

**WORK SESSION
AUGUST 13, 2018**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly Work Session on Monday, August 13, 2018, beginning at 3 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 joined the meeting at 3:26 PM. Also present were City Administrator Bailey, City Clerk Danner and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors included: Sam Latimer of Rushton and Company, Cathy Armour, Debbie Anderson, Jeanelle Ashmore, Hilda Wright, Letitia Callaway-Strozier, Mary Burt, Ann Tanner, Judy Anderson, Bill DeGolian, Annie R. Wilkinson, Hattie Callaway, Tonya Binns, Kendra Dill, Clara Sutton, Mildred Hackney, Patricia Wilder, Mildred Hudson and Sparky Newsome of the News Reporter.

Council member Cullars apologized to Council member Armour for the mis-hap from the June regular meeting.

Council member Armour accepted the apology and stated that he if he had interrupted during council member Cullars recognized time he did apologize and would try to not interrupt when other council members had the floor.

Mayor Barnett advised that during the regular meeting he would seek approval for the re-appointment of Thomas Mills, Sr to the Zoning Appeals Board and the appointment of Elizabeth Orr to replace Laura Toburen on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mayor Barnett also advised that he would seek council approval to ask UGA to conduct a study on Consolidation of City and County governments. UGA will not conduct the study unless both city and county agree to the study. Any action on Consolidation must come before the voters. This first step is to simply get a price quote for the study.

Sam Latimer, Lead Auditor with Rushton and Company, presented the 2017 final audit to the Mayor and Council. Latimer advised that it was a clean audit with no disagreements with management. Latimer also advised that city revenues were up slightly and especially noted that changes to the way the sanitation department operated and bringing back in the water and sewer treatment operations had been major contributing factors in the good audit results.

Alvin Jones, Parks and Recreation Director, requested that council approve an expenditure of \$14,000 to purchase 140 football helmets for the program. Current helmets are out of compliance with safety regulations. Wilkes County has no funds to support this purchase.

City Administrator Bailey reported a request from the URA for a land swap of some .51 acres and the fieldhouse for .76 acres and the tennis courts. The fieldhouse will be used a dressings room for the proposed amphitheater.

Bailey also asked for council guidance of the proposed 2018 millage rate. A rate of 8.863 mils will result in a revenue neutral position. Council agreed with this millage rate and advertising.

It was announced that the Board of Registrars will hold a meet the candidates at the Pope Center on August 28, 2018 from 4 until 7 PM.

Work Session adjourned at 3:37 PM.

MAYOR

CLERK