

**SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA
DECEMBER 7, 2012
WEDNESDAY, 3:30 PM
TIMESHARE MEETING ROOM, 501 SKY VALLEY WAY**

MINUTES

Mayor Martindale called the meeting to order.

Those present: Mayor Martindale, Council President Howard, Councilors Boyle, Larsen, Platt and Whatley, City Manager Smith, Police Chief Dills, Officer Shope and Attorney Dickerson.

Other interested parties represented included Rabun County representatives and City of Clayton representatives.

Councilor Platt made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was 2nd by Councilor Whatley and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- Approval of SPLOST Intergovernmental Agreement

Attorney Dickerson explained the possibility of a vote in June at yesterday's meeting, but since discovered that the vote could only be done in March or November. From a statutory standpoint, the deadline is not now for the March election, but from a practical standpoint, they may want that much time. If the Council elects to approve the Agreement, it should be done with the pre-requisite that all notices have been done according to law.

County Administrator, Jim Bleckley thanked the Council for agreeing to meet again so quickly and introduced County Attorney Allyn Stockton. Attorney Stockton explained the urgency of the approval of the Agreement. The existing SPLOST will expire on September 30, 2013. If the election is not held until November, there would be a five month lapse and would create an administrative nightmare. Attorney Stockton then explained the process for getting the referendum ready for a March election. He also explained the advantages of having the Intergovernmental Agreement versus a split based on population. County representatives expressed their intent to negotiate with the City of Clayton with part of the SPLOST proceeds, however the City of Clayton was not named in the Agreement.

County Commissioner Butch Darnell explained that there will be continued negotiations over water/sewer and the County would have the option to use \$9,100,000 on those projects. Sky Valley would probably like to have sewer and they want to be able to help with that. Right now there are four engineering firms working on water/sewer projects in the County. By having one consolidated water/sewer authority in the County, there would have to be some savings.

The County and all other named Cities in the Intergovernmental Agreement have already approved the Agreement.

Mitch Baker, City Attorney for the City of Clayton agreed with Attorney Dickerson regarding the statutory requirements. Clayton is not asking for anyone to wait until the 29th day, but Clayton did not know and did not have the opportunity to negotiate with the County. The County and all cities within the county were included in the last Intergovernmental Agreement. Water/Sewer negotiations with the County have not really taken place yet. The only way Clayton would get any SPLOST revenue without the Intergovernmental Agreement is if the County takes its share and Clayton agrees to take what the County is willing to offer. The City of Clayton requested that Sky Valley postpone a vote on the Intergovernmental Agreement.

The County claimed that after the Carl Vinson Institute study came out recently, there was not enough time to work out an agreement with the City of Clayton but there is enough money to negotiate if the SPLOST Referendum is approved.

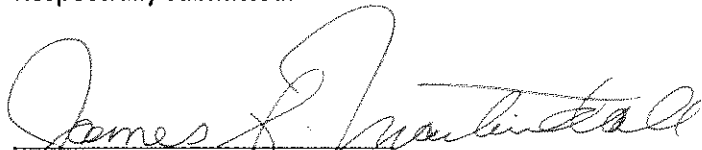
A motion was made by Councilor Whatley to approve the execution of the Intergovernmental Agreement. The motion was 2nd by Councilor Boyle.

Mayor Martindale and several Council members expressed their disappointment in the County in not conducting true negotiations with each of the cities and for excluding Clayton from the Agreement. Sky Valley would stand to lose a significant portion of the tax revenue if there is no Intergovernmental Agreement. Ultimately, the voters of Rabun County will decide.

The motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement was passed unanimously.

A motion was made to adjourn by Councilor Boyle, 2nd by Councilor Whatley unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted:



James Martindale, Mayor

Attested:



Mandi Cantrell, City Clerk