

**City of Sky Valley**  
**Mayoral Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Monday, March 24, 2014 at 3:00 PM**  
**Sky Valley Club, 568 Sky Valley Way – Lakeside Room**

**MINUTES**

Mayor Goodgame called the meeting to order.

Those present: Mayor Hughel Goodgame, Council President Robert Larsen, Linda Durrence, Dee Moore, Steve Brett, Helen Kleiber, Clifford Bell, City Manager Lapeyrouse, City Clerk Cantrell.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Cell Tower

Mayor Goodgame said Verizon is looking over the lease agreement. The committee discussed options for how to best work with the property owner, Verizon, and the sub-contractor who will be installing the tower so that the tower is installed as fast as possible. Concerns were expressed over the current lease draft and if it allows public safety access to the tower, and if the rumor is true that the property owner will not sign the lease because it is for 27 years. Mayor Goodgame said he will call the property owner and ask if everything is OK with the lease.

- Golf Carts

Mayor Goodgame said he picked up a copy of Glenn County's rules regarding allowing golf carts on the streets. He said he believes it will be a great marketing tool if we can find a way to allow it. The Public Safety Committee will be working on this.

- Speed Tables

Mayor Goodgame said the Public Safety Committee will also be looking into installation of speed tables on Sky Valley Way. Discussion followed about speed tables and crosswalks. One suggestion was to repaint the crosswalks, post signs, and give citations for vehicles that do not yield.

- Marketing – Welcome Center

Mayor Goodgame said the UGA graduate student will be finished with his project in late April.

The committee discussed possible locations for a welcome center. Mayor Goodgame looked at a piece of property in Dillard where a gas station used to be, but the property cannot be used for another year. Discussion followed regarding locations in Dillard along Hwy 441 and how that could be a better location than on Hwy 246 coming up the mountain because 441 has so much more traffic. The small building beside Ed West Realty was discussed as a possible

location. All committee members were agreeable to Mayor Goodgame looking into this building as a welcome center location.

Mayor Goodgame brought up installing the city hall sign at city hall stating that he would like us to be able to go ahead with the plan to install the three flagpoles also. The committee agreed. Helen Kleiber volunteered to help raise money for this project.

- Lodge

Mayor Goodgame said Harrison Merrill has listed all his property in Sky Valley for sale with Bull Realty. He said that the property Mr. Merrill donated to his daughter's non-profit organization, the Ugandan American Partnership, will need to be held by the non-profit for four years and then it can be sold. Mayor Goodgame said that he is trying to schedule a meeting with Mr. Merrill. He suggested, as a way to stay on as good of terms with Mr. Merrill as possible, that the city could offer to demolish the lodge in exchange for Mr. Merrill donating park areas to the city. The lowest bid Jim Martindale received for the demolition was \$60,000. A big concern with the demolition is the possibility of asbestos in the building. City Manager Lapeyrouse will get copies of the bids for demolition, and Mayor Goodgame will present the idea of the city doing the demolition in exchange for property and report back to the committee.

- Stay & Play

Mayor Goodgame said the Club is working to put together stay and play packages. They would like to have more condos available for these packages. David Whatley volunteered to work with Mims Wilkinson from the Timeshares to see if there are units available for this.

- City Finances

Mayor Goodgame said we have \$470,000 cash, and that we need to keep a minimum of \$300,000 in reserves. We are operating with a small staff. He said that he has spent time at city hall learning what everyone does and that he believes everyone has a full time job, and most of the employees work in more than one department. He said that to move forward as a city, we will have to spend money, funds that we do not currently have. We will have to present it to the community and let people decide how they want to spend money, and if they are willing to have a tax increase. Steve Brett said that a tax increase is a tough sale, and that if the city proposes a tax increase, we need to educate the community as soon as possible. Discussion followed regarding what projects need funded. The City will make a presentation at the June POA meeting to present projects and their costs.

- Sewer

The City of Clayton opted out of the Rabun County Water and Sewer Authority. The Authority said they will only install sewer in Sky Valley if they can take over our water system. If they take over the water system, they will pay off the remainder of our GEFA loan. Discussion followed about how and where in the city sewer can be installed and if we want to give the water system to the County. After some discussion, it was decided that we need to research all options so that we know what is available before making any decisions.

- Clean-up Day

The spring clean-up day is scheduled for Friday, April 18 at 2:00 PM followed by Happy Hour at the Club at 5:00. (The clean-up day was rescheduled to Wednesday, April 23 at 2:00 PM and will be followed by Happy Hour at the Club at 5:00)

- Election

Mayor Goodgame said that he heard several rumors about how the election was conducted, but from what he personally experienced, it ran smoothly with no problems. City Clerk Cantrell explained the options available to have the County conduct the election. Mayor Goodgame asked for everyone's opinion about whether the election should continue to be held in Sky Valley conducted by the city or held by the County. There was no consensus regarding the location and who should conduct the election.

The meeting was adjourned.