REGULAR WORK SESSION
January 11, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly work session on Monday, January 11, 2021, via Zoom, Meeting ID: 995 9494 4660, Passcode: 467608 at 5:00 P.M. Mayor William deGolian presided.

Invocation by Council Member Hill.

Pledge of Allegiance in unison.

Present via Zoom were Mayor deGolian and Council Members Armour, Cullars, Denard, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner. Also present via Zoom were City Administrator deBin, Assistant Administrator Dill, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors present via Zoom were Sharon Myers, Angela Booker, Susan, Janet Parker, Newton Gunter, Kathy Agan, Corinne Hunter, Bobby McAllister, Morris Branson, Adrienne, Alicia, Frank, Ray Owens, (404)314-7562, and Sparky Newsome from the News-Reporter.

Work Session Topics:

1. Community Development Proposal from David Denard – Mr. Denard offered to give the concrete driveway connecting rear of Zaxby's parking lot to Ann Denard Drive. Mr. Denard advised that there is a potential retail prospect and by making this a city street, it would simplify easement issues and other problems. The paved/concrete are was 30 feet wide and stretch 100 -200 yards.
   Council Member Matthew Denard recused himself, the proposal was tabled pending a title search on the location.

2. Public Safety Workshop scheduled for Friday, January 22nd at 10 A.M. Workshop presiders, Executive Director of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police, Butch Ayers, Assistant Executive Director of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police, Dwayne Orrick, and Washington County's Sherriff, Joel Cochran. The purpose of the workshop is to explore options of how to administer the $338,000 added to the 2021 budget for public safety. Mayor deGolian stated that the options are working out an agreement with the with the County Sheriff Department, privatizing police patrols inside the city, and reestablishing a city Police Department.

3. Teen Center – Mayor deGolian has plans for an organization in Atlanta to partnership with 4E Youth Organization and launch a mentorship including high school students with younger students.

4. Historical Properties – Council Member Mahoney inquired about adding African American history to Callaway Plantation and the Washington Historic Museum. Mayor deGolian advised that the Museum's curator Stephanie Macchia should be resourceful.

5. Overtime pay included in the 2021 budget is concern of Council Member Hill. Administrator deBin explained to him the calculations.

6. UCAP request to the use of city streets, for the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. parade to travel down Whitehall to Robert Toombs Ave.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Hill motioned to adjourn; second by Council Member Denard. All agreed unanimous to dismiss at 5:43 P.M.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 11, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly work session on Monday, January 11, 2021, via Zoom, Meeting ID: 995 9494 4660, Passcode: 467608 at 6:00 P.M. Mayor William deGolian presided.

Invocation by Council Member Armour.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Cullars.

Present via Zoom were Mayor deGolian and Council Members Armour, Cullars, Denard, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner. Also present via Zoom were City Administrator deBin, Assistant Administrator Dill, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors present via Zoom were Sharon Myers, Angela Booker, Susan, Janet Parker, Newton Gunter, Kathy Agan, Corinne Hunter, Bobby McAllister, Morris Branson, Adrienne, Alicia, Frank, Ray Owens, (404)314-7562, and Sparky Newsome from the News-Reporter.

Motion by Council Member Armour to approved Work Session Minutes – December 14th, Regular Council Meeting Minutes – December 14th, and Public Hearing Minutes to adopt 2021 Budget – December 30th. Second by Council Member Denard. All approved, 6-0.

MAYORS TOPICS

Planning Commission recommendations were tabled until further research by the Council.

Preface out of Atlanta (Equality Through Education) to partnership with 4E Youth Organization and launch a mentorship including high school students working with younger students.

More feedback is needed for the Gordon Street Survey conducted by the Sizemore Group. Mayor deGolian urged everyone to take the survey in reference to the development of the Gordon Street property.

COUNCIL TOPICS

Council Member Mahoney questioned Fire Department Overtime, he also wants to add African American History to the Historic Properties (Callaway Plantation and the Washington Historic Museum). Mayor advised Council Member Mahoney to set up a meeting with Stephanie Macchia, the Museum Curator. As far as Law Enforcement – Council Member Mahoney questioned the time frame of moving forward. Possibly late Spring/early Summer. Council Members Mahoney and Denard stated that this matter need to be handled asap, very quickly.

Council Member Hill advised that this is not the time to increase water rates with this pandemic going on. Council Member Hill also Congratulated the Democrats for the Senate Race.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR TOPICS

Motioned by Council Member Cullars to reappoint Fleming and Nelson as the City Attorney and reappoint Michael Horgan as the Magistrate Judge. Second by Council Member Denard. Approved 6-0
Council approved Beer and Wine Package License for Mona C. Store, Inc. at 102 W. Robert Toombs and Council approved UCAP to use the city street for the Annual Martin Luther King Jr. parade celebration traveling Whitehall Street to Robert Toombs Avenue.

Garbage canisters delivery starts the week of January 15, 2021.

Motion by Council Member Hill to close out regular meeting and go into Executive Session; Second by Denard. Approved by all (6-0) to go into Executive Session at 7:09 P.M.

Reason for Executive Session: Personnel

Motion by Council Member Mahoney; Second by Council Member Wagner to close out Executive Session and go back into regular meeting at 8:10 P.M. All agreed in unison.

Motion by Council Member Mahoney and second by Council Member Cullars to sign affidavit. 6-0

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Council Member Cullars and second by Council Member Denard to adjourn at 8:12 P.M. 6-0 unanimous

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

PUBLIC SAFETY
WORKSESSION
JANUARY 22, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held a Public Service Work Session via Zoom, meeting id: 981 7957 6887, passcode: 980135 at 10:00 A.M. Mayor deGolian called the meeting to order.

Present via Zoom were: Council Members Armour, Denard, Hill, Mahoney and Wagner. Also present were Administrator deBin, City Clerk Evans and City Attorney Nelson. Council Member Cullars was not present.

Visitors included: Carol Jackson, Richard Crabbe, Janet Parker, County Commissioner Charles Jackson, Executive Director Butch Ayers and Assistant Director Dwayne Orrick of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police and Washington County Sheriff Joel Cochran.

Mayor deGolian opened the meeting in prayer and called on Council Member Denard to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Director Ayers first advised that there were three scenarios: (1) continue as is – use Sheriff Department. (2) start a Police Department. (3) enter an agreement with Sheriff Department with additional manpower.

To have two officers on duty at all times, plus a chief would require 9.6 officers on the payroll. He also advised that considering training and other costs for each officer would cost up to $200.00 for their first three years of service.

Assistant Orrick stated that equipment would cost approximately $50,000 for each officer and to add $50,000 for vehicles. He also estimated that startup cost not including operating expense, supplies and a facility would be between $990,000 an $1.2 million.

Joel Cochran, Washington County Sheriff spoke about City of Tennille because his Sheriff's Department provides coverage for them; they are similar to Washington and do not have a Police Department. He estimated that Tennille pays somewhere around $400,000 for round the clock dedicated coverage.

The Mayor and Council will continue to research public safety.

Adjournment at 11:36 A.M.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

PUBLIC SAFETY
WORKSESSION
JANUARY 22, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held a Public Service Work Session via Zoom, meeting id: 981 7957 6887, passcode: 980135 at 10:00 A.M. Mayor deGolian called the meeting to order.

Present via Zoom were: Council Members Armour, Denard, Hill, Mahoney and Wagner. Also present were Administrator deBin, City Clerk Evans and City Attorney Nelson. Council Member Cullars was not present.

Visitors included: Carol Jackson, Richard Crabbe, Janet Parker, County Commissioner Charles Jackson, Executive Director Butch Ayers and Assistant Director Dwayne Orrick of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police and Washington County Sheriff Joel Cochran.

Mayor deGolian opened the meeting in prayer and called on Council Member Denard to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Joel Cochran, Washington County Sheriff spoke about City of Tennille because his Sheriff's Department provides coverage for them; they are similar to Washington and do not have a Police Department. He estimated that Tennille pays somewhere around $400,000 for round the clock dedicated coverage.

The Mayor and Council will continue to research public safety.

Adjournment at 11:36 A.M.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

REGULAR MEETING
February 8, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 8, 2021 via Zoom at 6:00 P.M. Meeting ID: 953 4803 9290 Passcode: 920911

Mayor William deGolian presided.

Present were Mayor deGolian and Council members Armour, Cullars, Denard, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner. Also present were City Administrator deBin, Assistant Administrator Dill, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Nelson.

Visitors present via Zoom or telephone (929) 205-6099 were Andy Anderson, Janet Parker, Susan, Albert Moore, Evans "Duck" Moore, Brad Jones, Henry E. Crew, Judy Anderson, Angela Booker, Lori Branson, Chief Gilland, Kathy Agan, (312)312-4319, (706)678-3263, (706)401-9491, (706)401-5231, (770)842-3408, and Sparky Newsome of the News-Reporter.

Invocation by Council member Hill.

Mr. Evans "Duck" Moore, Washington's oldest World War II veteran, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor deGolian read a proclamation naming Mr. Moore's birthday, February 14th as "Evans 'Duck' Moore Day".

MINUTES APPROVED: Correction in Mayor's Topics of January 11th regular council meeting, (Preface Project).

AGENDA: Council member Mahoney wanted to add Executive Session to the agenda. After discussion with Mayor deGolian, Executive Session will take place at the end of the agenda. Council member Hill wanted to move public comments to the beginning of the agenda. Motioned by Armour, second by Hill to approve agenda. Approved by all.

PUBLIC FORUM TO ADDRESS COUNCIL: No Public Comments

MAYOR'S TOPICS

A. Recommendation of Appointees to Boards, Commissions, and Authorities – Request from Council to look over list before appointments. Council member Hill motioned, second by Cullars to appoint Angela Booker to the Housing Authority to replace M.V. Booker and Council member Denard to the Parks and Recreation Board. Vote unanimous.

B. Public Safety Update – Question of "what direction does the city take?" Mayor would like to workout a new contract with the Sheriff Department. Council members Denard and Cullars were appointed go along with Mayor deGolian and sit down with the Wilkes County Sheriff Department. Council member Wagner pointed out that we still have problems communicating with the county. Planning a meeting with the Mayor of Tennille, due to their contract with Washington County's Sheriff. Tennille and Washington County shared the contract that they have in place, the city sent it to our attorney and the County Commissioner Chairman Moore. Chairman Moore has not responded.

COUNCIL TOPICS

A. Council member Hill – Parks and Recreation Department and Gordon Street Feasibility Study:

1. Janet Parker is working on breaking down the survey, to reduce the number of pages. Denard and Hill will meet with the Urban Redevelopment Authority, churches to pin down a date for the community give back/opening house (Gordon Street). Maybe February 27th during the time frame of 11 am to 2 pm. It was also questioned if anyone contacted the Alumni.
2. Council member Hill questioned the cutback to the Parks and Recreation Department. Hill requested that the city change their contribution to the Parks and Recreation back to $95,000. Council member Cullars motioned to change the funding back, second by Mahoney. Vote 5 – 1 with Council member Armour voting NO.

B. Council member Mahoney: Council Committee Appointments, Housing Authority Fund, and Gordon Street follow-up:

1. Would like for the following Committees/Boards to be re-established – Publicworks, Electric, Water, Sewer, Sanitation, Fire, and Code Enforcement. Motion by Mahoney to re-establish Committees/Boards; second by Cullars; 6-0 Approved. Mayor will appoint Committees and send out an email.

2. Housing Authority give funds back to city in lieu of paying taxes. Council member Mahoney questioned if those funds could be placed back into the community. Housing Authority had a meeting coming up and Mayor deGolian asked the newly appointed Mrs. Booker to check into this matter.

3. Gordon Street Follow-up: Council member Mahoney stated that he attends URA meetings when possible and cleanup is going well, pressure washing of the walls, bad tiles removed, epoxy the floor. Once the roof is inspected the walls can be painted and the stage restained.

Council member Cullars approached the Council about transparency. He stated that all the Council members need to be informed of any new projects/new businesses coming into the city.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR TOPICS

A. Liberty Street paving bid award (LMIG 2020)

1. Recommendation to approve C & H Paving, Inc., Thomson, Georgia for resurfacing East/West Liberty Street along with Episcopal Way. Motioned by Cullars, second by Wagner to approve. Vote: 6-0
2. Upon approval of Liberty Street bid recommendation to approve resurfacing Old Skull Shoals Road by C & H Paving, Inc while contractors are in town working on a project.

Motioned by Hill, second by Wagner. Vote 5-0, Council member Cullars recused himself due to his residence is on Old Skull Shoals Road.

C & H Paving, Inc.
204 Main Street
Thomson, GA 30824
Phone: 706-595-5351 / Fax: 706-595-5083
www.candhpaving.com

February 2, 2021

Mr. Bobby Mills
City of Washington
102 E. Liberty St.
Washington, GA 30673
bmills@wga.gov

We are pleased to quote the following project: **City Street Resurfacing**

Item	Description	Price
East/West Liberty Street From E. Robert Toombs Ave. To N. Mercer Street	- Mill 1.5" from Curb and Gutter Sections - Pave with 1.5" of new asphalt - Double Yellow Traffic Striping and Stop-bars at Stop Signs	$94,770.00
Episcopal Way From East Robert Toombs Ave. to End of Parking Area	- Clean and level with Leveling Asphalt - Pave with 1.0" of new asphalt	$11,000.00
Old Skulls Shoals Road From Whitehall Street to Merriweather Drive	- Mill 1.5" from Curb and Gutter Sections - Pave with 1.5" of new asphalt - Double Yellow Traffic Striping and Stop-bars at Stop Signs	$46,800.00
	Priced Individually Price For Entire Package	$152,570.00 $144,941.50

Notes:
- *Includes mobilization, trucking and disposal of related debris*
- *Pricing good for 30 days*

Thank you for the opportunity to quote this project.
Sincerely,

Josh Newsome
C & H Paving, Inc.
josh@candhpaving.com

B. Resolution authorizing USDA grant application for retail market assessment: An opportunity grant presented by Janet Parker, Main Street Director. Motioned by Mahoney, second by Denard to sign the resolution for Mrs. Parker to submit the grant application. Vote 6-0 unanimous.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR A RETAIL MARKET ASSESSMENT

WHEREAS, the City of Washington Georgia is located in a rural area of less than 50,000 residents; and

WHEREAS, it is of an overall benefit to the residents of Washington Georgia to shop locally; and

WHEREAS, retail market conditions change over time; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and council of the City of Washington Georgia staffs an economic development department, whose successful efforts depend on gathering up to date market data,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia hereby authorizes a grant application of $10,000 be made to the United States Department of Agriculture.

Adopted this 8th day of February, 2021

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK 3-24-24

(Seal)

WANDA KIM EVANS
COMMISSION EXPIRES
NOTARY
PUBLIC
MARCH 24, 2024
WILKES COUNTY, GEORGIA

Recommendation to accept bid from Key Fire Protection Enterprises, LLC for the fire alarm system at the Edward B. Pope Conference Center which is non-repairable. The bid received came in at $16,450.00. Motioned by Hill, second by Mahoney to accept recommendation. Vote unanimous.

KEY FIRE PROTECTION ENTERPRISES, LLC
PO BOX 204850, AUGUSTA GA 30917
3200 MIKE PADGTT HWY. AUGUSTA GA 30906
O-706-790-3473* FAX: 706-738-2119 * Jerry@keyfps.com

1/13/2021

Pope Conference Center

SCOPE: Building Fire Alarm System with Voice Evac Upgrade
Provide and Install building fire alarm system. To include Addressable Fire Alarm Panel, Voice Evacuation Panel, Document Cabinet, Breaker lock kit, Initiating devices, Notification devices, remote annunciator, and remote microphones to replace existing Simplex system.

PRICE: **SIXTEEN THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS AND NO CENTS.....$16,450.00**

MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT & SERVICES INCLUDED:

- Installation Labor, programming, testing
- System Design and required documentation
- Low voltage permit
- System to meet all applicable codes and standards to include NFPA 70, NFPA 72, EIA/TIA and ADA

MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT & SERVICES NOT INCLUDED:

- Afterhours/ Weekend Labor
- Wire (existing wiring to be used)
- Conduit and Raceways

****PRICING SUBJECT TO CHANGE after 30 days****

We thank you for the privilege of submitting this proposal. If you should have any questions, please call us at any time.

Respectfully,

Key Fire Protection Enterprises LLC

BY: Jerry Hendrick
Alarms and Signaling Manager
(706) 751-9868

Secondary Contact: Gregg Key
SR Project Manager/Owner
(706) 220-8821

Purchaser's written execution of this proposal shall constitute acceptance thereof and shall be deemed to form a written contract.

Motioned by Hill, second by Wagner to go into an executive session at 8:26 PM. All council agreed 6-0.

Motioned by Hill, second by Mahoney to go out of executive session at 9:15 PM. All council agreed 6-0.

During the executive session there was one personnel matter discussed and an affidavit executed and signed.

AFFIDAVIT

Personally, appeared before the undersigned attesting officer, duly authorized to administer oaths, Mayor William D. deGolian., who, after being duly sworn, deposes and on oath states the following:

1. I was the presiding officer of a meeting of the *Washington City Council Meeting Executive Session* held on the *8th day of February 2021.*

2. That it is my understanding that O.C.G.A. & 50-14-4 (b) provides as follows:

When any meeting of any agency is closed to the public pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section, the chairperson or other person presiding over such meeting shall execute and file with the official minutes of the meeting a notarized affidavit stating under oath that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law and identifying the specific relevant exception.

3. The subject matter of the closed meeting or closed portion of the meeting held on the *8th day of February 2021,* which was closed for the purpose(s) of *executive session to discuss a personnel matter. The meeting was opened to act on this matter,* as allowed by O.C.G.A., Title 50, Chapter 14, and devoted to matter within those exceptions as provided by law.

4. This affidavit is being executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. & 50-14-4(b) that such an affidavit be executed.

This *8th day of February 2021.*

William D. deGolian Mayor

Sworn to and subscribed before me this *8th* day of February 2021.

Wanda Kim Evans Notary Public
3-24-24

WANDA KIM EVANS
COMMISSION EXPIRES
NOTARY
PUBLIC
MARCH 24, 2024
WILKES COUNTY, GEORGIA

Council member Cullars motioned to restore the leaving of $150 on the utility bills due to the elevated bills, second by Hill. Voting YES to restore: Cullars, Hill, Mahoney – Voting NO: Armour, Denard, Wagner. Mayor deGolian did not break the tie therefore the motion did not pass.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Hill motioned to adjourn; second by Wagner. All agreed unanimous to dismiss at 9:38 pm.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
February 19, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held a special called meeting on Friday, February 19, 2021 at 2:00 PM via Zoom. Meeting ID: 921 4851 4602 Passcode: 782480.

Mayor William deGolian presided.

Present were Mayor deGolian and Council members Armour, Denard, Hill, and Wagner, a quorum. Also present were City Administrator deBin, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Nelson. Absent Council members: Cullars and Mahoney.

Visitors present via Zoom: Willie Cullars, Angela Booker, and Sparky Newsome from the News-Reporter.

Invocation by Mayor deGolian.

The purpose of this meeting was to consider nominees for various boards, commissions, and authorities which were first placed before the council at the January council meeting but was tabled due to some council members needing more time to make sure that their constituents were not overlooked. The appointments resurfaced during the February council meeting and were tabled again.

Council member Hill stated that he only knew two of the appointees listed and he was uncomfortable voting to approve others he did not know. Council member Denard assured Council member Hill that there were reputable and qualified appointees. Council member Hill stated that he was satisfied with Council member Denard's recommendation and would vote accordingly.

The following appointments were made to seven different boards, all votes were unanimous, Armour, Denard, Hill and Wagner voting YES:

(1) Motioned by Armour; second by Hill to appoint Jon Waldorf and Ed Pope III to the Downtown Development Authority.

