

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
Mayor and Council
City of Fitzgerald, Georgia
November 14th, 2022
6:00 p.m.**

A Public Hearing was held to receive citizens input on the **Rezoning of 114 Wilson Avenue, from R-9 County to R-9 City**. With there being no one present to address or speak; the Public Hearing was closed.

Mayor and Council met on Monday, November 14th, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chamber, located at 302 East Central Avenue, with Mayor Jason L. Holt presiding and with Council members Brown, D. Jefferson, J. Johnson, K. Johnson, Peavey, Roberts and Webb being present.

Invocation was led by Council member Earl Brown and Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Jason L. Holt.

Minutes of previous meeting, October 10th, 2022, 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 Brown. With there being no additions or corrections, Mayor Holt called for a **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Holt welcomed all guests and stated that **Sue Rochfort** had requested to speak. Ms. Rochfort came to the podium and shared with those present about the 1st Annual Madrigal Dinner, on Saturday, January 7th, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The dinner will be held at the Grand Conference Garden Room, located at 110 South Main Street and hosted by The Vintage Kitchen Museum, the 1890's General Store, Jefferson Davis Memorial State Historic Site, Blue and Gray Museum, and Colony Gallery of African Arts. Ms. Rochfort shared the history of the Madrigal Feasts, which began in the 14th Century and celebrated in Europe and American. Tables for the event are \$550 each and individual seats are \$75.

There were no **communications or presentations of petitions**.

Under **reports of city officers**, Mayor Holt called attention to the Administrative Report, stating that the city has a steady flow of taxpayers. Holt shared appreciation to all those members which were able to participate in the Budget Committee meetings last week. Holt highlighted several areas on the report.

Reports of **standing committees** were given by their respective chairperson.

A motion was made by Council member Dennis Jefferson to approve an **alcohol application for 816 East Sultana Drive**, submitted by Gantambhai Patel, for sale of beer and wine, seconded by

Council member Barry Peavey. With there being no discussion, Mayor Holt called for a **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney Kyle Cook presented **Ordinance # 22-1581** an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance for 114 Wilson Avenue, from R-9 County to R-9 City. Council member Tommy Roberts made a motion to dispense with the full reading, seconded by Council member Kevin Johnson. With there being no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Motion was made by Council member Albert Webb to approve **Ordinance # 22-1581**, seconded by Council member Jimmy Johnson. With there being no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney Kyle Cook presented **Ordinance Captions for Turkey Creek property located at 330 Ocilla Highway, rezoning and annexation of 0.14 acres at 125 Benjamin H Hill Drive, SPLOST IGA with Ben Hill County, and alley closure and sell at Kimball Street.**

City Attorney Kyle Cook presented **Resolution R22-010**, a resolution authorizing membership in the Georgia Municipal Association Workers' Compensation Self Insurance Fund. A motion was made by Council member Tommy Roberts to dispense with the full reading, seconded by Council member Albert Webb. Mayor Holt stated that it had been some time since we were in the GMA Workers' Compensation Insurance and had several other benefits provided by GMA. With there being no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Motion was made by Council member Albert Webb to approve **Resolution R22-010**, seconded by Council member Tommy Roberts. With there being no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney Kyle Cook presented **Resolution R22-011**, a resolution to amend the Policies and procedures of Mayor, Council and City Administrator to provide and properly identify and state a mission and vision for the same. A motion was made by Council member Tommy Roberts to dispense with the full reading, seconded by Council member Earl Brown. Mayor Holt advised that this was the result of our most recent retreat and provided the mission and vision statement developed. With there being no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

A motion was made by Council member Barry Peavey to approve **Resolution R22-011**, seconded by Council member Tommy Roberts. With there being no discussion, Mayor Holt called for **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Under new business, Mayor Holt advised that a summary had been submitted to all members regarding the **ARPA budget**. Holt stated that the final rule, finalized in April, now allows money to put back in the general fund to offset lost revenue without explanation, up to \$10 million. Mayor Holt advised that it is the recommendation from Administration to transfer the remaining funds from the employee premium pay which was budgeted to the general fund.

Mayor Holt shared that the **SPLOST** vote would be on the ballot in March of 2023 and a summary of the projects had been submitted to council for review. Holt further shared the importance of the SPLOST and how difficult it would be to run our city without it. Holt stated our city tax rate would be much different without SPLOST.

Mayor Holt stated that renovations continue in the Mayor and Council Chambers but is almost completed and looks great.

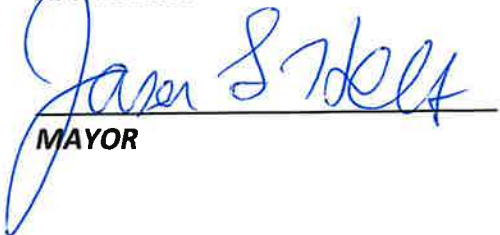
Mayor Holt advised Council that two (2) drafts of the revised **city logo** were provided in the packets for review. This was generated from suggestions at the recent retreat of Mayor and City Council. Jimmy Johnson questioned the timeframe for getting new shirt designs after approval. Administrator Young stated it would have to be digitized and could expect 6 to 8 weeks.

Council member Kevin Johnson questioned the SPLOST funds and Grants for renovations at the **Monitor Auditorium**, stating the stairs to the dressing room and leaks need to be addressed. Council member Albert Webb stated that at a recent Parent/Teacher meeting with MEP, that he and City Administrator Young were present and the curtains were also included in necessary renovations. Administrator Young advised that a contractor was taken through the entire building and listed all renovations needed and an estimated cost has been provided. Young advised that all renovations have been submitted in a grant but if not awarded, SPLOST would be an option. Young advised that any council member was welcome to stop by her office to review the renovations list.

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



APPROVED:


MAYOR

ATTEST:

