

**REGULAR MEETING
MAY 13, 2019**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on May 13, 2019, beginning at 3:30 PM at the Edward Pope Conference Center. Mayor Pro Tem Scarborough presided.

Present were council members Armour, Armour, Cullars, Mahoney, Scarborough and Tutt. Mayor Barnett was out of town on business. Also present were City Administrator Bailey, City Clerk Danner and City Attorney Fleming.

The meeting was opened by a moment of silence to remember Norris Ware who regularly attended meetings of council until his health prevented him from doing so. The moment of silence was followed by a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVED: On motion by R. Armour, second by Tutt, council approved meeting agenda as presented 6 to 0.

MINUTES APPROVED: On motion by T. Armour, second by R. Armour, council approved the minutes of the previous meetings 6 to 0.

EMS REGIONAL BANQUET: EMS Director Blake Thompson advised those present that the regional EMS Banquet would be held tonight at the Pope Center. There are some 125 attendees and tickets are still available for \$25. Thompson also advised that there would be a "Roast of Blake Thompson" held at the Pope Center on August 10, 2019. Tickets are available for that as well.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS:

ORDINANCE SECTION 6-13: City Attorney Fleming presented to council a proposed change to the alcohol ordinance changing the hours of operation on Friday and Saturday nights to 1 AM. On motion by Cullars to leave the ordinance as it exists, second by Tutt, council voted 3 to 3. Voting against the motion were council members Armour, Armour and Scarborough.

JUVENILE CURFEW: City Attorney Fleming presented to council a proposed Juvenile Curfew Ordinance which would limit minors (age 17 and under) from being out between the hours of 11 PM and 6 AM and on Friday and Saturday from midnight until 6 AM. Council member R. Armour made a motion to approve the Juvenile Curfew Ordinance, with a second by Scarborough. Discussion followed with Mahoney wanting clarification on what role the sheriff's department would have in this matter. On motion by Tutt, second by Cullars, council approved 6 to 0 to table this matter.

TOPICS SUBMITTED BY COUNCIL:

MAHONEY: Council member Mahoney made a motion to increase Family Connection budget by \$3,000, second by Tutt, council voted 3 to 3. Voting against the motion were Armour, Armour and Scarborough.

Council member Mahoney asked the City Attorney to review Ordinance Section 2-12 as it relates to meeting agendas. City Attorney Fleming advised that for regular meetings and work session council members may add to the agenda, but that for special called meetings the mayor controls the agenda though council members may request things be added to a called meeting agenda, the mayor has the final authority on what goes on the actual agenda.

Mahoney also discussed the upcoming shutdown of Novipax. Novipax bought some 8,053,000 kwh during 2018 with a sales figure of \$771,795, and water/sewer sales of \$263,871. The City would sell the excess power on the market creating approximately \$225,488 in sales which will mean a net total loss of around \$810,178 annually. The current price per kwh on the open market is \$.028 and the city is committed to a cost of \$.08388 per kwh through the MEAG contract. The City could also try to sell some excess assets. City Attorney Fleming will meet with MEAG officials about contract re-negotiations.

Mahoney asked about the excess garbage dumpsters located at the Gordon Street School property. Council was informed that excess dumpsters will be sold for scrap metal.

Mahoney distributed pictures of the School Street cemetery and discussed the appearance of the cemetery. It was agreed that the condition of the cemetery was not up to standard and that the Public Works Department is working on this matter. There are some 42 dead trees at the cemetery and the low bid for removal was \$60,000.

Mahoney discussed the four building lot foundations on Norman Street. Mahoney again requested that the city consider bringing Barbara Bacon back on staff as a consultant to get these matters straightened out.

SCARBOROUGH: Council member Scarborough advised that the Boys and Girls Club of the CSRA and the Parks and Recreation Board are talking about a possible contract for the Boys and Girls Club to operate the Parks and Recreation Facilities. The B&G Club would go after grants, create more programs and offer mentoring.

R. ARMOUR: Council member R. Armour advised that the Animal Shelter is continuing to operate efficiently and urged citizens to volunteer at the shelter.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR TOPICS: City Administrator Bailey requested council approval of a request from the DDA for use of the square beginning May 21, 2019, for Tuesday on the Square from 5:30 to 8 PM. On motion by T. Armour, second by Cullars, council approved request 6 to 0.

City Administrator Bailey requested council approval for use of the square and road closure for the annual July 3 Freedom Fireworks event. On motion by Tutt, second by Cullars, council approved request 6 to 0.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Tutt, second by R. Armour, council approved 6 to 0 meeting adjournment at 4:28 PM.

_____MAYOR PRO TEM

_____CLERK