(2) Motioned by Armour; second by Wagner to appoint Dr. Alicia Finnell and Marion Slaton to the Historical Preservation Commission.

(3) Motioned by Wagner; second by Denard to replace Ed Pope III term to expire April 2021 on the Payroll Development Authority with Casey Jackson.

(4) Motioned by Armour; second by Denard to appoint Mike Eskew and Tom Owen to the Planning Commission.

(5) Motioned by Armour; second by Denard to appoint Clifford Jones, Mozelle Doughty, Diane Moore, and Jan Anderson to the Senior Center.

(6) Motioned by Hill; second by Denard to appoint Henry Crew to the Urban Redevelopment Authority.

(7) Motioned by Hill; and second by Denard to appoint Cecilia Bisich to Zoning Board of Appeals.

Upon adjournment Mayor deGolian encouraged everyone to get vaccinated for COVID-19.

Adjournment: On motion by Armour, second by Denard – vote unanimous to adjourn at 2:26 PM.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

REGULAR MEETING
March 8, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Edward B. Pope Conference Center.

Mayor William deGolian presided.

Present were Mayor deGolian and Council members Armour, Cullars, Denard, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner. Also present were City Administrator deBin, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Nelson.

Visitors present were Jan Anderson, Judy Anderson, Angela Booker, Amy Johnston, Andy Anderson, Newton Gunter, Gwendolyn Hollis, Adrienne Williams, and Sparky Newsome of the News-Reporter.

Invocation by Council member Armour.

Mrs. Jan Anderson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Armour motioned to approve minutes of the February 8th regular Council Meeting. Council Member Wagner second the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously. 6-0.

Council Member Hill motioned to approve the meeting agenda. Second by Council Member Armour. Approved by all.

PUBLIC FORUM TO ADDRESS COUNCIL: Amy Johnston, W-W Parks and Recreation board member, addressed the Mayor and Council about the budget and spending of the Parks and Recreation Department. Mrs. Johnston had a copy of the budget and she clarified some points on the spending on personnel.

MAYOR'S TOPICS

A. Mayor deGolian and Jonathan Wu, Preface Project Founder and Executive Director have coordinated an event to donation of approximately 150 books on Saturday, March 13th at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall. The books are basically for elementary students.

B. Implemented Committee Assignments for City Departments:
   Electric – Mahoney and Wagner
   Sanitation – Cullars and Wagner
   Water & Sewer – Mahoney and Armour
   Fire Protection – Armour and Hill
   Public Safety – Denard and Mahoney
   Code Enforcement – Hill and Denard
   Public Works – Cullars and Denard

C. Letters were sent out to newly appointed Boards, Commissions and Authorities members.

COUNCIL TOPICS

A. Council member Hill reported the W-W Parks and Recreation Department budget had been updated and was in good standing. He also stated that an audit is complete and should be available soon. Council member Hill assured the council that the W-W Parks and Recreation Board are working on correcting issues.

   Council Member Hill also welcomed Eddie Crew to the URA Board and thanked him for accepting the nomination to the Board.

B. Council member Mahoney: Update on Gordon Street project. Met with the GIT Team, there is a concern of a possible leak in the building.

   Council member Mahoney was concerned with too much money being spent towards W-W Parks and Recreation Department personnel and not enough spent towards programs. He inquired about programs for Senior Citizens at the Parks and Recreation Department. It did not sit well with Council member Mahoney that there were bonuses and raises given without the approval of the board. He stated that there need to be a level of accountability. Council member Mahoney recommended again that the following need to be done immediately: 1.) No cash payments received for registration fees. 2.) The W-W Parks and Recreation vehicle is only to be used for official business and not for employee commuting to and from home. 3.) Lastly that all programming be kept at the W-W Parks and Recreation Department. Council member Mahoney motioned to freeze the Parks and Recreation funds until they get their act together with a second from Council member Cullars. Mahoney also added that the City do not need to release the funds until the W-W Parks and Recreation Department brings forward a budget and share it the Mayor and City Council Members. Council member Hill agreed with Mahoney however he asked for 30 days to resolve the 3 issues. Mahoney withdrew his motion until next month.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR TOPICS

A. Administrator deBin reported on recent paving and resurfacing projects on Liberty Street, Episcopal Way and Old Skull Shoals Road. He recommended paving bid in reference to CBDG Water Infrastructure Upgrades.

Motioned by Council member Cullars and second by Council member Mahoney to go out of regular session and go into an executive session at 7:21 PM. All council agreed 6-0.

Four Real Estate matters were discussed: 1. 140 Whitehall Street.

2. 142 Whitehall Street

3. 118 Norman Street

4. 117 Norman Street

Working on getting a title.

Motioned by Council member Mahoney and second by Council member Denard to go out of executive session at 7:45 PM. All council agreed 6-0.

During the executive session there were 4 real estate matters discussed and an affidavit executed and signed.

Council member Cullars inquired about Business License monies collection.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Cullars motioned to adjourn; second by Council member Denard. All agreed unanimous to dismiss at 7:50 pm.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

WORK SESSION
April 12, 2021

Edward B. Pope Conference Center
5:00 PM

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held a Work Session on Monday, April 12, 2021, beginning at 5:02PM in the Ballroom at the Pope Conference Center. Mayor William deGolian presided.

Present were Council members Armour, Cullars, Denard, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner. Also present were City Administrator deBin, Assistant Administrator Dill, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Fleming who was accompanied by a plain clothes State Trooper as well as an uniformed State Trooper.

Invocation by Council member Armour.

Administrator deBin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Purpose of work session: Feasibility Study presentation via Zoom conducted by William de St Aubin. Meeting ID: 812 1196 6156 - passcode: 019504

The PowerPoint presentation included highlights of Gordon Street, the vision, and the mission.

There were questions such as, how will partners be found to finance a YMCA? Housing Elements. What are the steps, i.e., the paths to take?

URA member, Henry Crew suggested there should be a meeting which includes the URA Board and the city.

Conclusion of Work Session at 5:52 pm.

_____MAYOR

_____ CLERK

REGULAR MEETING
April 12, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Monday April 12, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Edward B. Pope Conference Center.

Mayor William deGolian presided.

Present were Mayor deGolian and Council members Armour, Cullars, Denard, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner. Also present were City Administrator deBin, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Fleming who also was accompanied by two State Troopers, one plain clothes and one uniformed.

Visitors present were Travis Armour, Doug Abramson, Esper Lee, Jan Anderson, Judy Anderson, Andy Anderson, Henry Crew Jeanelle Ashmore, Loretta Fanning, Cora Gartrell, Gail Boyd, Debbie Wells, Amy Potter, Nancy Farris, Edward Brown, Booker Jackson, Betty Hamilton, Clara Sutton, Mike Wofford, Bambi Arnold, Rob Lewis, Mike Scarborough, Rachel Jackson, Rev. Lance Pitts, Timothy Parks, Tonya Binns, Newton Gunter, Pam Gunter, Gwendolyn Hollis, Rosemary Hopkins, Ashley Barnett, Holly Reese, Barbara Burns, Cathy Armour, Adrienne Williams, Johnny Williams and Sparky Newsome of the News-Reporter.

Invocation by Council member Armour.

Council member Hill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council member Armour motioned to approve minutes of March 8th regular Council Meeting. Council member Hill second the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously. 6-0.

Council member Cullars motioned to amend agenda to add Attorney Fleming to speak on the agenda. Second by Council member Hill. Approved by all.

MAYOR'S TOPICS

A. Public Safety – Mayor met with Sheriff Department and discuss hiring 4 additional deputies and a vehicle for the city. Discussed to allocate $338,000 to public safety, by the end of the year, $400,000. Mahoney stated that there are committees, and they must be utilized.

B. Appointment of David Toburen to the URA – Council member Denard motioned to appoint, Council member Armour second. Question by Council member Mahoney, were the URA members advised of the recommendation? Mr. Jones recommended Mr. Toburen. Table this matter, URA members to get back to the Council with nominations.

   Discussion became a little heated, 5 minutes recess at 7:17 pm Session reconvened at 7:23 pm.

PUBLIC FORUM TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:

There were eight speakers to address the council. Representative Lee Anderson and Representative Rob Leverett spoke on the 95-page election bill and Attorney Fleming in general. Other speakers were in opposition of Attorney Fleming for his supporting the election bill as well as the election bill itself.

Mayor deGolian stated that he would not ask Attorney Fleming to respond immediately to request resignation however he would send a letter and give him a chance to respond in writing. Mayor deGolian also pointed out that Council voted unanimously in January of this year to retain Fleming and Nelson as the city attorney. Council member Mahoney stated that just like a person is voted into office, that person can be voted out of office. Council member Wagner then stated that the vote cannot be rescinded.

The City Council asked Attorney Barry Fleming to resign due to the Georgia's recently enacted bill in which he had part in authoring. Council members Cullars, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner voted to call for Fleming's resignation. Council members Armour and Denard voted against calling for Fleming's resignation. The vote was 4-2.

Council member Mahoney stated that he was rescinding his vote for the firm, Council member Cullars stated that he was rescinding his vote as well. Council member Hill stated that he was rescinding his vote also. After that discussion, Council member Cullars motioned to ask the attorney to resign. Council member Mahoney second. Council member Denard stated that Attorney Fleming participation with the election bill does not affect the job that the attorney does for the city. Council member Armour stated that Attorney Fleming was conducting state business with the election bill and when he works for us(city) it is city business, two separate things.

