

**REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 9, 2020**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 9, 2020, immediately following the Work Session at the Edward Pope Conference Center. Mayor William deGolian presided.

Present were Mayor deGolian and council members Armour, Cullars, Denard, Hill, Mahoney and Wagner. Also present were Interim City Administrator Cody, City Clerk Evans and City Attorney Adam Nelson.

Visitors present: Travis Armour, Barbara Fulbright, Frank Fulbright, Debra Denard, C. Carol Cartledge, Marcus Dill, Barbara Bacon, Sparky Newsome, Newton Gunter, Pam Gunter, Betsy Wagner, Stephanie Macchia, Betty Hamilton, Martha Reed, Nancy Farris, Vivian Barnett, G Boyd, Ken Pelot, Carrie Gresham, Judy Anderson, Michael Horgan, Loretta Fanning, Annie "Pie" Wilkinson, Mattie Carson, Kay Finnell, Tonya Binns, Sim Dill, Four "E" Youth Organization, E. Crabbe, R. Anderson, and Angela Booker.

Call to order by Mayor deGolian. Hill opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Armour.

AGENDA APPROVED: Consideration of motion approving agenda with added discussion with Omega and discussion of adding Alvin Jones to Housing Authority Committee. On motion by Denard, second by Hill. Approved 6-0.

MINUTES APPROVED: On motion by Armour, second by Hill, consideration of approval February 10 minutes. Mahoney asked Booker, Washington Housing Authority Chairman updated Bylaws and minutes of Housing Authority Committee last meeting. He also stated that he had not received information requested to this date. On motion by Denard, second by Hill amended minutes approval, 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Interim Administrator Cody stated GICH community has been lost; draft by March 27th. Status renew in a couple of weeks. Cody will handle this matter.
- B. Armour motioned to leave Section 7 of the Charter "one necessary trip or training per year" limitation on training for elected officials, as is. Hill stated (1) training is not enough. Wagner wants to remove, Wagner motioned, as budget allows - remove the last sentence, "However, the mayor and/or any council member shall only be reimbursed travel expenses for one necessary trip or training per year, with the exception of newly elected official training occurring in the same year." Second by Hill. Approved 5-1, Armour voted no.
- C. Consider amending Section 7 of the Charter of the City of Washington: Compensation of Mayor and Council to provide additional compensation to members of Mayor and Council who complete 204 hours and 276 certification hours from the Georgia Municipal Association. Armour motioned compensation to stay as is. Tabled until further notice.
- D. Walter West with ECOGA advised, Omega would be a positive investment. This company is a crypto company like WAHA Technologies. Motioned by Mahoney to proceed with contract,

Second by Wagner. Approval unanimous.

APPOINTMENTS TOPIC: On motion by Cullars and Second by Hill, Alvin Jones appointed to Washington Housing Authority Committee.

A. Consideration to re-appoint Debra Denard to Resthaven Cemetery Committee, Denard recused himself. Mahoney stated that he would not vote on the committees until African Americans are placed on some of these committees. Mayor stated that we put up a notice seeking members, not to take action on appointees tonight. The following committee appointments were tabled until later:

- I. Reappointing C. Carol Cartledge to the Resthaven Cemetery
- II. Appointing Robert Armour to the Resthaven Cemetery to fill the unexpired term of former Council member Travis Armour.
- III. Re-appointing Mahoney to the Resthaven Cemetery.
- IV. Appointing M. Denard to serve on the Parks and Recreation Authority vacated by former Council member Scarborough.
- V. Appointed Hill to serve on the Parks and Recreation Authority to fill expired term of Cullars.
- VI. Appointing Wagner to E911 to fill vacated seat of former Council member Travis Armour to Tree Board/Commission.
- VIII. Re-appointing John Sisson to the Tree Board /Commission.
- IX. Appointing Myra Blackmon to serve on the Downtown Development Authority (DDA).
- X. Appointing Jim Walden to serve on the Downtown Development Authority.

EVENT TOPICS:

On motion by Cullars, Second by Mahoney, unanimously approved Mark Thornton with Ducks Unlimited (501C3), to host event and serve alcohol at Pope Center, May 1, 2020.

On motion by Mahoney, Second by Armour Easter Egg Hunt hosted by Downtown Merchants, April 11, 2020 approved unanimous.

Stephanie Macchia gave a presentation for the WW Historical Foundation to conduct a study/survey of the Fort Washington Park area behind the Courthouse. W-W Historic Foundation will donate \$15,000 & Lamar Institute will donate \$3000. Hill asked if the non-profit group led by Ms. Roxann can help with the survey. On motion by Cullars, Second by Hill request for the study/survey approved 6-0.

Interim Cody presented the MEAG Resolution and Incumbency and Signatory Certificate, on motion by Cullars and Second by Denard term contact until permanent administration. Approved 6-0.

Amend motion to ratify the Agreement dated December 10, 2019 between the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG), City of Washington, and the City of Mansfield for MEAG's Power sale on behalf of Washington of 109 kW of Washington's excess capacity to the City of Mansfield between January 1, 2020 December 31, 2020 for a price of \$7.00 per kW contracted by previous Mayor and Administration.

On motion by Cullars, Second by Hill to ratify Agreement dated December 10, 2019 between MEAG, City

of Washington, and the City of Oxford for MEAG's Power Sale on behalf of Washington of 494 kW of Washington's excess capacity to the City of Oxford between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020 for a price of \$2.00 per kW. Approved 6-0

On motion by Armour, Second by Hill approval unanimous of Janitorial Services Contract between Department of Human Services and the City of Washington to provide cleaning, janitorial, and similar maintenance services for the Wilkes County DFCS location at 48 Lexington Avenue for a contract price of \$12,999.96 through June 30, 2020 and automatic renewals through June 30, 2024.

On motion by Hill, Second by Denard approved Department of Community Affairs recommendation to appropriate \$30,000 from Housing Development Program funds as a FY 2020 expenditure to complete rehabilitation projects from the 2018 CHIP Award. Owner/Occupied, lead base, inside/outside - \$190,000 program money.

Prime Time Publicity Consultant, Barbara Bacon addressed the Mayor and Council about agreement between the City of Washington and Prime Time Publicity. To provide homebuyer education services as required by the 2018 CHIP grant award, to include pre-purchase counseling and post-purchase and home maintenance workshops in the amount of \$7,000. On motion by Cullars, Warner - questioned, "if Bacon was employed by City of Washington, the answer was "she is not employed by the City of Washington." Second by Hill. Approved 6-0.

Amendments to the Fiscal Year 2020 budget, to include eliminating the \$8,000 expenditure for a downtown dog park. On motion by Mahoney, Second by Cullars. Approved 4, (Mahoney, Cullars, Wagner, & Hill) - No(Denard, Armour).

On motion by Mahoney, Second by Hill directing the City Administrator to prepare program materials for a City of Washington Citizens Academy and report back to Council. Approval 6-0.

On motion by Armour, Second by Hill giving notice of intent to renegotiate/terminate the Intergovernmental Agreement for Building Inspections and Code Enforcement Services between Wilkes County Board of Commissioners and the City of Washington. Deadline May 1st. Approved 6-0.

On motion by Cullars, Second by Hill to give notice of intent to renegotiate/terminate the FY 2017 Intergovernmental Agreement for Law Enforcement Services between Wilkes County Board of Commissioners, the Sheriff's Department of Wilkes County and the City of Washington. Approved 6-0.

On motion by Cullars, Second by Hill to give notice of intent to renegotiate/terminate the Intergovernmental Agreement Fire Service Contract between the City of Washington and the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners. Approved 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Cullars, second by Denard City Council Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.

_____ MAYOR

_____ CLERK