



City Of Bowman
Monthly Council Meeting
May 20th, 2024
Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor, Scott Harpold
Council Woman Mary Clark
Council Member Jeff Spratlin
Council Member Henrietta Williams
Council Member, Leah Carey
Council Member, Betty Jo Maxwell
Attorney, Doug Kidd

MEDIA PRESENT

Mark Berryman, 105.3 Radio station
Julie Weeks, Elberton Star

STAFF PRESENT:

City Clerk, Tiffany Verdell

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. A prayer was said by Council Woman Henrietta Williams.
The Pledge of Allegiance was said after our prayer

CHANGE IN AGENDA:

Mayor Scott Harpold asked to change agenda to go over Rule of Decorum. Council Woman Leah Carey motioned to go in to Executive Session to discuss ethic violations. Council woman Mary Clark second. *Councilman Jeff Spratlin and Council Woman Henrietta Williams voted no.* Motion passed for Executive Session. Mayor Harpold read the Rule of Decorum and asked for a motion to approve the Rule of Decorum be add to the meetings. Council Jeff Spratlin motion for adding Rules of Decorum to meetings, Council Woman Mary Clark second. Motion passes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (O.C.G.A 50-14-1(e)(2))

Mayor Scott Harpold suggested that the minutes be tabled until all minutes were update and ready for approval.

RUAL WATER RATE INCREASE AND AGREEMENT:



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Mayor Scott Harpold talked about how the rate structure was the same for residents as it is for commercial property and the new rates would correct the issue to charge correctly for residents and businesses. Mayor Scott Harpold asked if council or public if they had any questions on the increase of the water rate for city. Council Woman Leah Carey asked Attorney Doug Kidd if there was supposed to be a public hearing before there was a vote for increase. Council Woman Mary Clark spoke about how it was important of getting the new rates implement for the next month billing cycle. *Audience member asked what the new water rate for her business would be.* Council Woman Mary Clark motion for the new water rate increase. Council Woman Henrietta Williams second the motion. Council member Jeff Spratlin, Henrietta Williams, Mary Clark voted yes. Motion passed.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW CITY ATTORNEY:

Attorney Doug Kidd step down from his position as Bowman City Attorney, asked the council members and Mayor Scott Harpold to accept his resignation. Attorney Kidd request to know if the council wanted him to stay on until a new Attorney is hired. Attorney Kidd recommended they city look for an attorney at GLGA.com a state web site for an attorney. Mayor Scott Harpold stated that he sent out a resume for Attorney Jay Doss for the council to review and to be appointed during current council meeting. Mayor Scott Harpold asked for a motion to accept Attorney Doug Kidd resignation. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made a motion to accept Doug Kidd resignation. Council Woman Henrietta Williams second. Council member Henrietta Williams, Jeff Spratlin, and Mary Clark voted yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Scott Harpold asked for a motion to appoint Attorney Jay Doss as city attorney. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made the motion to accept Jay Doss as the city Attorney. Council Woman Henrietta Williams second the motion. Council member Jeff Spratlin, Mary Clark, and Henrietta Williams voted yes. Motion passed.

SOLAR PANEL ZONING:

Mayor Scott Harpold stated the city of Bowman adopted Elbert County solar ordinance to limit solar ordinance. Mayor Scott Harpold asked for a motion to table the Solar Panel Zoning until new attorney could be present. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made a motion to table the solar panel zoning until new attorney could be present. Council Woman Mary Clark second.



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ELECTION SUPERINTENDENT:

Mayor Scott Harpold appointed Tiffany Verdell city clerk as the new election superintendent since the city old election superintendent was no longer with city. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made a motion for Tiffany Verdell to be new election superintendent. Council Woman Henrietta Williams second. Council members Mary Clark, Jeff Spratlin and Henrietta Williams voted yes. Motion passed.

MAYOR REPORT:

Mayor has donation for the materials for the bathroom in the park near the stage. The account has been working on audit, Mayor asked anyone in council to come help look for information to send to the accountant. The Mayor congratulated the new owners of the Beer and Wine Shoppe for successful grand opening. Personal advisory committee has been looking at application for new assistant city clerk position.

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT:

Council Woman Leah Carey – nothing to report.

Council Woman Henrietta Williams – Bowman Fall Festival is September 20th thru 21st , Bowman Christmas Parade December 7th , Tammy Dalton submitted the rendering of the statue of Mecole Hardman to Mayor Scott Harpold for the DOT for the celebration for June 15th unveiling. Tammy thank Council Woman Henrietta Williams representing the City of Bowman in the Metal Health Awareness Walk.

Councilman Jeff Spratlin – The Park, waiting on the budget to get done and will get grant writing done. Contacting contractor to have bids before the end of the month. Budget for each side of the railroad tracks. Will have bid by next council meeting.

Mayor Scott Harpold asked if council member had a problem with him purchasing a pallet if cold patch for the roads, it about \$1500. It will be for small patches of the road to fix.

Council Woman Mary Clark – nothing to report.



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Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell – nothing to report.

DEVELOPMENTAL AUTHORITY:

Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell – Katelyn T. Dye was named as solo finalist for the President and CEO, currently serving as the Business Development Coordinator for unified Government of Athens Clark County. Will meet again May 24th.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Nothing to report.

HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REPORT – Tammy Dalton:

The hospital had an average daily census of 14 patients in April 2024. Total average length of stay was 15.5 days. Emergency room visits increased to 599 in April 2024 from 615 in March 2024. Gross patient revenue was \$3,008,710.00 in January 2024 versus \$2,712,800.00 in January 2023.

SPEAKERS:

Teri Lunsford – Spoke about the ethic complaints against Mayor/Council. Defined the definition of an apology.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Scott Harpold asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Woman Mary Clark seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.