COUNCIL TOPICS

A. Council member Cullars: City Attorney – this matter was discussed, and Attorney Fleming spoke on the election bill as well as his part in authoring this bill and other election bills due to his service as a state representative.
B. Council member Hill & Denard: Feasibility Study/Design Charet Results – URA and the city will work together on this.
C. Council member Hill: Parks & Rec Report/Recommendations/Update – the Parks and Recreation vehicle is only being used for Parks and Recreation activities. The vehicle is staying on premises. Question, is staff capable of running site? Parks and Recreation given 30 days to advise. Council member Mahoney wants to know how the $95K is utilized. Denard stated that Soccer is going on as well as Little League, we do not want to interrupt these activities. There is also a statement that the Department is open the wrong time of the day when the children are in school. Mayor deGolian does not want to cut out funds this close to the end of the school year. Also, Evangelist Wynn is having a free summer camp at the Reese J. Booker Center.
D. Council member Mahoney: Broadband/Marketing/Law Enforcement – He stated we need affordable internet, investigate the City of Woodberry and their internet options. There need to be marketing strategies to bring visitors from Aonia and other events into the city – this topic has been tabled. A solution is needed badly for Law Enforcement within the city also.

Before the City Administrator could present his topics, there was disagreement between Council member Mahoney and the Mayor about Fleming's resignation. There was yelling and the banging of the gavel.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was presented by Armour at 8:45 pm; seconded by Denard.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

WORK SESSION
May 10, 2021

Edward B. Pope Conference Center
5:00 PM

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held a Work Session on Monday, May 10, 2021, beginning at 5:05PM in the Ballroom at the Pope Conference Center. Mayor William deGolian presided.

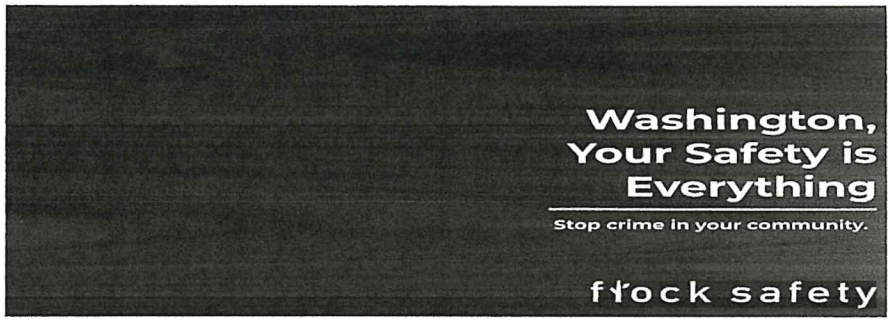
Physically present council members present were Armour, Cullars, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner. Council member Denard was present via telephone. Also, present were City Administrator deBin, Assistant Administrator Dill, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Fleming.

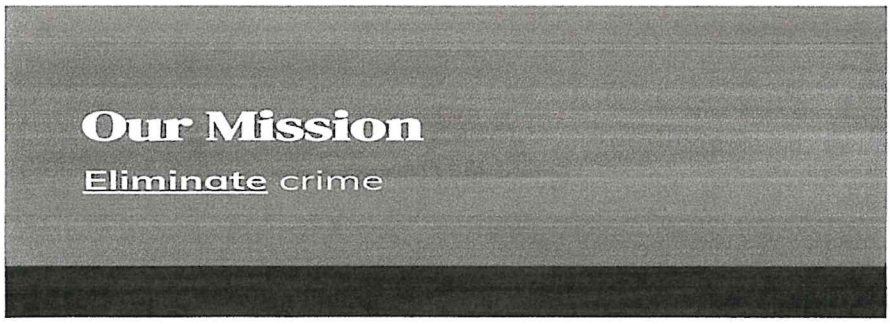
Invocation by Council member Armour.

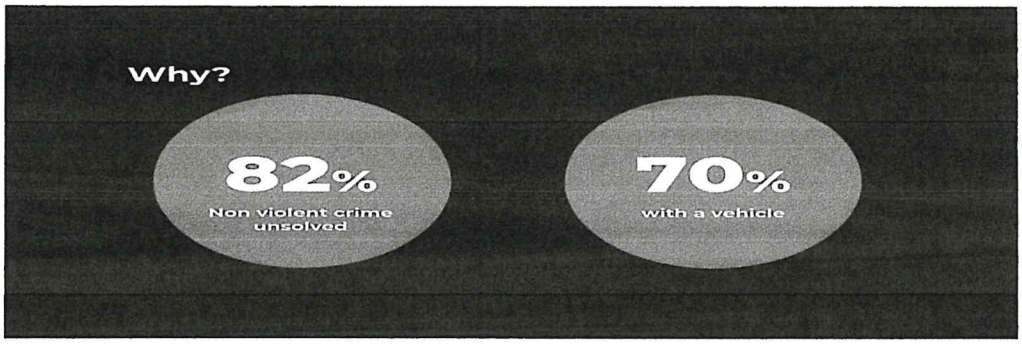
Pledge of Allegiance led by Council member Wagner.

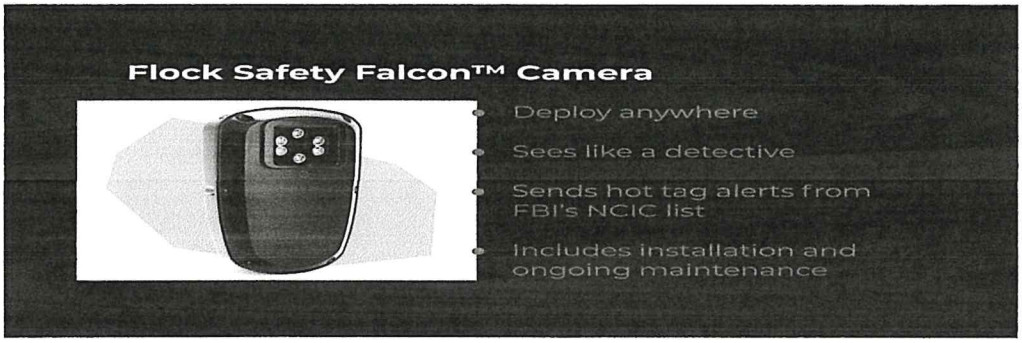
Work Session Topics:

- Flock Safety presentation by Alysha Stanton – A demonstration of traffic camera system.









- Update on the Inter-Governmental Agreement to fund 4 Sheriff Deputies inside the city. The goal is to fund 4 additional deputies plus 4 city patrol vehicles for a 24/7 coverage. Council member Hill Read a public safety letter from Commissioner Moore. Plans to workout by the end of this month. Public Safety Committee – Council member Mahoney inquired about using CARES Act funding for public safety. Council member Wagner informed that the CARES Act funds can not be used in that manner. Administrator deBin talked w/Sheriff Moore, Deputy Gene Turner and Carol Jackson about public safety.

- Redesign of the City of Washington website. There were 3 proposals and the lowest cost was $15,000 by 365° Total Marketing, Cindy Bailey.

Conclusion of Work Session at 5:50 pm.

_____MAYOR

_____ CLERK

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 10, 2021

Edward B. Pope Conference Center
6:00 PM

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Monday May 10, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Edward B. Pope Conference Center.

Mayor William deGolian presided.

Present were Mayor deGolian and Council members Armour, Cullars, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner. Council member Denard was not physically present, was present via telephone. Also present were City Administrator deBin, Assistant Administrator Dill, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors present were Jan Anderson, Judy Anderson, Blake Thompson, Vivian Walker, Doug Abramson, Betty Hamilton, Clara Sutton, Gail Boyd, Ann Koygulman, Annie Wilkinson, Angela Booker, Michelle Chaffee, C. Carol Cartledge, Imani Booker, Connie Clark, Amy Johnston, Richard Garrett, Karen Henry Garrett, Henry Crew, Rob Brooks, Newton Gunter, Craig Jones, Gwendolyn Hollis, Andy Anderson, and Sparky Newsome of the News-Reporter.

Invocation by Council member Armour followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council member Armour motioned to approve minutes of April 12th work session and regular Council Meeting. Council member Hill second the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously. 6-0.

Council member Cullars motioned to amend agenda to add his topics to the agenda. Council member Mahoney wanted to add discussion of the letter from Attorney Fleming, Mahoney also wanted to add the question of Council member joining via telephone, Council member Hill wanted to change the agenda however Mayor deGolian wanted to leave the format of the agenda as it was. Motion by Council member Cullars, second by Council member Wagner. The agenda was approved 5 – 1, with Council member Hill opposing.

ADMINISTRATOR TOPICS

A. Approval of GMA Board District 7 Candidate, Council member Hill, Nomination. Motion by Council member Mahoney, second by Council member Hill. Vote 5-0 (Council member Hill recused himself)

B. Recommendation to approve IGA which syncs City/County Tax Corrections. Motion to approve by Council member Cullars, second by Council member Armour. Vote 6-0 Unanimous.

C. Recommendation to adopt exhaust brake noise ordinance – which prohibits the use of the exhaust brakes within city limits. Council member Mahoney questioned the fine, as well as whom will enforce the ordinance. Council member Cullars motioned for this ordinance to go before the police committee. The suggestion was to table this recommendation.

Sec. 46-72. - Specific prohibitions; exemptions.

(a) *Loud and disturbing noises.* The following acts are declared to be loud and disturbing noises which disturb, injure or endanger the comfort, health, peace or safety of others within the city limits in violation of this Code; such enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive:

(1) *Horns, signaling devices, etc.* The sounding of any horn or signaling device on any automobile, motorcycle, or other vehicle on any street or public place in the city, except as a danger warning; the creation by means of any such signaling device of any unreasonably loud or harsh sound; and the sounding of any such device for an unnecessary and unreasonable period of time; the use of any signaling device except one operated by hand or electricity; the use of any horn, whistle or other device operated by engine exhaust; and the use of any such signaling device when traffic is for any reason held up.

(2) *Loudspeakers, amplifiers for advertising.* The using, operating or permitting to be played, used or operated without a permit from the mayor and council of any radio or television set, musical instrument, phonograph, loudspeaker, sound amplifier, or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound which is on the public streets for the purpose of commercial advertising or attracting the attention of the public to any building or structure.

(3) *Yelling, shouting, etc.* Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, or singing on the public streets, particularly between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. or at any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in any office or in any dwelling, hotel or any other type of residence or of any persons in the vicinity.

