

City of Blue Ridge

480 West First Street • Blue Ridge, Georgia • (706) 632-2091

Special Called Meeting

April 22, 2021

10:00 AM

Blue Ridge City Hall

480 West First Street

Blue Ridge, GA 30513

Minutes

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Haight

Matt with Carter & Sloope

Tony Byrd – Street Department

Marc Patterson – Water Department

Shannon Payne – Mapping

Becky Harkins – Utility Director

Council members: Mike Panter, Harold Herndon, Nathan Fitts (arrived 10:05)

Mayor Donna Whitener (arrived 10:28)

1) Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Haight called the meeting to order

2) Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Haight led the Prayer and the Pledge

Infrastructure – Open Discussion

1. Water/Sewer

Utility Director Becky Harkins started the presentation with a description of the water treatment plant and its background. The current treatment plant was finished in 2016, it was a \$9.8 million rehab for the City. The plant prior was built in 1975. The next item is the sewer treatment plant. It was constructed in 1998. There were pieces of that plant that were bought used like the belt press. We are already in the process of upgrading the belt press, it is a lengthy process, and it has been worked on for 2 years. The next is the distribution system. It is a mixture of old and new lines. They are upgraded by need such as leaks. There are some lines that date back to the 1950's. It is the old

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infrastructure that causes the issues. When a developer wants to extend a line they are responsible for that. They have to maintain it for a year. Some other issues that affect the sewer system is flooding, roots, and trash that are flushed down the toilets. The pumps are 45 years old. The employees are very good at taking care of the pumps and have a lot of knowledge to keep them going. Next topic, water loss. Our unaccounted water is at 38%.

2. Storm Drains & Flooding

Street Department Supervisor Tony Byrd spoke about the storm drains. They have a list of all the drains that need replaced. He explained how the drains were laying and the problems associated. Coordination is being done to get easements and permits to make necessary repairs and replacements.

Adjournment

Council member Mike Panter made a motion to adjourn

Council member Rhonda Haight seconded the motion

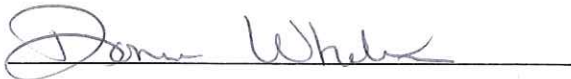
Motion passed. All in Favor



City Clerk, Kelly Crowder



Approved



Mayor, Donna Whitener