

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA  
September 22, 2015  
Tuesday, 10:00 AM  
Fellowship Hall, 817 Sky Valley Way**

Mayor Goodgame called the meeting to order.

Those present: Mayor Goodgame, Council President Carr, Councilors Greene, Howard, Larsen, and Lively, City Manager Lapeyrouse, and City Clerk Cantrell.

Jane Lively gave the invocation. Mayor Goodgame led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Lively made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 28<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Carr, unanimously approved.

Mayor Goodgame said we need to add one item to the agenda, a request for a final certificate of occupancy for Tony DeNisco. A motion to adopt the agenda as amended was made by Councilor Larsen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Lively, unanimously approved.

**MAYOR'S REMARKS**

Mayor Goodgame said that we have a group working on Fallfest and are looking forward to that event again this year.

He said that paving is almost completed and striping will begin immediately after the paving.

Mayor Goodgame said that he wanted to address a rumor regarding the purchase of the visitor center. We did not use water fund surplus for the purchase of that building. We used funds that had previously been reserved for a building and funds from general fund surplus. Last year, we had a surplus of \$685,000 and are projecting a similar surplus this year.

**COUNCIL REMARKS**

Councilor Lively thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He said that the council can do a much better job with community attendance and participation.

Councilor Carr asked City Manager Lapeyrouse to have the speed tables looked at before the warranty period is up because they are chipping. She asked if we can put some reflectors on the compactor and how frequently it is emptied. City Manager Lapeyrouse said that the compactor is emptied as needed.

Councilor Larsen said the Club is having a Founder's Meeting on Saturday to vote on a change to the By-Laws. They are going to hire additional help for course maintenance next season. Having a well maintained golf course is important and helps everyone.

## **CITY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT REPORTS – EXCEPTIONS AND QUESTIONS**

City Manager Lapeyrouse said that the City and the POA are sharing the cost of a Billboard on Hwy 441. The banners are up. Patty Calderone will be painting a mural at the visitor center.

FallFest is on October 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:00AM until 4:00 PM. We have a cruise-in, vendors, a children's area, live music in both areas. New for this year is a PAWS parade and a Howl-o-Ween dog costume contest to raise money for PAWS4Life. The POA, Club, and Timeshares are helping sponsor Haybale Trail. The Garden Club will be decorating some of the subdivision areas. Mayor Goodgame said the billboard is on Hwy 441 North, 15 miles south of the where you turn off 441 to 246.

Mayor Goodgame said that he and the City Manager are working on a solution to staff the visitor center because having volunteers staff it is not working out very well. The current plan is to move one of the girls from city hall there a few days a week, and we have funds in the 2016 budget for part time help.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Resolution to Provide for a Building Permit for an Approved Zoning Variance

Mayor Goodgame said that Verizon has requested an extension to their conditional use zoning stating that we are on the 2016 construction calendar. Attorney Dickerson drafted a Resolution to extend the conditional use zoning approval until June 30, 2016. Councilor Larsen made a motion to approve the Resolution, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Howard. City Manager Lapeyrouse said that the Resolution allows until June 30 to apply for the building permit. The motion passed unanimously.

- Resolution to Adopt the 2016 Budget and to set the Millage Rate for the 2015 Ad Valorem Taxes

Mayor Goodgame said the Council had two budget workshops and then a Public Hearing on the proposed 2016 budget. He asked for a motion to adopt the 2016 budget resolution and set the millage rate for the 2015 Ad Valorem Taxes. The millage rate is the rollback rate of 16.257. Councilor Greene made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Carr, unanimously approved.