(4) *Exhaust.* The discharge into the open air of the exhaust of any internal combustion engine, motorboat or any other motor vehicle except through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises therefrom.

(5) *Vehicles out of repair, etc.* The use of any automobile, motorcycle, motor scooter, go-cart, or any other vehicle so out of repair or so loaded or in such a manner as to create loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling, or other noise, including excessive noise coming through the exhaust thereof.

(6) *Radios, musical instruments, phonographs, etc., producing or reproducing sound.* The using, operating or permitting to be played, used or operated of any radio receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound in such a manner as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants or at any time with louder volume than is necessary for convenient hearing for the persons who are in the room or vehicle in which such a machine or device is operated and who are voluntary listeners thereto.

(7) *Engine exhaust brake.* The use of any engine exhaust brake (i.e. "Jake brake").

(b) *Exemptions.* The following uses and activities shall be exempt from noise level restrictions:

(1) Noises of safety signals, warning devices and emergency pressure-relief valves.

(2) Noises resulting from any authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call or acting in the time of an emergency.

(3) Any other noise resulting from activities of temporary duration permitted by law and for which a license or permit has been granted by the city in accordance with city ordinances and laws.

(Code 1989, § 12-20)

D. Recommendation to redesign the City of Washington website. Administrator deBin stated that this would be listed in the 2022 budget. The cost would be $15,000 and take 5 ½ to 6 months to design. Council member Hill stated that the website needs to be updated however public safety need to be at the top of the list. Council member Denard stated that he is willing to wait, Council member Wagner is ok with the redesign, Council member Mahoney was not in favor, Council member Armour was in favor of the redesign, Council member Cullars suggested to table until later. This matter will be tabled until the committee discuss and revisit in June.

365° Total Marketing
Website Proposal
City of Washington, Georgia
Wilkes County
WASHINGTON WILKES
Cindy Bailey
404-550-7232
153 Follins Lane, PO Box 20568 - Saint Simons Island, Georgia 31522
1-800-697-5568 | 912-638-0780 (Main) | 912-638-1883 (Fax)
www.365DegreeTotalMarketing.com
365°
1
365° TOTAL MARKETING

E. Recommendation to grant a temporary pouring license for the May 21sy Ducks Unlimited event at the Pope Center. Motion to approve by Council member Cullars, second by Council member Mahoney. Vote 6-0 Unanimously approved.

MAYORS TOPICS

A. Mayor deGolian presented Kim Evans, City Clerk a proclamation for Municipal Clerk's Week.

Proclamation

52nd ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK
May 2 - 8, 2021

Whereas, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government exists throughout the world, and

Whereas, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk is one of the oldest among public servants, and

Whereas, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk provides a valuable link between citizens, local governing bodies, and other governmental agencies, and

Whereas, Professional Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all.

Whereas, Professional Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve through participation in continuing education programs, seminars, workshops and professional meetings of their professional organization.

Whereas, It is appropriate that the City of Washington recognize accomplishments of the Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk here in our community.

Now, Therefore, I, William D. deGolian, Mayor of Washington, along with the City Council, do recognize the week of May 2 - 8, 2021, as Professional Municipal Clerks Week, and further extend appreciation to our Professional Municipal Clerk, Wanda Kim Evans, for her vital services and exemplary dedication to the City of Washington.

Dated this 2nd day of May, 2021

William D. deGolian, Mayor

Robert Armour, Councilman

Nathaniel Cullars, Sr., Councilman

Matthew Denard, Councilman

Rev. Larry Hill, Councilman

Maceo Mahoney, Councilman

Charles Wagner, Councilman

B. Recommendation to appoint Dave Toburen to the URA. Motion to appoint Toburen by Council member Armour, second by Hill. Question: Council Member Cullars asked did the URA members agree to this appointment. URA members in the audience stated that they did not discuss the Mayor deGolian appointment. Vote: Approved appointment: Armour, Denard, Hill, and Wagner. – Disapproved appointment: Cullars, Mahoney removed himself from the vote.

C. May 18th Feasibility Study by the Sizemore Group – the final presentation will take place at the June Council Meeting.

COUNCIL TOPICS

Council member Cullars:

- Parliamentary procedure – adjournment of April meeting
- Letter to Attorney Fleming from the Mayor
- Filming on square

- Is the City giving assistance to Wills Memorial? Council member Wagner explained that the hospital is a non-profit.
- Waha revenue

PUBLIC FORUM TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:

1. Doug Abramson – asked for Attorney Barry Fleming to resign.
2. Roxanne Cobb – 4E Youth Group – Organizing a Teen Travel Camp – 501C3 asking for $40,000, cost per camper approximately $40 a week. Council member Mahoney asked for at least $30,000. This matter will be tabled until the following week.
3. Angela Booker commended Council member Wagner that District 2 supports him and thank him for the decisions he is making.
4. Andy Anderson mentioned the National Day of Prayer – May 6th – Commended on the Unity in the Community during the day of prayer. He also commended Lois & Otis Strong for their participation.
5. Henry Crew – Questioned Public Safety
6. Amy Johnston & Jasmine Cleveland talked about Parks & Recreation programs and needing assistance from the community.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was presented by Council member Mahoney at 8:03 pm; seconded by Council member Hill. Approved by all 6-0.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

REGULAR MEETING
June 14, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Monday June 14, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Edward B. Pope Conference Center.

Mayor William deGolian presided.

Present were Mayor deGolian and Council members Armour, Cullars, Denard, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner. Also present were City Administrator deBin, Assistant Administrator Dill, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors present were David Toburen, Clara Sutton, Blake Thompson, Betty Hamilton, Esper Lee, M.P. Pope Larry Bell, Newton Gunter, Henry Crew, Craig Jones, Al Moore, Timothy Parks, Doug Abramson, Susan Abramson, Angela Booker, Trudy Cottone, Ronnie Futch, Doug Tyler, Janette Thomas, Imani Booker, Mike Scarborough, Shirley Gunter, Susan Branan, Booker Jackson, Cathy Armour, Connie Clark, Tonya Binns, Sakara Davis, Gwendolyn Hollis, Ruth Rogers, Hilda Wright, Jan Anderson, Andy Anderson, Dan Coxwell, Laura Toburen, Katrina Breed, Fernado Vazonelz, Marie Ware, Felicia Hulin, Kirk Johnson, Nikki Jones, and Brad Jones.

Invocation by Mayor DeGolian followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Cullars.

Change to the minutes of the previous Council Meeting held on May 10, 2021: To change the Sizemore Group Feasibility final study to July. Councilman Armour motioned to approve minutes of May 10th regular Council Meeting after the change. Councilman Wagner second the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously. 6-0.

The meeting agenda was not approved. Councilman Cullars motioned to move the public comments to article 5 (V) after the approval of the agenda. Councilman Mahoney second the motion. Vote was 3/3 - Vote to approve the change – Voting Yes (3) Councilmen Cullars, Hill, Mahoney) --- No (to leave agenda as is) Councilmen Armour, Denard, Wagner. Councilman Wagner motioned to eliminate everything on the agenda except the City Administrator Topics and go to public forum, second by Councilman Armour. This motion was 3/3 also - Voting Yes (3) Councilmen Armour, Denard, Wagner. Voting No (3) Councilmen Cullars, Hill, Mahoney. The Mayor broke the ties to not remove items from the agenda nor to change the order. Both motions failed. Then Mayor DeGolian called for a motion to approve the original agenda. The motion never came, therefore there was no agenda. The Mayor called for a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was presented by Councilman Armour at 6:24 pm; seconded by Councilman Denard. Those voting to adjourn were Councilmen Armour, Denard, Hill and Wagner.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
JUNE 11, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Friday June 11, 2021 at 8:30 am at the Edward B. Pope Conference Center.

Mayor Pro-tem, Councilman Larry Hill presiding. Meeting called to order at 8:39 am.

Present were Mayor deGolian and Council members Armour, Cullars, Denard, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner. Also present were City Administrator deBin, Assistant Administrator Dill, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors present were Tom Owen, Charles Wittschen, M.P. Pope, Mary Burt, Ruth Rogers, Newton Gunter, Glen Echols, Ed Pope, Jr., Ronnie Futch, Doug Abramson, Bill Rousey, C. Carol Cartledge, Jack Thurmond, Hilda Wright, Judy Anderson, Babby Caldwell, Laura Toburen, Travis Armour, Connie Clark, Henry Crew, Tim Hardin, Angela Booker, Esper Lee, and Sparky Newsome of the News-Reporter.

Invocation by Council member Armour followed by the Pledge of Allegiance in unison.

Councilman Mahoney had to recuse himself being named as a participant in the violation.

City Attorney Barry Fleming explained the City ordinance governing the ethics complaint.

Mayor DeGolian Complaint:

Mayor DeGolian presentation of complaint and supporting information – 26 page transcript of May 18th conversation.

Questions and Comments from the non-involved Council members, Armour, Denard, Hill, and Wagner:

Councilman Armour stated that he did not understand why the issue could not be resolved.

Councilman Hill apologized for the actions and stated that the citizens and the City of Washington are than this. Councilman Hill stated that he wanted the hearing to be fair and just for all. Mayor Pro-tem stated that there is a need for an outside Attorney as well he stated that he wanted the document with the date and time stamp. Mayor Pro-tem Hill stated that he did not have enough information.

Councilman Wagner state that the purpose of the meeting was to hear the complaint and also stated that the time and date stamp did not have anything to do with the complaint. Wagner and Denard stated that the evidence should not be dragged out. The City need to move forward.

Question of how the panel was picked – Mayor DeGolian followed the charter outline.

Attorney Fleming stated that this will be the 21st time being involved with an ethics complaint.

Councilman Cullars and Mahoney opportunity to respond to complaint:

Councilman Mahoney questioned the timing of the meeting. He wanted to know if the ethics complaint was properly filed. Councilman Mahoney also questioned the filing fee – should the filling file

Mayor Pro-tem Hill asked for a motion to adjourn at 9:17 am. No one motioned – Councilman Mahoney walked out and Councilman Cullars followed.

Motion to continue with hearing by Denard at 9:26am, second by Armour. Councilman Wagner stated he would like to continue with hearing. Mayor Pro-tem Hill did not acknowledge the vote to continue.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was presented by Councilman Armour, second by Councilman Denard at 9:40 am. Approved by Armour, Denard, Hill and Wagner .

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
ETHICS PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday, June 17, 2021

The Mayor Pro-Tem Hill and the selected Ethics Council, Councilman Armour, Denard and Wagner of the City of Washington, Georgia, meet on Thursday, June 17, 2021, at 6:30 P.M. at the Edward B. Pope Conference Center.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hill called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Present were Mayor deGolian, Mayor Pro-Tem, Councilman Hill, Council members Armour, Cullars, Denard, and Wagner. Council member Mahoney was not present. Also present were City Administrator deBin, Assistant Administrator Dill, City Clerk Evans, and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors present were M.P. Pope, Glen Echols, Charles Wittschen, Ronnie Futch, Travis Armour, Tim Owen, Jane Owen, Esper Lee, Bill Rousey, Jack Thurmond, Mike Scarbourough, Angela Booker, Mary Burt, Ruth Rogers, M.V. Booker, Cathy Armour, Newton Gunter, Pat Lahr, Robin Lahr, C. Carol Cartledge, Tim Hardin, Alice Hardin, Ellis Thornton, Terry Diggs, Michele Hamlin, Billy Hopkins, Bruce Bailey, Debra Denard, David Denard, Booker Jackson, James Pettus, Willie Wingfield, Anthony Hearst, Lakia Cullars, Tim Cullars, Archie Acree, Rachel Jackson, Shirley Gunter, Charles Chafin, Susan G. Chafin, Judy Anderson, Doug Abramson, Henry E. Crew, Hilda Wright and Sparky Newsome of the News-Reporter.

Invocation by Councilman Armour.

Pledge of Allegiance by Councilman Wagner.

Explanation of the City of Washington ordinances governing the ethics complaint was presented by the City Attorney, Barry Fleming.

Complaint presentation by Mayor deGolian along with supporting information, transcript of the complaint and recording.

Councilman Cullars was represented by his Attorney M.V. Booker. Attorney Booker presented Councilman Cullars response to the complaint. Councilman Mahoney was not present for his response to the complaint.

Questions from non-involved Councilmen –

Motion by Councilman Denard to go into an executive session at 7:37 p.m., second by Councilman Wagner.

Deliberation by Mayor Pro-Tem, Chairman Hill along with Councilmen Armour, Denard, and Wagner took place.

Motion by Councilman Armour to come out of executive session at 8:29 p.m., second by Councilman Wagner. There were two personnel matters discussed and Councilman Denard motioned to allow and affidavit, second by Councilman Wagner.

Motion by Councilman Wagner asked Councilman Cullars to resign, second by Councilman Denard. The vote – 3 Councilmen agreed with the resignation (Armour, Denard, and Wagner) and 1 against (Hill). 3 -1

Councilman Cullars stated that he will not resign.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was presented by Councilman Armour at 8:34 pm; seconded by Councilman Wagner.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
September 13, 2021

Edward B. Pope Conference Center
6:00 PM

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Monday September 13, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Edward B. Pope Conference Center.

Mayor William deGolian called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present Council members: District 1: Councilman Nathaniel Cullars, Sr.
Councilman Larry Hill
Councilman Maceo Mahoney(tardy)

District 2: Councilman Robert Armour
Councilman Matthew Denard
Councilman Charles Wagner

Also present were City Administrator Jerry deBin, City Clerk Kim Evans, and City Attorney Barry Fleming.

Visitors present were Vivian W. Walker, Gwendolyn Hollis, Michele Hamlin, Clara Sutton, Judy Anderson, Newton Gunter, Carrie Gresham, Loretta Fanning, Timothy Parks, Susan Branan, Dan Copeland, Angela Booker, Bruce A. Bailey, Jan Anderson, Edwin Andy Anderson, Tonya Binns, Annie "Pie" Wilkinson, and Michael Bowen of the News-Reporter.

Invocation by Council member Hill followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Bruce A. Bailey.

Councilman Armour motioned to approve minutes of Ethics Special Called Meeting, June 11th, Regular Council Meeting, June 14th, and Ethics Public Hearing, June 17th. Councilman Wagner second the motion. Minutes were approved 5-0, Armour, Cullars, Denard, Hill, and Wagner. Councilman Mahoney arrived later *due to death in his family*.

Mayor deGolian restructured the agenda included with the meeting packet and forwarded it to all council members for them to review prior to the meeting. Mayor deGolian asked for a motion to adopt the streamlined agenda. He suggested the original agenda was excessive and some of the topics were previously covered in past months. Discussion – Councilman Cullars challenged the restructured agenda stating many of his topics on the original agenda were not listed. Councilman Cullars voiced his opinion and asked Attorney Fleming if the restructured agenda was valid? Attorney Fleming stated only the council could change the agenda to be used. Mayor deGolian again requested a motion to accept the restructured agenda. Councilman Armour motioned to accept the restructured agenda and Councilman Wagner second. Before the vote Councilman Mahoney expressed concern of topics being omitted from the agenda constantly. Councilman Hill proposed the moving of the public comments before the City Administrator's topics. Hill then asked Attorney Fleming the steps to take to amend the agenda. After Flemings explanation. Councilman Armour motioned to approve the restructured agenda and Councilman Wagner second the motion. Voting to approve the agenda: Armour, Denard, and Wagner. Voting against the agenda: Cullars, Hill, and Mahoney. 3 – 3, Mayor deGolian broke the tie to approve the restructured agenda.

MAYORS TOPICS

Resolution to Amend Section 2 – 12 of City Code – Mayor deGolian would like to add action items and discussion items to the agenda. Motioned by Councilman Denard and second by Wagner to amend resolution. Vote 3 – 3; YES to amend Armour, Denard, and Wagner. NO to amend Cullars, Hill and Mahoney. Mayor broke tie, resolution approved.

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND SECTION 2-12 OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, GEORGIA CODE OF ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, the City of Washington desires to amend Section 2-12 of the Code of Ordinances;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Washington as follows:

1) Section 2-12. - Meetings agenda. of the Code of Ordinances shall be amended to read as follows:

At the mayor's direction, except for any special called meetings, the city administrator shall prepare a detailed agenda on the subjects to be covered or acted on and/or objectives to be met for each regular scheduled meeting, public hearing, or work session. The detailed agenda shall be made available to each council member at least one business day before each regular scheduled board meeting, public hearing, or work session.

The mayor or any council member may add items to the agenda at any time up to two business days before each regular scheduled meeting, public hearing, or work session if a detailed description is given to the administrator. Submission of items to the agenda by a council member shall be designated as either an item for which action will be considered or as an item for discussion only. Items submitted for discussion only may not be commented upon by a single councilmember for a period of time in excess of five minutes (unless granted additional time by the chair) and shall not be the basis for any motion. In case of emergency, the council may waive this requirement.

2) All portions of this Code in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

3) The foregoing Ordinance was adopted on the 13th day of September 2021 by a vote of 3 "yea" and 3 "nay", and 0 abstained. Mayor casted deciding vote.

The undersigned approved by the Honorable Bill deGolian, Mayor, and attested by Kim Evans, City Clerk.

William D. deGolian

Bill deGolian, Mayor

Attested:

Kim Evans

Kim Evans, City Clerk

CITY ADMINISTRATOR TOPICS

New Business presentation by Janet Parker:

Two restaurants are coming to the Town Square: (1) Big B's, owned and operated by Ernest Brown and wife, will have similar food as Cades. Mrs. Parker commended Councilman Mahoney for his efforts and involvement in the Big B's project. (2) Al's Pizza and Italian Food will be occupying the C'est Lavie location. Groundbreaking for the new Dollar General on Mercer Street. Habaneros, the Mexican restaurant will be coming to the old BI-LO Plaza, Athens Realtor and a coffee roaster is coming, and Kettle Creek Creamery will be in the Jamie's Ice cream location. Two electric car chargers installed on the square. The station implementation of a pilot program sponsored by Jon Waldorf of Summer House Rental for a year went live on the Plug Share App. WAHA is in the middle of expansion and will be purchasing more electricity.

2020 Audit Report Presented by Sam Latimer of Rushton & Co. – report consists of 128 pages with a copy at City Hall. The audit showed the revenue is up 4.7% and the expenses are down 25%. Mayor commended Administrator deBin for his hard work and dedication.

Recommendation to purchase the tag reading cameras, Flock Bran Safety cameras. $2500 per cameras, almost $80,000 a year for 20 cameras. Motion to purchase by Councilman Denard, second by Councilman Mahoney. Approved 6-0 unanimous

Council to approve for Mayor deGolian to sign the SDS Extension agreement. Motion to approve by Councilman Denard, second by Councilman Hill. Approved 6-0 unanimous

RESOLUTION OF EXTENSION
THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, GEORGIA, SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY

WHEREAS, the City of Washington, Georgia and the governing authorities of the cities of Rayle, Tignall, and Wilkes County jointly maintain the *Wilkes County, Georgia, Service Delivery Strategy* document prepared in accordance with the Official Code of Georgia (O.C.G.A. § 36-70; Art. 2) regarding coordinated public service delivery; and,

WHEREAS the preparation of a new joint comprehensive plan for Wilkes County, Rayle, Tignall, and Washington requires that the jurisdictions review and authorize an extension of their joint service delivery arrangements as provided in O.C.G.A. § 36-70-28; and,

WHEREAS the pre-existing *Wilkes County, Georgia, Service Delivery Strategy*, adopted by resolution of this governing body on this 13th day of September 2021, was jointly reviewed by representatives of participating local governments to ensure that the delivery of public services to the citizens of incorporated and unincorporated areas of Wilkes County remains efficient and unimpeded; and,

WHEREAS the jurisdictions have agreed to extending certain services as outlined in Section III (Services Extended without Change) of Form 1; and,

WHEREAS the review of the pre-existing *Wilkes County, Georgia, Service Delivery Strategy* document has resulted in the changes as outlined in the new Service Delivery Strategy as described in Form 2, as attached hereto; and,

WHEREAS the review of the pre-existing *Wilkes County, Georgia, Service Delivery Strategy* document has resulted in no changes to the Land Use Agreements as outlined in Form 3; and,

WHEREAS supporting documentation has been prepared for any additional and amended public service delivery arrangements referenced herein in accordance with the administrative requirements of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs; and,

WHEREAS all other public services and associated service delivery arrangements referenced in the pre-existing *Wilkes County, Georgia, Service Delivery Strategy*, shall be extended without change unless noted herein.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Washington, City Council extends the *Wilkes County, Georgia, Service Delivery Strategy*, such extension incorporating those service delivery additions and amendments referenced herein.

