**Council Minutes**

**Regular Meeting**

**October 6, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Millen City Council was held on October 6, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Mayor King Rocker, Council Members Darrel Clifton, Ed Fuller, and Robin Scott. Absent was Council Members Regina Coney and Walter Thomas. Also present were City Manager Jeff Brantley and City Attorney Hubert Reeves.

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Rocker called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

1. **Approve the Amended Agenda**

Council Member Scott made a motion, seconded by Council Member Clifton to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Invocation**

Council Member Clifton gave the invocation.

1. **Public Hearing for Zoning Variance for property at 112 South Masonic Street.**

Mayor Rocker opened the Public Hearing at 6:03P.M. The variance application was discussed and explained during the hearing. There were no comments from the floor about the variance. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:07P.M.

1. **Consent Agenda**

**Approve Minutes from September 1, 2020 Regular Meeting**

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approve the minutes from the September 1, 2020 Regular Meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Discuss and Vote on Zoning Variance request by Christopher Young for the property at 112 South Masonic Street**

Council Member Scott made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approve the Zoning Variance Application for the property located at 112 South Masonic Street. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Approve Beer and Wine License for Brunson & Triplett Enterprises at 540 E. Winthrope Avenue, Millen Ga. (New owners of BiLo)**

Council Member Fuller made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott to approve the Beer and Wine License for Brunson & Triplett Enterprises. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Discuss and Vote to move gas line from behind Neighbor’s Express Store**

**Bids: Harrison & Harrison, Inc – Athens, Ga - $25,070.00**

**D. Lance Souther, Inc – Macon, Ga. -$34,308.00**

**Southeast Connection, LLC – Conyers, Ga.- $55,853.57**

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approve the low bid from Harrison & Harrison, Inc in the amount of $25,070.00 to move the gas main from behind Neighbor’s Express and to pay for from SPLOST Funds. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Approve Halloween Parade for October 29th 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM for MainStreet Millen on Cotton Avenue. The Parade will be accessed by automobile drive up to vendor booths, no walk up.**

Council Member Scott made a motion, seconded by Council Member Clifton to approve the Halloween Parade on Cotton Avenue on October 29, 2020 from 6:00PM to 7:00PM. The motion included the City Discouraging Trick or Treating Door to Door due to Covid 19. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Approve Grant Writing Contract with Gilbert & Associates, Inc. not to exceed $3200.00. This grant is for an RDF grant on the Kirkland Building located at 455 Cotton Avenue. The Downtown Development Authority will pay the grant writing fee.**

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott to approve the grant writing contract between Gilbert & Associates, Inc and the City of Millen. The contract is not to exceed $3200.00 and will be paid for by the Downtown Development Authority. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Approve Resolution Declaring a “Spot Basis” slum or blight on the property located at 455 Cotton Avenue**

Council Member Fuller made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott to approve a resolution declaring a “Spot Basis” slum or bight on the property located at 455 Cotton Avenue. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Approve Architectural Contract between the City of Millen and Studio 3 Design Group P.C. for the RDF Grant on the Kirkland Building located at 455 Cotton Avenue**

Council Member Clifton made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fuller to approve the Architectural Contract between the City of Millen and Studio 3 Design Group PC for the RDF Grant on the Kirkland Building located at 455 Cotton Avenue. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **City Manager Report**
2. **Financials**

City Manager Brantley reviewed the finances with the Mayor and Council. He informed them that the City has now received all the approved Cares Act Funds from the State in the amount of $144,790.76

1. **2020 CDBG**

City Manager Brantley informed Mayor and Council that the City was approved for our 2020 CDBG Grant application for $1,000,000.00. This grant will be in the target area of Warren Street, Lincoln Street and Tarver Streets and will include sewer rehab, storm water work, road resurfacing and housing improvements.

1. **Discuss Georgia Power Poles**

Mayor and Council were informed that Bobby Wideman with AT&T has responded to the City’s request and has placed an order to move AT&T lines off the damaged poles within the City so Georgia Power can remove the poles.

1. **Discuss Road Name Change Application**

Mayor and Council were informed of an application by Johnnie Mae Sherrod to change the name of Gumlog Street in honor of her brother Robert Mosley who was killed in Vietnam in 1968. The application needed more names of Gumlog Street residents to meet the 90% requirement in the City’s ordinance. She is continuing to work on the application.

1. **Discuss Code Enforcement**

Mayor and Council were informed that due to our Code Enforcement Officer being out on medical leave the duties had been divided between the City Manager and the Police Department.

1. **Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Rocker discussed the problem with Norfolk Southern Railroad blocking City intersections for long periods of time. He explained that Connor Poe the Government Relations Representative for Norfolk Southern came to town at the Mayors request on October 1st to discuss and view the problem. He agreed to work with the City on not blocking the Highway 21 By Pass and keeping certain intersection clear during school drop off and pickup times. The railroad has been approved to build 3-mile-long trains at the Port of Savannah and these trains are coming through Millen. They at times park on the City tracks waiting for the lines above Millen to clear so they can move forward.

1. **City Attorney Report**

Nothing to report

1. **Executive Session**

Not Needed

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business Mayor Rocker adjourned the meeting at 6:53 P.M.

**Approved by Mayor and Council: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Mayor’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Attest by City Manager: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**