Minutes of Regular Meeting Mayor and Council City of Fitzgerald, Georgia February 12, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Mayor and Council met on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 302 East Central Avenue, with Mayor Jason L. Holt presiding and with Council members Brown, Clemons, D. Jefferson, S. Jefferson, J. Johnson, K. Johnson, Peavey, Roberts and Webb being present.

Mayor Holt welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologized for our microphone issues.

Minutes of previous meeting, January 8, Regular Council meeting were presented. Mayor Holt entertained a motion for approval. Council member Peavey made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Council member Webb. With there being no additions or corrections, Mayor Holt called for a *Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.*

Minutes of previous meeting, January 8, organizational meeting were presented. Mayor Holt entertained a motion for approval. Council member Roberts made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Council member Clemons. With there being no additions or corrections, Mayor Holt called for a *Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.*

Under hearing from citizens or visitors, Mayor Holt called on Kathleen Searcy of 101 Smith Street. Ms. Searcy expressed her concern over the additional charge for limb and leaf debris pickup for the elderly who have no trees in their yards. She wanted Council to think about the elderly and would see them when it comes time for voting.

Under reports of city officers, Mayor Holt called attention to the Administrative Report. Please be sure to review the report. He noted many items from the report to review. Also, the grant spreadsheet is there for review as well with 2 new grants to be added soon.

Reports of standing committees were given by their respective chairpersons.

Council Person Clemons presented an alcohol license for Happy Food Mart located at 102 E Central Avenue. This is for new ownership of the location and for beer and wine off premises. This has been through all the proper channels for approval. **Motion** to approve this license: Clemons. Mayor Holt called for a **second**: Roberts. With no discussion: **Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.**

City Attorney, Kyle Cook, presented an **Ordinance Caption:** An Ordinance to amend section 6-25 "businesses in unqualified structures prohibited," of article II "Buildings," of Chapter 6 "buildings and building regulations" of the code of ordinances of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia.

Under Old Business: With the open meetings law, any vote for no is to be recorded. At the previous meeting vote for other appointments for the City of Fitzgerald, we had a no vote. We don't know what the no vote was for so we will go through each appointment now and vote for each.

Mayor Holt presented the Bank Depositories: All banks in Fitzgerald.

Motion to approve: Webb

Second: Roberts

With no discussion: Roll Call Vote 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Holt presented Health Officer: Dr. James Luckie.

Motion to approve: Peavey

Second: Webb

With no discussion: Roll Call Vote 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Holt presented City Sanitarian: Alex Collins

Motion to approve: J. Johnson

Second: Clemons

With no discussion: Roll Call Vote 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Holt presented Official Organ: The Herald Leader

Motion to approve: Clemons

Second: Peavey

With no discussion: Roll Call Vote 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Holt presented Legal Counsel: Jay, Sherrell, Smith, Braddy and Cook.

Motion to approve: Peavey

Second: Roberts

With no discussion: Roll Call Vote 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Holt presented City Auditors: Eckler CPA, LLC

Motion to approve: Roberts

Second: Clemons

With no discussion: Roll Call Vote 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Holt presented Municipal Election Superintendent and Registrar, Cristina Evans.

Motion to approve: Webb

Second: Clemons

With no discussion: Roll Call Vote 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Holt presented Police Chief, William Smallwood.

Motion to approve: Webb

Second: Roberts

With no discussion: Roll Call Vote 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Holt presented Fire Chief, Rusty Seaver.

Motion to approve: Webb

Second: Brown

With no discussion: Roll Call Vote 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Holt presented Administrator, Kathy Young.

Motion to approve: J. Johnson

Second: Clemons

With no discussion: Roll Call Vote 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

Under New Business, we present a notice of withdrawal from the IGA with the Adel Site for BlockStream.

Motion to approve: J. Johnson

Second: Roberts

Discussion: S. Jefferson inquired what this agreement would do. Blockstream is doing away with

the contract for bitcoin mining.

Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.

J. Johnson asked to read a letter from the Friends of the Library to council. There is an open house this Thursday from 5:00-6:30 per Mayor Holt. There are many new items coming to the library and some surprises, if you are led to donate to friends of the library, please do so.

Mr. Albert Webb inquired on the CHIP grant status. Whitney Justice mentioned that they have attended training and run ads in the paper. Please get in touch with Whitney Justice to get on the list and she will call once applications are ready.

Mr. Barry Peavey inquired about the DOT bike lanes on Merrimac and W Roanoke. Croy Engineering has this project and are working on rendering currently. Drawings will be soon.

Mr. Tim Anderson inquired about the TSPLOST. We are currently working on one TSPLOST on the West Side with the East Side TSPLOST to be voted on in May. This second TSPLOST covers 22 blocks versus the first for 17 blocks.

Mr. Kevin Johnson asked that the administrator and what council can, tour the monitor center with Keith Morris. Mr. Kevin Johnson also requested information on mobile home zoning. Discussion ensued over mobile home park regulations and local exemptions for mobile homes. Per Mayor Holt, we will look into the zoning of mobile homes again.

Ms. Sheila Jefferson reported water issues at 404 W Roanoke Drive and Mr. Albert Webb the 500 block of south Thomas street.

Mr. Kevin Johnson asked if we could do a weekly complaint sheet with administrator Kathy Young in regards to public works issues and other complaints and get information back on this.

Mayor Holt noted many department heads are out due to illness. Our next meeting is the week of the Chicken Festival.

Mr. Barry Peavey gave a brief update of the chicken festival noting 80 vendors and plenty of music throughout the festival this year. Also, there will be another tractor parade.

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

GERALO GEORGIA (SEAGLE) 1896

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

MAYOR