

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**Mayor and Council**  
**City of Fitzgerald, Georgia**  
**March 14, 2022**  
**6:00 pm**

Mayor and Council of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia, met in a **Regular** meeting at the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 302 East Central Avenue, with Mayor Holt presiding and with Council Members Brown, Clemons, S. Jefferson, J. Johnson, K. Johnson, Peavey, Roberts, and Webb being present.

Mayor Holt welcomed everyone in attendance. Mayor Holt mentioned the son of Dennis Jefferson had been in an accident and asked that he be remembered in prayer.

Minutes of February 14, 2022, Regular Council meeting were presented. Mayor Holt entertained a motion for approval.

**Motion:** Peavey

**Second:** Roberts

No discussion.

**Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Holt called on Tony Eckler, Eckler CPA, to come and speak. Mr. Eckler spoke regarding the 2020 municipal audit. Mr. Eckler mentioned that he has worked on our audit for a number of years and this is the first time he has made a presentation. He complimented the staff and their professionalism during the audits. Mr. Eckler spoke on some main highlights of the audit that would be of interest to the council. He also recommended that a few council members be more involved with the financials and audit for the city. Mr. Eckler thanked us for the opportunity to continue to provide our audits.

Councilman Jimmy Johnson spoke and suggested we have Tony Eckler come to the council retreat day. Mayor Holt said he would consider as he had a full agenda for that day.

Mayor Holt reminded everyone that we do have copies of the audit available and also the audit is located on the Carl Vinson Institute of Government website.

Mayor Holt called on Jonathan Burgeron to come and speak. Mr. Burgeron thanked everyone for the opportunity to speak. He mentioned he is an avid skateboarder for many reasons. Mr. Burgeron mentioned how he and others have helped clean up the skate park and held organized events at the park. He hopes that there can be expansion to the park to make more feasible for other wheeled activities. He stated he will continue to do his part in keeping the area clean and hopefully have more organized activities for the community to be involved in.

Mayor Holt mentioned that in the packet for the council, he has added an executive summary on the action items for the meeting. Mayor Holt spoke on several highlights of the administrative report.

Reports of standing committees were given.

City Attorney, Kyle Cook, presented the following Ordinance caption:

**Ordinance Caption:** An Ordinance to amend the City of Fitzgerald zoning district map with respect to 0.23 acres, more or less, being all of lot number 2 in Tolleson Lumber Company, Inc Subdivision, located at 904 S. Sheridan Street Extension, Fitzgerald, Georgia, 31750 in the city of Fitzgerald, Ben Hill County, Georgia; to rezone said property from R-6-M (City) to C-C (City). Mayor Holt mentioned that due to a publishing error, this ordinance caption and three other items will be reviewed and discussed at the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday night council meeting.

Mayor Holt called on Deputy Administrator, Cam Jordan to report on the Monitor CDBG building plan adjustments. Mr. Jordan stated that due to cuts in the project, the changes have to go back through all committees that are involved. These changes still allow for the addition of classroom space which was one of the main goals of the project. Kevin Johnson asked about the additional number of children able to be involved and this number is around 30-40 in the space that will be available.

Mayor Holt called for a motion for the new plan adjustments.

**Motion:** J. Johnson

**Second:** Roberts

**Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Holt stated that an application for tree removal was received for 816 W West Central Avenue. The property is located at the corner of Merrimac and Central. The request is to cut 2 trees due to blind spot in the traffic. Councilman Jimmy Johnson said that they could not see. Councilman Barry Peavey asked the condition/soundness of the trees. City Administrator Kathy Young mentioned that there have been limbs to fall but the large issue is the safety. Mayor Holt called on a motion for the tree removal.

**Motion:** Roberts

**Second:** Peavey

**Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Councilman Jimmy Johnson asked if other trees are cut down, is the process the same. Someone has to make the application. If a tree is on city property, it needs to be reported to public works for them to present an application. Mayor Holt did mention that even with the tree removal, trees are being replaced.

Councilman Kevin Johnson inquired on the status of the Palm Street/MLK signage.

Councilman Barry Peavey spoke briefly regarding the upcoming chicken festival.

Councilman Albert Webb noted complaints in regards to ATV/4 wheelers on Monitor, Park Grove Area and Seaboard side. Councilman Kevin Johnson mentioned golf carts as well.

DLS Director, Keith Morris noted a good basketball tournament that was held here in town.

Mayor Holt thanked Chief Smallwood for all the extra efforts in the police department.

The fire department has 2 new employees that graduated the fire academy.

The airport is still flying. Councilman Barry Peavey thanked the airport staff for their help in the youth flight experience day as there were about 70 children who made flights.

Brandy Elrod, Tourism Director, mentioned that Georgia Cities Week is in April. Mayor Holt said that we will be doing lots of activities this year with Georgia Cities Week.

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



*Christina Evans*

APPROVED: *John Holt*

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MAYOR