

WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 10, 2012

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly work session on Monday, September 10, 2012, beginning at 5 PM at the Pope Conference Center. Mayor Ames M. Barnett presided.

Present were: Mayor Barnett, Council members Armour, Cullars, Harris, Rainey and Scarborough. Council member Tutt was not present. Also present were City Administrator Eskew, City Clerk Danner, City Attorney Fleming and City Police Chief Glenn.

Visitors present included: Betty Slaton, Carol Cartledge, Joseph Willis, Cindy R. Bounds, Tom Owen, Jane Owen, Hilda Wright, Debbie Anderson, Rachel Jackson, Janette Thomas, Carrington Tutt, Amethyst Wynn, Billy Hopkins, Newton Gunter, Pam Gunter, Sim Dill, Jr., Annie R. Wilkinson, Mary Harris, Blake Thompson, Evans Moore, Mary Lou Davis, Clara Sutton, Charles Leverette, Sue Davidson and Kip Burke of the News Reporter.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE: David Jenkins updated council on CHIP 08 bid opening for renovation of house #3, construction should begin on house 3 on Rusher Street within the next week; appraisals have been received for Norman Street; there will be a Georgia Housing Retreat on September 11, 2012; work on website continues; Notify Me program is in place; square reservations were updated; and Lazarus Casket is slowly hiring.

RAINEY: Council member Rainey asked for updates from previously discussed items; Chris Higdon with GMA has talked to the City about low interest loans for businesses in green endeavors and the city's use of Pinpoint Geotech will aid in the city's green initiatives.

After sending out RFP's for auction of contents for old high school items, there has been only one response from an auction company. There was some discussion about turning this project over to the URA and also discussion about the need for public input about the future of the property.

Council member Rainey gave a report from her recent visit to Callaway Plantation. Further study will be done on entrance fees and utility savings. Rainey also asked for a fee structure study on all city functions.

CULLARS: Council member Cullars asked that utility penalties for all senior citizens be discontinued. There will be a meeting of the electric committee on September 24, 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers of City Hall for further discussion of this issue.

Cullars also asked for consideration of a civil rights attorney to assist the City Attorney. Council members from District 1 feel that there may be some issues with reports/news stories appearing in the News Reporter.

Cullars also asked that his council member salary be issued at the first of each month, instead of the end of the month as it has been done in the past.

Cullars also asked if a new location for Cable TV payments had been established.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE: City Administrator Eskew advised that he would seek approval during the regular meeting for a contract for design and coordination of the 8" water line re-build from Skull Shoals plant to Lexington Avenue. There was also discussion about proposed generators at the water plant. This matter will be addressed at the October meeting.

Eskew will also seek approval during the regular meeting for a proposed Little Theatre Outdoor cemetery drama on October 6 and 7.

Council will be asked to make decisions on health insurance coverage during the regular meeting.

City Administrator Eskew advised that a visit had been made to UGA's Vinson Institute of Government. A recap of the visit and the proposal made by UGA was included in each council member's meeting packet.

The work session adjourned at 5:58PM.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK