

**REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2020**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, January 13, 2020, beginning at 6:00 PM at the Edward Pope Conference Center. Mayor Pro Tem Robert Armour called the meeting to order.

Present were: Council members Armour, Armour, Hill, Mahoney and Scarborough. Also present were City Clerk Danner and City Attorney Nelson. Mayor Elect DeGolian and council members elect Denard and Wagner were also present. Council member Cullars was not present due to illness.

Visitors included: Probate Judge Thomas Charping, Superior Court Judge Britt Hammond, Attorney James I. Roberts, Barbara Roberts, John Singleton, Tommy Davis, George Curry, Janine Curry, Debra Denard, David Denard, James Towns, Dan Coxwell, Carol Cartledge, Henry Crew, Vivian Walker, Esper Lee, Otis Strong, Judy Anderson, Betsy Orr, Myra Blackmon, Tom Holland, Billy Godwin, Betsy Wagner, Peggy Anderson, Hugh Hopkins, Betty Hamilton, Martha Read, Elizabeth Crabbe, Richard Crabbe, Michele Hamlin, Terry Diggs, Susan Branan, Dr. W.C. Branan, Paige Denard, Paige Bailey, Brent Bailey, Ed Pope, Jr., Susan H. Pope, Tim Harris, Kelli Harris, Charles W. Pope, Jim Bundy, Jane Bundy, Doug Tyler, Juanita Tyler, Phyllis Scarborough, Hilda Wright, Hal Savage, Nina Savage, Betsy Denard, Thom Denard, Bruce Bailey, Joanne Danner, Rick Danner, Caroline Danner, Randy Danner, Bruce Bailey, Jason LeBlanc, Ricky LeBlanc, Jasmine Johns, Tonya Binns, Linda Anderson, Jan Anderson, Andy Anderson, M.V. Booker, Jeanelle Ashmore, Michael Horgan, Claudelle McClendon, Tommy Wells, Debbie Wells, Redna Mays, Rosemary Hopkins, Jordan Acree, Loretta Fanning, Otis Strong, Roxanne Cobb, Sniggy Eskew, Mike Eskew, Kendra Dill, Kelli Eisler, Laura Toburen, David Toburen, Mattie Carson, Clara Sutton, Mark Outlaw, Lynn Outlaw, Annie R. Wilkinson, Jeraline Bell, C. R. Smith, Tom Duggan, Gail Duggan, Bettye Armour, Mercer Harris, Blake Thompson and Sparky Newsome of the News Reporter.

Mayor Pro Tem Armour opened the meeting in prayer and called on out-going Council member Travis Armour to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Wilkes County Probate Judge administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Elect William D. DeGolian and Council member Elect Charles D. Wagner. Attorney James I. Robert administered the Oath of Office to Council member Elect Matthew Denard and Superior Court Judge Britt Hammond administered the Oath of Office to Council member Mahoney.

APPOINTMENT OF CITY OFFICIALS: Mayor DeGolian asked for council to re-appoint Municipal Court Judge Michael Horgan as Municipal Court Judge for 2020. On motion by Armour, second by Mahoney, council approved request 5 to 0.

Mayor DeGolian requested council approval of Barry Fleming of Fleming and Nelson as City Attorney for 2020. On motion by Mahoney, second by Hill, council approved request 5 to 0.

RECOGNITION OF OUT GOING OFFICIALS: Mayor DeGolian recognized out-going city officials for their years of service. Recognized were Ames Barnett, Travis Armour, Mike Scarborough and Marion Tutt, Jr.

Mayor DeGolian also recognized employees who have opted to take part in an offered early retirement incentive program: Water Distribution Superintendent Darrell Rogers, Lead Lineman for the Electric Department Wade Waller and City Clerk Danner.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: Mayor DeGolian thanked those present for their support and spoke briefly about his hopes for the coming years. DeGolian expressed his humbleness in being elected Mayor and his desires that mayor and council will pull together for the common good of the community DeGolian also expressed his willingness to work for economic growth in supporting local businesses and industries. Mayor DeGolian stated his intention of meeting with MEAG representatives about possible restructuring of financial commitments on behalf of the city. Mayor DeGolian also spoke about public safety and possible neighborhood watch programs.

Mayor DeGolian announced that he would have office hours at city hall every Tuesday afternoon from 2:30 PM until 4:30 PM.

Rev. Otis Strong offered the benediction at the close of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Mahoney, second by Armour, council approved 5 to 0 adjournment at 6:32 PM.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK