

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE CITY OF SKY VALLEY,  
GEORGIA ON JANUARY 2, 2019 AT TUESDAY AT 10:00 AM CBC (OLD LODGE), 696 SKY  
VALLEY WAY**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor MacNair, Councilors Howard, Piontkowski, Larsen, Wheeler, and Curtis

**STAFF PRESENT:** City Manager Fast, Deputy Clerk Mullins, City Attorney Kidd, Police Chief Estes, and Public Works Superintendent Holbrooks.

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor MacNair called the meeting to order.

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**2. Swearing in of Newly Elected Officials**

City Attorney Kidd swore in Jim Curtis.

**3. Nomination and Selection of 2019 Council President**

Councilor Curtis nominated Councilor Howard, seconded by Councilor Wheeler, unanimously approved. Councilor Howard thanked council for their support.

**4. Set 2019 Regular Meeting Dates**

Mayor MacNair stated the meeting dates for 2019 with no work sessions being listed. He stated the work sessions would be held a week prior to the regular scheduled council meetings.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**5. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

Maureen Platt led the invocation and Mayor MacNair led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**6. Approval of Minutes**

December 13, 2018 SCCM

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Piontkowski, unanimously approved.

**7. Adoption of Agenda**

Mayor MacNair requested to amend the agenda to remove item 10 under New Business and add Executive Session to discuss legal matters. Councilor Wheeler made a motion to accept the amended agenda, seconded by Councilor Piontkowski, unanimously approved. Councilor Larsen made a motion to amend the agenda to add discussion on SDS updates. Councilor Curtis seconded the motion. Mayor MacNair called for the vote with Councilors Larsen and Curtis voting aye, Councilors Wheeler, Piontkowski, and Howard voting nay. The motion failed with a vote of 3-2.

**8. Mayor's Remarks**

Mayor MacNair said he is looking forward to the New Year. He said he was very slack in allowing people to speak and not to speak during meetings and said the charter stated one has to raise their hand, be recognized and state your name. People will be allowed to speak during the public forum with a three minute time limit. Mayor MacNair thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

## **9. Council Remarks**

Councilor Wheeler- thanked everyone for coming and Happy New Year. He stated there was no updates for SDS at this time and said he would be glad to speak with anyone after the meeting if they had questions.

Councilor Piontkowski- Good morning and said he hopes this year that council can work together and work along with the citizens to accomplish what we all would like to see. He thanked the City employees for all their hard work.

Councilor Howard-Good morning and thank you for being here. He thanked the city employees for keeping the roads clear and making the city beautiful through Christmas with the lights and the decorations. He thanked council, city staff, and the community for their support during his surgery and recovery.

Councilor Larsen- Happy New Year and may 2019 give you and Sky Valley many blessings. She congratulated new Council Member Jim Curtis and was glad to see Councilor Howard back to work after his operation. Councilor Larsen read a statement that stated effective immediately she was resigning from the City Council of Sky Valley.

Councilor Curtis- He said he believes in diversity of opinion and that the way to handle different opinion is to discuss them respectfully and thoughtfully and listening to other points of view.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **10. Appointment of Two Representatives from City for 3-Way/2-Way Marketing Funds Neil Howard & Allen Piontkowski, Jr.**

No action taken.

### **11. Set Qualifying Fees for 2019 General Election**

Attorney Kidd read the Notice of Qualifying Fees for the 2019 City of Sky Valley General Election with the fee set at \$15.00. Councilor Piontkowski made a motion to accept the qualifying fee, seconded by Councilor Wheeler, unanimously approved.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the city or a city official or employee or in which the official or employee maybe directly involved. (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2)

To discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a city official or employee. (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3 (6))

A motion was made to go into executive session by Councilor Piontkowski , seconded by Councilor Wheeler, unanimously approved.

A motion to reconvene regular session was made by Councilor Howard, seconded by Councilor Piontkowski, unanimously approved.

No action was taken.

## OTHER BUSINESS

### 12. Public Forum and General Comments

Maureen Platt thanked council for their service and to remember that the roles and functions of council are to represent the best interest of all the taxpayers, not to represent a personal agenda or the agenda of a personal entity. She thanked the city employees for their hard work during the snow storm. Robert Larsen said he has been in Rabun County full time since year 2000. He said Connie has been president of the Sid Weber foundation for three years and president of the chapel a number of times. She has worked with the POA for many years. He said it was shameful that it has come to this and is a sad day for Sky Valley. Helen Kleiber mentioned the bicentennial celebration and wanted to make sure there was still support from the council for the event. She asked about the meeting dates for the meetings as the dates were not given. City Manager Fast said the dates would be posted on the website. She asked about the Christmas lights being on 24 hours a day. Public Works Superintendent stated all lights were on timers and the rain could have caused issues with them working properly. Helen asked what the Welcome Center space would be used for now that it is closed. No answer was given. Debbie Dalhouse Curtis thanked Connie Larsen for her selfless service and her dedication to what is best for the people of Rabun County. Debbie asked council to refrain from personal attacks and act professionally and in the best interest of the community. Liz Morley said there was an incident at Valley View where people were ringing doorbells and prowling around. She said the police responded. She stated the city needed a landscaper. Don Kleiber asked why the city has not picked up the branches and tree limbs all over the roads and ditches. He said the fence at the entrance had a slat that had fallen down and was sticking out for three weeks that has not been fixed. City Manager Fast said she came up on her day off to the city to look at all the trees that are down and has spoken with James and given him the okay to work extra hours and weekends to get all the debris removed. She said the storm took us by surprise and the city is shorthanded and they have been doing all they can do. She thanked James and his crew along with the police department for their hard work through the storm. She said she would appreciate if the community would give the city a few weeks to clean up.

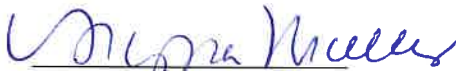
### 13. Adjournment

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Curtis, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert MacNair, Mayor



Alyssa Mullins, Deputy City Clerk