

Mayor
Rhonda Haight

City Council
William Whaley, Mayor Pro
Tempore
Jack Taylor
Christy Kay
Bill Bivins
Angie Arp



City Clerk
Amy Mintz

City Attorney
Chuck Conerly

City of Blue Ridge
City Council Meeting Agenda

May 21, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Blue Ridge City Hall
480 West First Street
Blue Ridge, Ga 30513

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Rhonda Haight called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Present was Mayor Rhonda Haight, Council Members William Whaley, Angie Arp, Jack Taylor, Christy Kay, Bill Bivins, City Attorney Chuck Conerly and City Clerk Amy Mintz.

2. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Council Member Whaley

3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

- a. April 16, 2023 – Council Meeting

Corrections were requested and a motion was made by Council Member Arp to table these minutes to be presented at the June meeting. Seconded by Council Member Taylor. Passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Agenda or Motion to Amend Agenda (if applicable)

Council Member Whaley made a motion to remove items 5A and 7B. Seconded by Council Member Bivins.

Our Mission Statement

Our mission is to enrich the quality of life in Blue Ridge for all our citizens. We pledge to work in partnership with our residents, all stake holders and the Fannin County government to protect, preserve and secure the quaintness of our small-town community and to enhance the natural beauty of our environment.

Passed unanimously.

5. Public Hearings

a. Sims Variance Request

Applicants Jennifer Sims and her nephew/builder Jake Sims spoke on behalf of their application request.

A motion was made by Council Member Taylor to extend the time beyond 5 minutes to continue discussion with applicant. Seconded by Council Member Arp. Passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Council Member Whaley to move further discussion to the end of the meeting once other documentation can be presented. Seconded by Council Member Bivins. Passed unanimously.

b. Searles Variance Request- BR2024-12 REMOVED

6. Consent Agenda-

Motion to approve the renewal of the ETC Cable TV Franchise agreement was made by Council Member Taylor. Seconded by Council Member Whaley. Passed unanimously.

7. Action Agenda Items (Items Requiring the Approval of the City Council)

a. HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

A motion to approve the new holiday schedule to reflect the sale holidays as Fannin County was made by Council Member Whaley. Seconded by Council Member Taylor. Passed unanimously.

b. MOTION TO APPROVE EXTENDING THE FINANCIAL AUDIT WITH THE DOAA FROM
MAY-JUNE TO JULY-AUGUST. - REMOVED

c. LIBRARY COMMITMENT

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A motion to approve the 10% increase in commitment for the Fannin County Library was made by Council Member Taylor. Seconded by Council Member Bivins. Passed unanimously.

d. PURCHASING POLICY

A motion to approve Ordinance BR2024-14 as presented, removing "City Clerk" from section 1Bi was made by Council Member Bivins. Seconded by Council Member Arp. Whaley(no), Arp(yes), Taylor(yes), Kay(yes), Bivins(yes)

e. CHANGE ORDER DOWNTOWN STORM SYSTEM

A motion to approve Change Order 01 request for the downtown storm system improvements in the amount of \$115,455.00 was made by Council Member Taylor. Seconded by Council Member Bivins. Passed unanimously.

f. MODIFICATION TO BLUE RIDGE WASTEWATER PLANT

A motion to approve the proposal for modification for the Blue Ridge Wastewater Plant in the amount of \$579,210.00 was made by Council Member Bivins. Seconded by Council Member Taylor. Passed unanimously.

g. OLD HWY/EAST FIRST STREET MANHOLE AND MAIN REHAB

A motion to approve the rehabilitation of the manhole at Old Hwy/East First Street with the budgeted amount of \$94,000 was made by Council Member Taylor. Seconded by Council Member Bivins. Passed unanimously.

h. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

The quote package, in the amount of \$8,322.20, was presented by Creative Illuminations owners Jason and Michelle Ward for commercial decorating of the city. **NO ACTION**

8. Discussion Agenda Items

None

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9. Reports

None

10. Public Comment

None

****Returning to Item 5A discussion with Jennifer and Jake Sims-**

A motion to table this Variance Request to the June meeting, allowing time to clearly mark the property and clearly determine where the right of way is, was made by Council Member Taylor. Seconded by Council Member Whaley. Council Member Arp recused herself from voting on this matter. Whaley(yes), Taylor(yes), Kay(yes), Bivins(yes)

11. Executive Session (If needed)

A motion was made to go into executive session by Council Member Taylor. Seconded by Council Member Whaley. Passed unanimously. Executive opened at 6:56pm

A Motion to adjourn executive session was made by Council Member Whaley. Seconded by Council Member Taylor. The executive session was adjourned at 7:56pm. Passed unanimously.

A motion was made for the following personal:

*A transfer for *Amy Mintz* to the police department, leaving her with the City Clerk title and the responsibilities of City Clerk duties as defined in the city charter section 4:13 and of training other employees on her job duties as City Clerk

*An increase of part time employee *Heather Burk's* hours

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*Adding HR and GIRMA Management to *Joe Patterson's* job description

*Adding City Website and City Facebook management, preparation of City Council Meeting Minutes and temporary assistance to Amy Mintz on City Clerk duties until the position has been filled to *Jennifer McDaris'* job description

*Adding Georgia Procurement Website reporting to Project Manager *Denny Cook's* job description

*Hire part time water treatment plant employee *Frank Burk*

*Hire part time police officer Jimmy Randazzo upon completion of his paperwork

Motion is made by Council Member Whaley. Seconded by Council Member Taylor. Passed unanimously.

Motion to authorize Momentum Results, LLC by and through principal Mandi Cody to proceed with service operations #1-6 made by Council Member Arp. Seconded by Taylor. Passed unanimously.

12. Adjournment

Mayor Haight adjourned meeting at 8:00pm.

Meetings was reopened for final Motion. Motion was made by Council Member Taylor to repair or replace the AC unit at the City Hall building up to \$25,000. Seconded by Council Member Whaley. Passed unanimously.



Mayor Rhonda Haight



June 18, 2024

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