

WORK SESSION
JULY 9, 2012

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington held a work session on Monday, July 9, 2012, beginning at 5 PM at the Pope Conference Center. Mayor Ames Barnett presided.

Present were: Mayor Barnett, council members Armour, Cullars, Harris, Rainey and Scarborough. Council member Tutt joined the meeting at 5:25 PM. Also present were City Administrator Eskew, City Clerk Danner and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors included: David Jenkins, Christian Lentz, Joseph Willis, Edward Franklin, Shameco Tutt, Carrington Tutt, Cindy Bounds, Ronnie Huffman, Terri Lane, Linda Echols, Kenneth Echols, Ann Tanner, Patsy Winn, Rachel Jackson, Erin Pollock, Betty Slaton, Carol Cartledge, Phyllis Scarborough, Jenny Clarke, Clara Sutton, Annie R. Wilkinson, Hattie Callaway, Barbara Burns, Johnnie Wilkinson, Barbara Ricciuti, Charles Wagner, Norris Ware, Jarvis McNair, Officer Jason McCalla, Police Chief Glenn and Kip Burke of the News Reporter.

Economic Development Director David Jenkins gave updates on several projects: the contractor for Rusher Street has withdrawn; one home re-hab through CHIP 08 has been completed; city website updates continues; and, the foundation for Black Patriots Monument will be poured this week.

Christian Lentz of the RDC gave council an overview/timeline of proposed amendments for the Code of Ordinances. These amendments will be the subject of several public hearings.

RAINEY: Council member Rainey requested that city delay legal avenues for collection of past due city taxes until January 2013 and further that an RFP be sent out for a firm to handle the past due collection.

Rainey discussed issues relating to the collection of past due utilities from two different businesses. This matter will be added to an executive session request to follow the regular meeting.

Rainey discussed and asked for clarification of plans for future operation of the Pope Center.

Rainey advised that at the August meeting of council she intends to introduce a motion for bids to construct a spray field at the Reese Booker Park.

Rainey distributed to council a printout of the Secretary of State's budget as it appears on the SOS website and asked that the city's budget be included in a similar manner on the city's website.

CULLARS: Council member Cullars advised that he will ask for an executive session to follow the regular meeting to discuss to personnel matters.

Cullars introduced Terri Lane of Snoops Collection Service. Ms. Lane gave an overview of what her company does and expressed an interest in the collection of the city's past due taxes and utility bills. When asked, Ms. Lane advised that her company is not bonded.

City Administrator Eskew asked for council guidance of the disposal of the Gordon Street School property. After discussion, council concurred in issuing an RFP for disposal of contents through auction.

City Administrator Eskew advised that a local business owner had contacted him concerning the possible purchase/lease-purchase of the old GA TASC building on Hospital Drive. Administrator Eskew is to clarify the agreement with the current lease.

City Administrator Eskew discussed with council several options for the re-structure of the operation of the Pope Center. City Administrator will discuss options with the current operator and report back at the August meeting of council.

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 PM.

_____ MAYOR

_____ CLERK