

Approved By City Council July 13, 2021

City of Young Harris

Regular Monthly Meeting

June 1, 2021

The Young Harris City Council met Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 7:00 PM for the Regular Monthly City Council Meeting. Those present for the meeting were the Mayor: Andrea Gibby; City Attorney: Marvin Harkins; City Council Members: Terry Ingram, Matt Miller, Steve Clark, Donald Keys, and John Kelley; City Clerk: Nicolette Wade; Finance Officer: Lisa Hoyle; Water Superintendent: Gary Willer; Jarrett Whitener of the Towns County Herald; Economic Development Director: Denise McKay; Michael Courey of the Towns County Civic Association and Patrick Malone of WJRB Radio.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Mayor Gibby who stated the fact that all members of the City Council were present. She thanked everyone for attending.

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Gibby asked the Council to look over the Agenda and told everyone there would be a Closed Session at the end of the regular meeting to discuss personnel and real estate issues. John Kelley made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Donald Keys and approved unanimously. A copy of the Agenda is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Approval of Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting – May 4, 2021 – 7:00 PM: Donald Keys made a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 4 , 2021 Regular Monthly Council Meeting as presented, seconded by Terry Ingram and approved unanimously. A copy of the Minutes is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Financial Report: Lisa Hoyle gave the Council an information sheet of cash balances. She had included a column with restricted balances and explanations of each. Lisa had talked with Kathleen at USDA about account 1979 that has \$72,176.82 which is restricted. Kathleen did not give her any specified amount to keep in the account saying it should be funded each month but no monthly deposit amount was specified. It was determined that this fund can be used for operational or capital expenses but we have to notify the USDA first. Lisa also explained water and sewer deposit funds are restricted. The USDA Reserve Fund, account 2737 is overfunded at

this point. We eventually have to have a balance of \$170,040 but the current balance is \$76,518.00 which is over funded by almost \$43,000. We still have to deposit a monthly amount of \$1417.00 in this fund until we get up to the \$170,040 but we have 10 years to get there. The leachate account is totally unrestricted in the sewer. In the General Fund the 2020 property taxes are counted as 2021 revenue. Local Option Sales Tax collection was \$21,826.43. Lisa went over various expenses in the different funds. A copy of the Financial Report is attached and incorporated herein by reference. John Kelley made a motion to approve the Financial Report as presented, seconded by Steve Clark and approved unanimously.

Engineering Procurement: Attorney Harkins told the Council that he placed a Bid for Services on the State Procurement Registry on May 18 for engineering services, design and construction. The ad will run for 30 days. Different firms can submit their qualifications. Once they submit their information you can keep the information there and contract with them off the list. The ad will end June 18. At that point there needs to be a 3 person committee to review the submissions and rank them. Then a firm can be approved and Attorney Harkins will look at the contract in August or September. John Kelley made a motion to appoint a selection committee consisting of Matt Miller, Steve Clark, and Mayor Gibby (with Nicolette taking her place if Mayor Gibby cannot attend), seconded by Steve Clark, and approved unanimously.

Timberline Booster Pump: Steve Clark asked to talk about Timberline and booster pumps. He asked Lisa to determine what we need to charge the residents on Timberline to pay for the \$150,000 cost of replacing the pump configuration. He asked her to look into a 5 year loan. Matt Miller asked if the Timberline pump was not engineered properly 30 years ago. Mayor Gibby said we are going to get a recommendation from Hayes-James.

Personal Financial Disclosure: Nicolette had given all Council Members copies of the Personal Financial Disclosure Statement required by the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission formerly known as the Ethics Commission. She had a typed explanation showing that Council Members not running for re-election in 2021 must fill out the Personal Financial Disclosure Statement and return it to her by June 30. Anyone running for re-election must turn it in to her within 15 days of qualifying and it can be turned in at the time of qualifying. Anyone whose term is ending and who are not running for re-election do not have to fill out the form. A copy of the instruction sheet and the Personal Financial Disclosure Statement are attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Water/Maintenance Report - Gary Willer: Gary reported that the Water Quality Report was in the newspaper in May. He put some pressure monitors on Timberline at the request of the engineer Corinne Valentine.

First Reading of the Ordinance to Designate Mayor’s Park and Cupid Falls for Park Use:

Attorney Harkins explained the purpose of the ordinance is to create an enforcement tool for police. The Council can set separate rules for each park and the community room. A copy of the Ordinance is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Website: Attorney Harkins had presented a quote at the May meeting regarding charges from Municode to create a website. The charge was \$4800 for set up and annual hosting for \$2100. The starting cost is \$6900 but the \$4800 can be paid over a 4 year period. John Kelley made a motion to approve engaging Municode to design the website at the above mentioned cost, seconded by Terry Ingram, and approved unanimously.

Mayor Gibby read a poem to the Council written by Mr. Bob L. Bone. Mr. Bone is 86 years old and wrote a note below the poem thanking the Council for the new trail through the woods at Cupid Falls. The poem is as follows:

Cupid Falls

By Bob Bone

Its waters weave through sand and trees
Day and night in a mountain breeze

All kinds of growth play hiding seek,
Among the trees where neighbors meet.

We watch the water on its continuing run,
As if to be in a race with the sun.

As the earth turns toward the west,
The water continues without rest.

People come from far and near,
To see Cupid Falls any time of the year

A copy of the hand written version is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

John Kelley made a statement that the City should provide opportunities for citizens to gather together to work on community projects.

Michael Courey invited everyone to attend the Towns County Civic Association meeting on June 17.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting temporarily to go into Closed Session. While in Closed Session the Council authorized the Mayor to sign an affidavit stating that the only issues

discussed in Closed Session were personnel and real estate. Donald Keys made a motion to adjourn the Closed Session and return to Open Session. A copy of the affidavit is attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Donald Keys made a motion to move forward with an appraisal of the Kaiser-Dean property, seconded by Terry Ingram, and approved unanimously.

Donald Keys made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Terry Ingram, and approved unanimously.

Date: _____

Andrea Gibby, Mayor

Attest: _____

Nicolette Wade, City Clerk