By: Bill DeGolian, Mayor

Attest: Jerry deBin, City Administrator

9 / 16 / 21
Date

9-16-2021
Date

AFFIX CITY SEAL

Motion by Councilman Wagner to approve 2020 Budget amendment. Second by Councilman Armour. Approved 6-0 unanimous.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND 2020 BUDGET

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020.

WHEREAS, the City adopted a budget and appropriated funds for fiscal year 2020 in December 2019 and,

WHEREAS, certain expenditures are expected to exceed the original adopted budget in some of the City's funds and budgetary transfers are necessary within these funds to provide adequate appropriation levels to expend the unforeseen costs; and,

WHEREAS, the City budget is updated quarterly to adjust for unforeseen expenditures and,

WHEREAS, consistent with local budget law and based upon the foregoing, the staff report in this matter, the public interest is served in the proposed supplemental budget adjustment,

WHEREAS, to facilitate clarification of the adjustments in this resolution, Attachment A to this resolution provides a summary by fund of the appropriation categories affected by the proposed transfer of budget appropriation and the purpose of the expenditure.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF WASHINGTON RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The City amends and adjusts the estimated revenues and appropriations within the funds and categories delineated and set forth in Attachment A, attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein as if full set forth.

This resolution becomes effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE City Council of the City of Washington at a regular meeting thereof this 13th of September 2021 and filed with Washington City Clerk this same date.

William D. DeGolian, Mayor

ATTEST:

W. Kim Evans, City Clerk

SUMMARY OF VOTES:

COUNCILMAN R. ARMOUR	YES	NO
COUNCILMAN CULLARS	YES	NO
COUNCILMAN DENARD	YES	NO
COUNCILMAN HILL	YES	NO
COUNCILMAN MAHONEY	YES	NO
COUNCILMAN WAGNER	YES	NO
MAYOR DEGOLIAN TIE BREAKER	YES	NO

City of Washington
FY 2020 4th Quarter Budget Amendments
6/21/2021

Attachment A
NEEDS COUNCIL APPROVAL

General Fund		Original/Amended Budget	Adjustment Additions (Subtractions)	Adjusted Budget
100.00000.31.1100	REAL PROP-CUR YEAR	710,000.00	(27,000.00)	683,000.00
100.42600.53.1230	ENERGY-ELECTRICITY	140,000.00	27,000.00	167,000.00
FUND 299				
299.00000.39.1999	USE OF FUND BALANCE		1,250.00	1,250.00
299.00000.53.1100	SUPPLIES/MATERIALS		1,250.00	1,250.00

2022 Budget process overview. Administrator deBin mentioned the idea of a merit-based pay raise for employees. To make the salary competitive enough to attract employees.

Motion by Councilman Wagner to move forward with the curbside garbage collection. Second by Councilman Hill. Vote 5-1 With Councilman Denard voting NO. Voting YES, Armour, Cullars, Hill, Mahoney, and Wagner.

The city have 4 years to commit the funds to a project, Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARP). Administrator deBin suggested that the council think about dedicating funds to updating the water/sewer treatment system. Further discussion in October.

5-minute recess at 7:40 pm; reconvened at 7:45 pm

COUNCIL TOPICS
Councilman Cullars declined to address his topics

Councilman Denard topic – Public Safety: He expressed his gratitude with safety measures in which the council had taken.

Councilman Mahoney stated that he will table the topic of Decriminalization of marijuana until next council meeting. Councilman Mahoney stated that Code Enforcement were laid back in the past and would like that department to loosen it's citations due to Covid and treat everyone fairly, with dignity and respect. He voiced his concern on the price of broadband and requested that the council investigate ways to make broadband more affordable. Councilman Denard stated that Relyabt have a plan in place if the customer have a student they can receive a $50 reduction on broadband. Councilmen Denard and Mahoney will investigate. In reference to small business development onsite – Councilman Mahoney suggested allocating office space for small business to increase the pipeline.

Councilman Wagner Topic: City Marshall
Councilman Wagner would like for the council to consider a town Marshall for public safety. Councilmen Denard and Mahoney are on the Public Safety Committee, and they will look into this. Also investigate if motor vehicles are allowed on sidewalks.

PUBLIC FORUM TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:

1. Thomas Denard – Utility bill
2. Andy Anderson – kudos to Parks & Recreation Pop Warner Football Program
3. Craig Jones – Way to lower the temperature of the meetings and put the attorney's position out for bid (put together a committee).

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was presented by Councilman Armour at 8:25 pm; seconded by Councilman Denard.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK

REGULAR MEETING
October 11, 2021

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, October 11, 2021, at the Pope Conference Center at 6:00 P.M.

Mayor William deGolian called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Present Council members: District 1: Councilman Nathaniel Cullars, Sr.
Councilman Larry Hill
Councilman Maceo Mahoney

District 2: Councilman Robert Armour
Councilman Matthew Denard
Councilman Charles Wagner

Also present were City Administrator Jerry deBin, City Clerk Kim Evans, and City Attorney Barry Fleming.

Visitors present were Doug Abramson, Vivian W. Walker, Michael Bowen, Judy Anderson, Susan Branan, Joan Bowen, Newton Gunter, Henry Crew, Imani Booker, Jan Anderson, Loretta Fanning, Angela Booker, Tonya Binns, Bruce A. Bailey, and Mattie Carson.

Invocation by Councilman Larry Hill.

Mrs. Angela Booker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES APPROVED: With correction to the minutes of September 13,2021, Councilman Mahoney tardiness due to death in the family. Councilman Armour motioned to approve corrected minutes second by Councilman Wagner. Yea 5, Nay 1 (Councilman Cullars) Approved 5-1.

Discussion: Councilman Cullars questioned Attorney Fleming about the Amendment Section 2-12 of the Code of Ordinances. Attorney Fleming read the following,

1) Section 2-12. - Meetings agenda. of the Code of Ordinances shall be amended to read as follows:

At the mayor's direction, except for any special called meetings, the city administrator shall prepare a detailed agenda on the subjects to be covered or acted on and/or objectives to be met for each regular scheduled meeting, public hearing, or work session. The detailed agenda shall be made available to each council member at least one business day before each regular scheduled board meeting, public hearing, or work session.

The mayor or any council member may add items to the agenda at any time up to two business days before each regular scheduled meeting, public hearing, or work session if a detailed description is given to the administrator. Submission of items to the agenda by a council member shall be designated as either an item for which action will be considered or as an item for discussion only. Items submitted for discussion only may not be commented upon by a single councilmember for a period of time in excess of five minutes (unless granted additional time by the chair) and shall not be the basis for any motion. In case of emergency, the council may waive this requirement.

Councilman Cullars asked Administrator deBin to read the topics he wanted to add to the agenda. The following topics were:

i. Confederate statue
ii. City Judge and City Attorney
iii. Raise for employees
iv. Police Department
v. Parks & Recreation Department
vi. Bitcoin revenue
vii. Any new business coming
viii. Light bill relief
ix. Update on delinquent tax collections
x. Budget talk
xi. Televise Council meetings
xii. Fund for essential workers 2019-20 (Covid-19
xiii. Fine for blowing grass in street

Discussion:

a. Councilman Mahoney suggested to add the topics to the agenda.
b. Councilman Denard suggested if topics have been discussed before it doesn't make sense to go over the topics again.
c. Councilman Cullars expressed his thoughts.
d. Councilman Hill wants to add creating a taskforce for housing to the agenda.

AGENDA: Councilman Mahoney motioned to add the Councilman Cullars 13 items to the agenda. Second by Councilman Hill.

Discussion: Councilman Armour stated that there is not reason to go over the topics.

Vote to add the topics to the agenda: Yea 3 (Cullars, Hill, & Mahoney)
Nay 3 (Armour, Denard, & Wagner)

Mayor broke tie and voted not to add the topics, Nay.

Councilman Armour motioned to approve the agenda presented as is without the 13 topics. Second by Councilman Denard.

Vote to approve the agenda without the 13 topics: Yea 3 (Armour, Denard, & Wagner)
Nay 3 (Cullars, Hill, & Mahoney)

Mayor broke the tie and voted to approve the agenda without the added 13 topics.

MAYORS TOPICS:

Covid-19 Update emailed from Jennifer Jackson of the Wilkes County Health Department:

From: Jackson, Jennifer.W <Jennifer.W.Jackson@dph.ga.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 7, 2021 2:35 PM
To: Bill DeGolian <bdegolian@wga.gov>
Subject: RE: Washington City Council meeting - 10/11/21

Number of confirmed cases – 871
871 accounts for confirmed cases that have been reported- please note that number is likely much higher as some providers have not reported as requested and over the counter testing is also. Public Health has no way of reporting these numbers.