- Water Bill Adjustment – Tanglewood Condominiums

Mayor Goodgame said that we have received a water bill adjustment from Tanglewood Condominiums. City Manager Lapeyrouse said that we received a letter from Mims Wilkinson, President of the Tanglewood Condominium Association. She explained that Tanglewood did not qualify for an adjustment through the Ordinance because of their previous water usage. Mr. Wilkinson said that he is aware of the city's policy on water adjustments, and this bill was not due to excessive water usage but was from a leak where tree roots had grown into the water line and caused it to break. Councilor Howard said he would have to recuse himself from voting on this item because he is the Treasurer for Tanglewood. He said the letter states the average bill was for the last 12 months but it was for the last three months. City Manager

Lapeyrouse said that we need to exclude the garbage portion of the bill, \$230.00. Discussion followed about the adjustments allowed by ordinance and reasons for allowing adjustments. Mr. Wilkinson said that the water line was repaired, but that they did not replace the entire water line from the meter to the condos. Councilor Larsen said he owns a condo in Tanglewood so he will have to recue himself. Councilor Greene said he believes that because this was not due to negligence and because they would have been eligible for an adjustment if the leak had gone on longer, that an adjustment should be considered. Greene made a motion to reduce the water bill by \$320, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Carr. The motion passed unanimously.

- Water Bill Adjustment Request – Johnson, 769 Bald Mountain

Mayor Goodgame read Mr. Johnson's request for an adjustment to the water bill. He said that they did not qualify for an adjustment under the ordinance because they had received an adjustment a few months ago. The water bill was \$4,045.69. Discussion followed about the circumstances of the water leak and the unfortunate situation with Mr. Johnson's parents passing away leaving the house in an estate. Councilor Lively made a motion to set up a payment plan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Carr. Councilor Larsen asked what the length of the payment plan would be. Mayor Goodgame said that would be worked out between the utility billing clerk and the property owner. The motion to deny the adjustment passed unanimously.

- Request for Final Certificate of Occupancy – DeNisco

Mayor Goodgame explained Mr. DeNisco's request to not be required to pave the apron of his driveway because his house is located off of a gravel portion of Stillwater Lane. Councilor Larsen made a motion to approve the permanent Certificate of Occupancy without requiring him to pave the driveway apron, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Lively. Councilor Howard asked if we should include that he pave the apron when Stillwater is paved. City Manager Lapeyrouse said that Mr. DeNisco wanted to asphalt his complete driveway, but was told he should let it sit for a year so it can compact and settle before paving it. The motion to approve the final Certificate of Occupancy was unanimously approved.

## **PUBLIC FORUM AND GENERAL COMMENTS**

Jackie Bell said that if you have not signed up for the October 4<sup>th</sup> POA going away party to call her as soon as possible.

Ray Brooker asked City Manager Lapeyrouse if she had found out anything about the chest compression device used by Bradenton Police. She said that she was not able to find anything and that if he found anything to get the information to her or Chief Dills. Maureen Platt said that Trampes Stancil is a great resource in Rabun County and that he would be a great person to contact regarding that. Mayor Goodgame said that we will follow up on it. Ray Brooker said Bill Horton is trying to get some information on the device while he is in Florida.

Laura Gurley said that she feels for the situation with the larger water bill and the family's grief. She encouraged everyone to have a plan for what happens when they pass away and what to do with their homes in Sky Valley. She said that this is one of the reasons she believes our


marketing efforts will help by increasing awareness of Sky Valley and create faster home sales so houses do not sit empty and deteriorate.

A resident said that she greatly appreciates employee, James Holbrooks, for going above and beyond expectations in cleaning up a mess on Berkshire Lane. She also said she loves the compactor. Mayor Goodgame thanked her for her comments, and said that we have an excellent public works department. James is the head of that department, and he gets out and works.

Osman Uzun presented information about Pickleball. There was a recent Pickleball tournament in Hiawassee that had about a \$50,000 impact on the local economy. He said that there are a lot of nearby people who could play Pickleball in Sky Valley, but they do not want to pay to join the Timeshares or the Club. He encouraged the City to work out an agreement with the Timeshares so everyone could access the tennis courts or to install a Pickleball Court by the post office. Mayor Goodgame said that for visitors, the Club has a temporary membership that gives them access to the tennis courts. He said that we have funds in the 2016 budget for potential recreation area in the field by the postal facility. This is something that will be worked on by a committee with community input so that we can do what is best for everyone.

Councilor Howard made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Council President Carr, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Hughel Goodgame, Mayor

Attested:

  
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Mandi Cantrell, City Clerk