barnett sign an Executive Session Affidavit.

On motion by T. Armour, second by Scarborough, council voted 3 to 0 to suspend the Ethics Hearing.

MAYOR

CLERK