Median age of cases- 43
Number of covid related hospitalizations - 103 (12% of cases)
Covid related deaths - 24 (2.76% of cases)
Median age of covid deaths – 78

Vaccination rates—Georgia- 55 % at least one dose of vaccine and 48% fully vaccinated
Vaccination rates- Wilkes County - 48% at least one dose of vaccine and 43% fully vaccinated

Mayor deGolian's next topic was the appointment of the City Attorney and the Municipal Judge: The application period for the appointment for the City Attorney and the Municipal Judge will take place in January 2022, with the new Council. Councilman Mahoney suggested that all council members should attend the Municipal Courts.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR TOPICS:

a. Recommendation to approve alcohol license for Al's Restaurant – Councilman Cullars questioned the completion of the application. Administrator advised the application was complete. Motion by Councilman Cullars to approve alcohol license. Second by Councilman Mahoney
Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0 – Al's Restaurant Alcohol License Approved 6-0

CITY OF WASHINGTON
APPLICATION FOR ALCOHOL LICENSE

LICENSE NO. _____

_____ Retail Package Dealer (off premises)
✓ Retail Consumption Dealer (on premises)
_____ Temporary (non-profit civic organization)
_____ Alcohol Beverages for Catering

✓ New
_____ Renewal
_____ Suspension Reinstatement
_____ Brew Pub

Name of Business: Hal & Kal LLC
Name of Applicant: Harold Clements
Location: 5 East Square Washington GA 30673
Mailing Address: 5 East Square Washington GA 30673

TYPE OF OWNERSHIP OF BUSINESS APPLYING FOR LICENSE:

___ Sole Proprietorship ___ Partnership ✓ Corporation ___ Private Club
___ Nonprofit Civic Organization (Temporary License)

CERTIFICATION AND AUTHORIZATION:
I CERTIFY THAT:
(FULL NAME OF AGENT) Katherine K Olesen HAS AGREED TO SERVE AS OUR RESIDENT AGENT, THAT HE/SHE IS A RESIDENT OF WILKES COUNTY, AND HIS/HER MAILING ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER IS: 209 W Robert Toombs Ave Washington GA 30673 7709969779

BEFORE SIGNING THIS STATEMENT, CHECK ALL ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS TO DETERMINE THAT ALL QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED FULLY AN CORRECTLY. EXECUTION OF THIS STATEMENT IS TO BE DONE UNDER OATH, IS SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES OF FALSE SWEARING, AND INCLUDES ALL ATTACHED SHEETS SUBMITTED HEREWITH:

- NEITHER I NOR, TO MY KNOWLEDGE, NO PARTNER, OFFICER, DIRECTOR, SHAREHOLDER OR OTHER PERSON REQUIRED TO BE LISTED ON THE APPLICATION, HAVE BEEN CONVICTED OF, OR HAVE PLED GUILTY TO, OR ENTERED A PLEA OF *NOLO CONTENDERE* TO, ANY CHARGE INVOLVING A CRIME OF MORAL TRUPITUDE, GAMBLING, ILLEGAL POSSESSION OR SALE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES OR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WITHIN THE LAST TEN YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO FILING THIS APPLICATION.
- ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON CODE REGARDING MALT BEVERAGES AND WINE HAVE BEEN MET BY THE APPLICANTS(S) AND ALL OTHER PERSONS REQUIRED TO BE LISTED ON THE APPLICATION.

b. Recommendation to appoint Cecilia Basich to Planning Commission: Motion to appoint Cecilia Basich. Second by Councilman Armour.
Vote: Yea 5 Nay 1 (Cullars)
Discussion: Councilman Mahoney – who is she replacing? Councilman Cullars asked for African American appointees. Councilman Wagner weighed in on attendance of past appointed members.

c. Resolution enacting Hotel/Motel Excise Tax. Motion by Councilman Armour to approve tax. Second by Councilman Wagner.
Vote: Yea 5 Nay 1 (Denard)
Discussion: County receives hotel taxation already, this will not interfere with the county. Councilman Mahoney questioned if this would affect the SDS? Administrator deBin said no. Councilman Denard and Councilman Wagner commented.

RESOLUTION TO ENACT HOTEL MOTEL EXCISE TAX PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. § 48-13-51(a)(1)(D)(3) IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, GEORGIA

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of Washington, Georgia, under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Georgia may enact an excise tax on the use of hotels and motels within the boundaries of the City of Washington, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of Washington, Georgia, has determined that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Washington to enact such excise tax for the promotion of tourism within the County.

NOW THEREFORE, the Mayor and City Council of Washington, Georgia, hereby resolves to enacts a hotel-motel excise tax pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 48-13-51(a)(1)(D)(3) and amends the Code of Ordinances of the City of Washington, Georgia as follows:

1) CHAPTER 74 of the Code of Ordinances shall be amended to create ARTICLE I. – Freeport Exemption, which shall include current ordinance Section 74-1. Freeport Exemption, with Sections 74-2 through 74-9 RESERVED.

2) CHAPTER 74 of the Code of Ordinances shall be amended to create ARTICLE II. – HOTEL/MOTEL TAX, and shall include the proceeding ordinances:

3) Section 74-10. – Excise Tax.

There is levied and imposed an excise tax at the rate of five percent of the charge of the public for and upon the furnishing for value to the public of any room or rooms, lodging, or accommodations furnished by any person or legal entity within the county operating a hotel, motel, inn, lodge, tourist camp, tourist cabin or other place in which rooms, lodging, or accommodations are regularly furnished for value. Said tax shall not include the sale or charges for any rooms, lodging, or accommodations furnished for a period of more than ten consecutive days, or for the use of meetings rooms.

4) Section 74-11. – When due.

Said excise tax shall be paid monthly beginning January 1, 2022, within 20 days after the end of each month. Vendors collecting said tax shall be allowed a percentage of the tax due and accounted for in the amount of three percent in the form of a deduction in submitting, reporting and paying the amount due, if said amount is not delinquent at the time of payment. Upon the failure to make a timely report and remittance by the 20th day of the month next succeeding the month in which such sales were made, said collection fee shall be forfeited. In addition, a penalty of 25 percent per month for failure to pay the excise tax within ten days of the due date shall be imposed. Vendors shall pay said tax with such remittance form as prescribed by the City. All books and records of each vendor shall be subject to inspection and audit by the Mayor and City Council to verify compliance with this article.

5) Section 74-12. – Tax in addition to existing fees, taxes, etc.

The excise tax provided for hereinabove shall be in addition to any license fee or occupation tax or charge which, may now or in the future be imposed upon vendors within the City.

6) Section 74-13. – Proceeds.

Proceeds from such tax shall be expended pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 48-13-51(a)(1)(D)(3).

7) Section 74-14. – Applicability.

This article shall continue in effect as amended from time to time and from the original adoption date of the ordinance from which it is derived (January 1, 2022).

8) Section 74-15. – Authorized.

Said article shall be authorized under O.C.G.A. § 48-13-51(a)(1)(D)(3) allowing the City to collect said hotel/motel tax at a rate of five percent.

9) All portions of this Code in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

10) The foregoing Ordinance was adopted on the 11th day of October, 2021 by a vote of 5 "yea" and 1 "nay", and 0 abstained.

d. Policy regarding meter tampering and theft of service: Discussion
Motion by Councilman Cullars to go forward with policy. Second by Councilman Armour
Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0 – Unanimous

Adoption of Policy re: WATER/ELECTRIC PENALTIES/FEES

CATEGORY	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense
Meter Cut Seal Penalty	$100	$150	$200
Meter Tampering Penalty	$150	$250	$350
Additional Security Deposit	$250	$350	$450
Reconnect Fee	$55	$55	$55
Usage Fee	Actual usage	Actual usage	Actual usage

FEES TO RECONNECT SERVICE THAT IS CUTOFF FOR NONPAYMENT: *Example of 1st offense: Service is cutoff due to nonpayment of $230.12. Customer must pay the following fees to reconnect service:*

150.00 ~~$250.00~~ Additional Security Deposit
$ 55.00 Reconnect Fee
+ 205.00 = ~~$305.00~~ Total Fees
+ $230.12 Original balance owed for utilities
+ 435.12 = ~~$535.12~~ Total due before reconnection

FEES TO RECONNECT SERVICE WHERE METER TAMPERING AND THEFT OF SERVICE HAS OCCURRED: *Example of 1st offense: Service is cutoff due to nonpayment of $230.12. Customer then cuts the seal (meter tampering) and reconnects the meter (theft of service). Customer must pay the following fees to reconnect:*

$100.00 Cut Seal Penalty
$150.00 Tampering Penalty
$250.00 Additional Security Deposit
$ 55.00 Reconnect Fee
= $555.00 Total Fees
+ $230.12 Original balance owed for utilities
= **$785.12** Total due before reconnection

New policies for reconnecting service that is cutoff due to nonpayment:

1. Applicable fees must be paid before service is reconnected.
2. Service will be reconnected during normal business hours. No more after-hours reconnection for nonpayment. This will eliminate unnecessary overtime pay to utility workers.
3. If customer develops a history of repeated cutoffs, then the deposit fee may be set at 2-3x the customer's average monthly electric usage cost.
4. In the most extreme cases, a customer will be placed on a prepaid metering program.

e. Proposed amendment to Sec. 90-253 – Conditional uses of land and structures:
Motion by Councilman Cullars to amend. Second by Councilman Denard.
Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0 - Unanimous

Proposed amendment to Sec. 90-253 - Conditional uses of land and structures

Sec. 90-253. - Conditional uses of land and structures.

(1) Personal care homes.
(2) Off-street parking.
(3) Membership clubs, churches, and fraternal organizations.
(4) Animal facilities and services, grooming and daycare.
(5) Schools—Private, public, parochial, school programs—Day-, pre-, post-.
(6) Storage facilities.

(Res. of 4-8-2019, § 4)

Editor's note— A resolution adopted April 8, 2019, renumbered § 90-253 as § 90-254.

Discussion by Janet Parker – Mainstreet Director

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS:

a. Councilman Cullars – Televise Council Meetings: Councilman Cullars opted to table until next meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

1. Doug Abramson – Meeting Procedures
2. Jan Anderson – Roy Burns Senior Center. Thanked Councilman Mahoney.

ADJOURNMENT Councilman Mahoney motioned to adjourn; Councilman Hill second. All agreed unanimous at 7:14pm.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK