

- A. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Wm. T. Austin, Mayor with Council Members T. Williams, Sr., J. Young, C. Stacy and D. Miller present;
- B. Confirmation of Proper Notice of Meeting;
- C. Invocation – Council Member T. Williams, Sr.,
- D. Adoption of Minutes of Last Meeting – Motion Council Member D. Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council Member C. Stacy to adopt said minutes; Passed 4 yea; 0 nay;

Old Business

Review of ongoing projects requiring engineer/contractor support:

- 1. Water/Sewer System – (P.C. Simonton & Assoc.)
  - A. Remaining Sewer Projects – brief update given by Council Member T. Williams, Sr., - Everything on schedule; working water tap on Sandy Run road; 3 are completed on Hwy. 17; working on Deloris Slay on E.B. Cooper;  
  
\*Water meters – waiting to obtain schedule from engineer as to process leading up to installation of meters;
  - B. CDBG 2014 – The last draw for monies signed as of February 2, 2016; this completes the sewer installations for Riceboro;
- 2. Community Development, Council Member C. Stacy – Update – Ricefest is closed out; working on the SYP for 2016; Four (4) property areas identified for demolition under the Unity in the Community program; it was suggested that there should be some contribution from the property owner; Motion Council Member C. Stacy that the city provide 90% and the owner provide 10% toward demolition efforts; 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council Member J. Young; 4 yea; 0 nay;

Council Member C. Stacy indicated that the Board of Education has a program called “REACH”; this is a scholarship program for Middle School age students; Five (5) students are selected; funding will come from various sources; the amount of the scholarship is \$10,000.00 per student; the goal for this year is \$17,500.00 which would be across the County; the County would have to match the state’s contribution for the program; individual donations are accepted; contact person, T. Jackson, 912-877-3151;

\*The Progressive Missionary Baptist Association – Ninth Annual Scholarship & Awards Black Tie Gala will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2016 at the Benjamin F. Holmes Fellowship Hall at First Zion Baptist Church;

## New Business

1. Rezoning Petitions – LCPC – Gabby Hartage - \* Alfreida Walthour – Convenience Store/Gas Station – Presentation by Gabby Hartage; Mayor Austin stated that the Council will identify and answer all variations and then get back with Miss Walthour; this is due to the Gateway established previously; :LCPC representative Gabby Hartage suggest that this item come back to the March meeting;

\*Jimmie T. Jones, Sr. – Towing Service/Wrecker – operating from home as needed – Motion by Council Member D. Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council Member C. Stacy to approve license; Passed 4 yea; 0 nay;

\*Van Jones Martin – Building a house by the marsh off of E.B. Cooper Hwy. – Informational;

\*Appointment of a design Professional to Gateway Review Board (Possible Appointee – Abe Nadji) – Consensus of Mayor and Council to ask Matthew Barrow of P.C. Simonton & Associates to serve;

2. Provide Budget for Demolition of Unsightly Structures – Discussion/Approval - this item was covered under community development;
3. Authorize Funding for Bull Dozer and Street Sweeper – Discussion/Approval – Motion Council Member C. Stacy, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council Member D. Miller to purchase dozer this fiscal year and street sweeper next fiscal year; Passed 4 yea; 0 nay; Total Cost for both items \$80,000.00 (Eighty-Thousand) Dollars;
4. Authorize submittal of a CHIP Grant – Discussion & Information – Adoption of Resolution – Motion Council Member T. Williams, Sr., 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council Member C. Stacy to adopt said Resolution; Passed 4 yea; 0 nay;
5. SPLOST Reports – FYI;
6. EEOC Correspondence – FYI;
7. Department of Transportation – LMIG – FY 2016 – FYI;

\*ISO Rating – Council Member J. Young stated the rating will come down after an inspection to be held on March 2, 2016; codes need to be adopted for the Fire Department which is code 18;

\*Council Member C. Stacy said the County –Wide Cleanup is coming up soon and a date is needed;

\*GICH team will be traveling to Dublin February 22-26, 2016;

8. Walk for Shelter – 7k Run – Asking for support from the Council body;
9. Customer Complaints – Robert Carter , Alice Berry – These items were addressed by Maintenance;

10. Public Participation - \*Joseph Harris – Unity in the Community - Question? Is it a city ran project; spoke about the \$80,000 for equipment; projects in the city; request that a schedule be made available for citizens to inform citizens of projects taking place within the city; asking for a better knowledge of the GICH program; questioned property of Council Member J. Young’s grandmother’s house for demolition; Council Member J. Young clarified that he was not a part of the election process for the demolition;

\*Daniel Mobley – Congratulations to the Officials for being re-elected; also addressing concerns about dilapidated buildings in other areas; Mr. Mobley also vowed to do his best to work with Miss Alfreida Walthour on the proposed store project at crossroads;

\*John D. McIver – concerns identified are demolition of dilapidated property; question of demolition for private property; he stated that the city needs to be fully aware of using city funds and that a good estimate should be gotten; issues brought up in the past about vegetation on hwy. 17 with crepe myrtles and other shrubbery that needs to be pruned; also city hall building steeple needs to be replaced;

\*Charlie Jones, Sr. – Brought to attention that there is a bad water leak at Briar Bay Park; also stated there is an odor still coming up in his house from the sewer;

11. Financial Statement, Month of January – Motion Council Member C. Stacy, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council Member D. Miller to approve said statement; Passed 3 yea; 0 nay; Council Member T. Williams, Sr. was excused at 7:27 p.m.;

12. Adjournment – Motion Council Member C. Stacy, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council Member D. Miller to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.; Passed 3 yea; 0 nay;

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City Clerk

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Mayor