

WORK SESSION
MARCH 12, 2018

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly Work Session on Monday, March 12, 2018, beginning at 3 PM at the Edward Pope Conference Center. Mayor Ames Barnett presided.

Present were: Mayor Barnett and Council members Armour, Armour, Cullars and Scarborough. Council member Mahoney joined the meeting at 3:10 PM and Council member Tutt joined the meeting at 3:21 PM. Also present were City Administrator Bailey, City Clerk Danner and City Attorney Nelson.

Visitors included: Charles Jackson, Jackie Lewis, Olivia Jackson, Dottri Jackson, Blake Thompson, Charles Wagner, Carol Cartledge, Mary Burt, Ann Tanner, Kendra Dill, Loretta Fanning, Jeanelle Ashmore, Betty Hamilton, Hattie Callaway, Judy Anderson, Clara Sutton, Hilda Wright, Esper Lee, Johnny Williams, Adrienne Williams, Mattie Cason, Annie R. Wilkinson, Mary Jones, Adrienne Kendrick, Nancy Parks and Sparky Newsome of the News Reporter.

Mayor Barnett advised that he would seek council approval for the appointment of Council member Cullars to the Parks and Recreation Board during the regular meeting.

Barnett also reminded those present of the Town Hall Meeting scheduled for 5 PM to follow the regular meeting of council.

City Administrator Bailey advised council of the Resolution to Authorize the application of a CDBG Sewer Phase III grant. This would be a matching grant for the city. If the city applies for the sewer line project only the grant would be \$630,000 with the city's match to be \$72,000. If the city applies for the sewer line project plus lift station replacement the grant would be \$750,000 with the city's match to be \$366,600. Also of note; federal regulations require that a notice be given of a possible conflict of interest in that Council member Cullars lives within the target area. Should the grant be awarded, Council member Cullars would abstain from discussion and voting on any matters relating to the grant.

City Administrator Bailey reviewed with council the proposed Budget Amendments included in the council packets; the revenue adjustment necessitated by the action of Council on March 2, 2018, regarding the Berry Plastics rate reduction and the re-classification of SPLOST funds from 320 to 321.

City Administrator Bailey brought back to council information concerning utility accounts as requested from last month's meeting. The city penalizes about 635 accounts per month or 24% of our utility customers. Utility bills are penalized 7% on balances not paid by the 25th of each month and there are some 35 accounts which appear on the cut off list monthly and charged the \$75 past due fee. Reconnection fees are charged only to accounts which are re-connected after hours. Currently accounts with a balance of \$150 or less at 5 PM on the 3rd of each month are not on the cut off list.

After discussion, council generally agreed that the city would continue to penalize 7% on the 25th of each month, accounts must be paid in full by the 3rd of the following month and reconnection fees will be charged for after-hours cut on.

Administrator Bailey reviewed with council a proposed Pope Center Booking policy which will deal with how two booking requests for the same day will be handled in deciding the appropriateness of the two events.

Administrator Bailey requested that council approve a job description on classification assignment of 19A (\$18.95 per hour) for a Lead Mechanic/Shop Manager position. This job description favors a certified mechanic. Council member Mahoney expressed that he thought current city employees should have first chance at the job

Administrator Bailey reported a request for use of the square by the Optimist Club on April 21 and also a request for use of the Pope Center grounds and a parade route from Jackie Lewis for a Labor Day event. Ms. Lewis was present and explained her event and set up.

Work Session adjourned at 3:30 PM.

