

**CALLED MEETING
APRIL 18, 2019**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held a Called Meeting on April 18, 2019, beginning at 8 AM in the City Hall Annex downstairs meeting room. Mayor Ames Barnett presided.

Present were Mayor Barnett and Council members Armour, Armour, Cullars, Mahoney and Tutt. Also present were City Administrator Bailey, City Clerk Danner and City Attorney Fleming. Council member Scarborough was not present.

Visitors attending included Dennis Jones, Charles Jackson, Kelli Eisler, Joel Eisler, Bill DeGolian, Walt Brown, Gayla Brown, Richard Crabbe, Alvin Jones, Chris Harper, M.V. Booker, Cayce Buttrey, Tonya Binns, Latasha Brown, Wendy Anderson, Anita Owens, Carol Cartledge, Sarah Barksdale, Barbara Binns, Lokia Cullars, Jennifer Mills, Tameka Smith, Adam Bohler, Robert Grant, Yoshe Jenkins, Scotty Crane, Jessica Booker, Felicia Hulin, Rev. Larry Hill, Jeanelle Ashmore, Bruce Bailey, Willie Burns and Sparky Newsome of the News Reporter.

Mayor Barnett advised that he had spoken to Sheriff Mark Moore about the recent crime in the community. The Sheriff's Investigators are working these crimes, but witnesses are not coming forward and/or no one is speaking up about activities in the crime areas.

Some of the possible actions discussed were neighborhood watch programs, confidential tip line (not 9-1-1), establishing curfews and perhaps changing hours of operation of establishments serving alcohol. Any of these actions can be further discussed at the May meeting of council.

Sheriff Moore has agreed to add more deputies on an as needed basis at \$25 per hour. Sheriff Moore will make the call on when and where and how long these additional officers are needed.

On motion by Tutt, second by Mahoney, to pay the Sheriff's office \$25 per hour on a monthly basis, with auto renewal each month until such time as council stops the agreement. After discussion, council voted 2-2-1. Voting against the motion were council members Armour and Armour. Council member Cullars abstained. Mayor Barnett then voted for the motion, breaking the tie vote.

Council member Cullars asked for citizen comments from two citizens present. Latasha Brown thanked council for action taken and further stated that her mother would not be able to drop to the ground in the event of shootings in the area and welcomed increased sheriff patrol. Bruce Bailey applauded council action but also felt that parents should be held responsible for children's actions and that more male role models should step up. Rev. Larry Hill assured that the congregation of Marks Tabernacle is ready and willing to help in any way possible.

On motion by Tutt, second by Cullars, council approved 5 to 0 adjournment at 8:45 AM.

_____ MAYOR

_____ CLERK