

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Mayor and Council
City of Fitzgerald, Georgia
December 11, 2017
6:00 pm

A Public Hearing took place at the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 302 East Central Avenue, on Monday, December 11, 2017.

A Public Hearing was held to consider the City of Fitzgerald's FY2018 budget. This public hearing was properly advertised. Mayor Masee asked if anyone would like to speak regarding the proposed budget. With no comments, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor and Council of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia, met in a **Regular** meeting immediately following the public hearing, with Mayor Masee presiding and with Council members Coney (entered late), Griffin, Holt, Jefferson, Jones, Roberts, Tillman, Webb and Williams being present.

Minutes of November 27, 2017, Regular Council meeting were read. Mayor Masee entertained a motion for approval. Council Person Williams made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Council Person Griffin. Having a motion and a second, Mayor Masee asked if there were any additions or corrections. With none being heard, called for a **Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Masee invited Aileen Harris, representing GMA, and Mara Shaw, representing the Carl Vinson Institute on Government, to come forward. Ms. Harris asked Council Member Jason Holt to come forward. Ms. Harris thanked Mr. Holt for this commitment to GMA and his efforts in improving the training program through GMA. Ms. Shaw stated that Mr. Holt was a force multiplier and truly epitomized what service to the citizens of Georgia truly meant. Ms. Shaw thanked him and his family for all the dedicated time given GMA over the years. Ms. Shaw presented Mr. Holt with an etching of the Fanning Institute and the Lucy Cobb Chapel

Mayor Masee presented employee service awards to 14 employees for their years of continuous service to the City of Fitzgerald and the citizens they serve.

Mayor Masee welcomed everyone in attendance: Brad King, Mayor-Elect Jim Puckett, and Council Member-elect Jimmy Johnson and County Manager, Mike Dinnerman.

Mayor Masee asked if anyone would like to speak. County Manager, Mike Dinnerman, asked to address Council. Mr. Dinnerman stated he had been in his position with BHC as Manager for about 4 months. He began by stating that if they (BHC) had offended us (City) in any way, he apologizes and wants to start with a clean slate and move forward. Mr. Dinnerman addressed council in regards to the non-emergency calls and the county obligation. He mentioned the laws relating to taxes used to fund the call center. He also mentioned the court case of Gilmer County vs. East Ellijay. The City of Fitzgerald dispatches between 8am-5pm, Monday through Friday; beyond that, calls are rolled over to 911. Due to the roll over calls, the County is providing a service and feels that it should be compensated for this service or the City should provide our own service. Mr. Dinnerman stated that in the near future he would like a work session to discuss the issue. There is no immediate decision required but would like this

considered the first part of 2018. Mr. Dinnerman thanked council for their time and time that he has enjoyed working with the Mayor and the administrative staff.

Under Reports of City Officers, Mayor Masee invited everyone to review the Administrative Report. Mayor Masee called attention to the calendar items at the end of the report. Mayor Masee did mention the tourism report and the large project that has been done on the depot renovations as this will be part of the tour of homes. Please note all the Christmas events.

Reports of standing committees were given by their respective chair person.

Under reports of special committees, Council Person Griffin presented an alcohol license for J&J Market, located at 715 N Merrimac Drive, for beer and wine off premises. This application has been through the proper channels of the Police and Sheriff Departments, Public Works, Zoning and Administration. Council Person Griffin made a motion to accept this license application, seconded by Council Person Webb. Mayor Masee asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, called for **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney, Gill Braddy, presented **Resolution R17-014**, the sale of 304 W Alapaha Street and the release of restrictive covenants at 306 W Alapaha Street. Council Person Coney motioned to dispense with the full reading, seconded by Council Person Griffin. Mayor Masee asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, moved to **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Masee asked for approval of **Resolution R17-014** the sale of 304 W Alapaha Street and the release of restrictive covenants at 306 W Alapaha Street. Council Person Webb motioned to approve **R17-014** seconded by Council Person Coney. Mayor Masee asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, moved to **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, Motion approved.**

City Attorney, Gill Braddy, presented **Resolution R17-015**, a Resolution to approve the comprehensive tourism plan. Council Person Coney motioned to dispense with the full reading, seconded by Council Person Webb. Mayor Masee asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, called for **Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain. Motion approved. Council Person Williams abstaining.**

Mayor Masee asked for approval of **Resolution R17-015**. Council Person Holt motioned for approval, seconded by Council Person Coney. Mayor Masee asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, Mayor Masee called for **Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain. Motion approved. Council Person Williams abstaining.**

City Attorney, Gill Braddy, presented **Resolution R17-016**, a Resolution to set purchase prices for burial spaces at Evergreen Cemetery. Council Person Coney motioned to dispense with the full reading, seconded by Council Person Griffin. Mayor Masee asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, called for **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, Motion approved.**

Mayor Masee asked for approval of **Resolution R17-016**. Council Person Webb motioned for approval, seconded by Council Person Coney. Mayor Masee asked if there was any discussion.

With none heard, Mayor Massee called for **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, Motion approved.**

City Attorney, Gill Braddy, presented **Ordinance 17-1511**, an ordinance to amend Article III "Evergreen Cemetery" of Chapter 7, "Cemeteries" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fitzgerald, GA. Council Person Coney motioned to dispense with full reading, seconded by council Person Roberts. Mayor Massee asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, called for **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, Motion approved.**

Mayor Massee asked for approval of **Ordinance 17-1511**. Council Person Webb motioned for approval, seconded by Council Person Coney. Mayor Massee asked if there was any discussion. With none heard, Mayor Massee called for **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, Motion approved.**

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



ATTEST:

Cristina Adams

CITY CLERK

APPROVED:

Mark H. Massee

MAYOR