

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 10, 2015

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: RONNIE DIXON, RAYMOND TURNER, CECIL THOMPSON, BRIAN FROST, LISA CHESSER, AND EDDIE TYSON

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: BILL TORRANCE – CITY MANAGER, BILL BEDINGFIELD, FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK, MELISSA MOORE - ADMIN ASSISTANT, REID THRELKELD – CITY ATTORNEY, FRANK WAITS –VPD, JAMES O’NEAL – ESG, ROBBIE AKINS – ESG, BRIAN SIKES – FIRE CHIEF, TOMMY SASSER – RECREATION DIRECTOR, CHRIS BLOXHAM - REPUBLIC

MAYOR DIXON BROUGHT THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00p.m.

THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY: REV. BUCKY KENNEDY

PUBLIC COMMENTS: - Kay Stafford informed the Council that he is very proud of the City and the work they are doing. He particularly mentioned the Navy Seal exercise that recently took place here in Vidalia, and would like for the Council to reach out to the military and have more events like this in future. The Council thanked him for his comments and stated that the City will continue to work to expand our relationship with the military.

DVA – Melissa Moore brought the Council up to date on activities of the DVA. She asked the Council to approve Thursday October 29th as the official day of trick or treating in downtown Vidalia. Councilwoman Chessser made a motion to approve the date. Councilman Turner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VCVB – Alexa Britton reported that over 3000 people had visited the Onion Museum this year. She also gave a detailed account of the visitor’s home locations, which represented countries from all over the world. She also highlighted several upcoming activities including this Saturday’s Tailgating event featuring all the area schools.

ONION FESTIVAL – No Report

TOOMBS MONTGOMERY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – No Report

FINANCIAL REPORT - BILL BEDINGFIELD - Mr. Bedingfield gave the financial report for the month of July. A motion was made by Councilwoman Chessser to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -A motion was made by Councilman Turner to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2015 meeting. Councilwoman Chessser seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

AGENDA

1. **VPD Re-Certification Presentation** – Police Chief Frank Waits introduced Chief Jack Lumpkin, Chief of Police for Chatham County, who presented the certificate of re-certification to the Vidalia Police Department. Chief Lumpkin commended the department for their commitment to the standards that are required to maintain this certification. Chief Lumpkin then recognized Lawanda Beasley with a plaque for her dedication in managing the program. Chief Waits then recognized Captain Kennedy as the first program leader and his role in the department’s efforts to become a certified department in 2007. The Council thanked Chief Lumpkin for honoring the City by being here to present the recertification, and also thanked Chief Waits and his staff for their dedication in maintaining certification.
2. **2015 Millage Rate** – Mr. Bedingfield presented the 2015 millage rate to the Council. He stated that the appropriate rollback due to inflationary growth has been applied, and the 5 year digest has

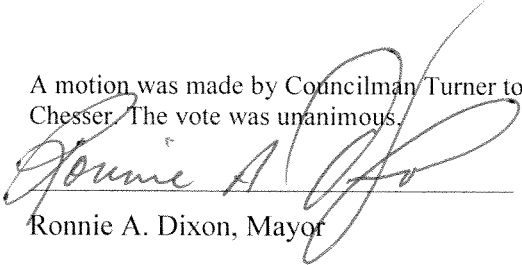
been advertised in the Advance. Mayor Dixon has set a called meeting on August 20, 2015 to approve the millage rate.

3. **Streets and Sanitation Meeting** – Mr. Torrance presented the results of the July 30, 2015 meeting. No action is required at tonight's meeting. (See Attached Minutes)
4. **Sweet Onion Classic Golf Tournament** – Mr. Torrance presented a request from the Sweet Onion Classic to place a player in their upcoming tournament. The cost is \$500.00 and the City has always put a player in the tournament. The entry fee would come from legislative capital. A motion was made by Councilman Frost to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.
5. **Tourism Committee** – Mr. Torrance presented a list of names as proposed Committee members for the new Vidalia Tourism. The recommendations are as follows:
Ann Todd
B.J. Davis
Carol Hansley
John Koon
Allison Osborn
Tiffany Underwood
Mr. Torrance stated that all but two of these have been approached and are committed to serve. Councilman Turner made a motion to approve the above list to serve on the board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous.

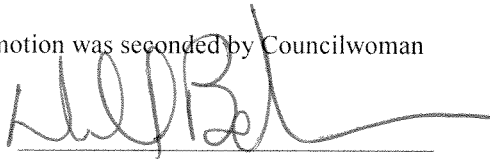
CITY MANAGER'S REPORT –

Mr. Torrance requested that the Council donate \$2500.00 to the Vidalia City School System to use in the new drug program. The funds would come from their legislative capital. A motion was made by Councilwoman Chesser. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.



Ronnie A. Dixon, Mayor



William E Bedingfield, City Clerk

STREETS AND SANITATION MEETING
JULY 30, 2015
2:00 p.m.

PRESENT: **Brian Frost, Cecil Thompson and Raymond Turner, Non-members present: Bill Torrance, Melissa Moore, Lisa Chesser, Shaun Oliver, Jeff West and Bill Bedingfield.**

Chairman Frost called the meeting to order:

AGENDA

1. **Driveway Pipe and Ditch Policy** – Mr. Torrance explained to the Committee some of the issues that needed to be addressed in developing a policy that could be adhered to by the City when dealing with private drives that cross ditches on City right of ways. This is especially important in making sure that the ditches are not blocked, and that water can flow freely. The consensus of the Committee is that the City will install the proper City approved pipe as long as the property owner pays for the pipe. Also the City will not warranty the pipe beyond one year, but the City will make sure the pipe is clear of debris and allowing water to flow freely. Any repair or replacement, after the one year warranty, would require the proper permit from the City. Any property owner that chooses to install his own pipe will need the proper permit from the City, or the DOT if on their right of way. Mr. Torrance stated that he would develop a written policy detailing the Committee's instructions and present it to the Council.
2. **3 Way Stop at Gwendolyn and Church Street.** – Robert Colson, at the July 13th Council meeting, had asked the Council to consider a three way stop at Gwendolyn Drive and Church Street. He sighted safety as a concern due to traffic trying to get to highway 130 by coming through the neighborhood. Mayor Dixon had tabled the request, and asked the Streets and Sanitation Committee to review the issue. Mr. Torrance explained that he had spoken with the Police Chief and that their opinion is we should first do a traffic study to see if it would be advisable adding a three way stop. The Committee was in agreement with doing the study and then to re-visit the issue when more information was available. Mr. Torrance stated that he would contact Mr. Colson as soon as the equipment was in place and let him know about the study.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

August 10, 2015

Please Sign In:

W. Melissa Moore
Sam Polk
Ray Starnes
Mike Cochran

City of Uadalia