

## City of Blue Ridge

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

City of Blue Ridge  
Council Meeting Minutes  
City Hall  
480 West First Street  
October 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Donna Whitener  
Council Members Angie Arp, Harold Herndon,  
Rodney Kendall, Bruce Pack and Rhonda Thomas  
City Clerk Trainee Sally Smith

1) Call Meeting to Order:

Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to call the meeting to order. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rhonda Thomas. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried.

2) Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Member Bruce Pack offered a word of prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Council Meeting Rules and Regulations

Mayor Donna Whitener announced that the Council Meeting Rules of Procedures were available at the Council desk.

4) Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes to approve.

5) FY2018 Budget Resolution

Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to accept the FY2018 Budget Resolution. Council Member Rhonda Thomas seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried.

6) Approval of Sewer Rate increase (included in the FY2018 Budget

The sewer increase would begin January 1, 2018 as well as a 3% cost of living increase.

Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to accept the Sewer rate increase along with the 3% cost of living to begin on January 1, 2018. Council Member Rhonda Thomas seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion Carried

7) Fannin County and Joint Cities Comprehensive Plan Resolution of Adoption

Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to accept the Resolution of Adoption for Fannin County and Joint Cities Comprehensive Plan. Council Member Angie Arp seconded the motion. The Council votes 5-0. Motion Carried.

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- 8) Amendment to the Electric Shuttle Bus Ordinance (First Reading)  
Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to accept the Amendment to the Electric Shuttle Bus Ordinance. Council Member Rhonda Thomas seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion Carried.
  
- 9) MOU approval between the City of Blue Ridge and the North Georgia Master Gardeners  
Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to adopt the MOU approval between the City of Blue Ridge and the North Georgia Master Gardeners. Council Member Bruce Pack seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried.
  
- 10) Blue Ridge Housing Authority  
Council Member Rhonda Thomas made a motion to extend time to 10 minutes. Council Member Rodney Kendall seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried.  
Mike Hampton, as well as Matt Smith, spoke about the retaining walls and the sewer system. Mayor Whitener asked if the city could do a soil test, and asked do we spend the money? Mike Hampton said that there are specialized companies that do this type of service. Mike Hampton also advised that he never observed any sewer leakage. Utilities Director Rebecca Harkins advised that a smoke test was done last week and that the city has the video. Council Member Rhonda Thomas made a motion to allow public to speak for 2 minutes. Council Member Rodney Kendall seconded the motion. Council voted 5-0. Motion Carried.  
Traver Aiken spoke about his concerns regarding this subject. The timer went off and no motion was made to extend it. Mayor Whitener advised Mike Hampton to contact Jeff Holloway and have him to an estimate on the repair, which will be placed on the agency for November.
  
- 11) Track Hoe  
Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to table this until they can talk to Finance Director, Alicia Stewart reference to financing. Council Member Rhonda Thomas seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried
  
- 12) Vehicle Purchase  
Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to table this until they can talk to Finance Director, Alicia Stewart reference to financing. Council Member Rhonda Thomas seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried
  
- 13) Park Storage Building  
Council Member Angie Arp made a motion to table the Park Storage Building. Council Meeting Rodney Kendall seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried.

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14) Mountain Regional Library System Invoice

Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to pay the Mountain Regional Library System Invoice in the amount of \$3000. Council Member Bruce Pack seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried.

15) Hometown Connection

Mayor Whitener advised the Hometown Connection will be held Friday at 12pm. All Council Members and Candidates are invited. It is being held at the Bank of Ozarks Conference room.

16) Cesar Martinez – The Blue Ridge Business Association

Mr. Martinez thanked the Council for the Porta-Potties. Advised that Council Thomas had shown him the plans for the bathrooms and that they looked really good. Asked when they would be started. Said that the Safe Zone would be held on October 31 starting at 5:30pm.

The General Meeting would be held on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

The you are here maps have been put up in 4 locations.

Said that on Saturdays and Sundays there are vendors that set up on the sidewalk and was wondering if they had a permit. He was told to call Police if they show up again. Sally Smith will contact Chief Scarce and advise him of this and to have his officer patrol East Main St. Mr. Martinez advised that he thinks the police should patrol more on East Main St on the weekends.

17) Traver Aiken – Blue Ridge Housing Authority

Mr. Aiken requested that we allow him to credit his Pilot Payment \$1,337.00, for work that was done on the retaining wall.

The council advised that they couldn't vote on this because it was in discussions portions of agenda. Said to place on November agenda.

18) Executive Session:

Council Member Rhonda Thomas made a motion to go into executive session. Council Member Rodney Kendall seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion Carried. Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to resume the City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Rhonda Thomas. The Council voted 5-0. Motion Carried. Council Member Rodney Kendall made a motion to take Kim Keenan off probation and give her a .50 raise, as well as another .50 for obtaining her pool certification. They also voted on deducting \$1 from her pay, due to her not doing the job of mapping. At the September meeting, Mark Patterson was given Assistant Supervisor of the water plant but, was not given the pay that goes with it. The raise should be \$3.00 an hour. Council Member Rhonda Thomas seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried.

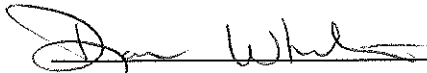
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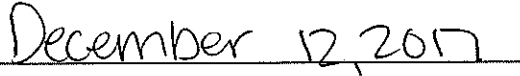
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19) Adjournment:

Council Meeting Rodney Kendall made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Bruce Pack seconded the motion. The Council voted 5-0. Motion carried.

  
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Mayor Donna Whitener

  
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City Clerk Kelsey Ledford  
(Minutes written by acting city clerk Sally Smith)

  
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Approved