

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA
JULY 26, 2016
TUESDAY, 10:00 AM
FELLOWSHIP HALL, 817 SKY VALLEY WAY**

MINUTES

Mayor Goodgame called the meeting to order.

Those present: Mayor Goodgame, Council President Lively, Councilors Howard, MacNair, and Steil, City Manager Lapeyrouse, and City Clerk Cantrell.

Hollie Steil gave the invocation. Mayor Goodgame led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Howard made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 14th Regular Meeting, 2nd Council President Lively, unanimously approved.

Council President Lively made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 8th Special Meeting, 2nd Councilor Steil, unanimously approved.

Councilor Howard made a motion to adopt the agenda, 2nd Council President Lively, unanimously approved.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Goodgame said that a couple who were very active participants in Sky Valley for a long time have sold their home and are moving closer to Atlanta to live near family. He read a letter from Liz Carr resigning from Council effective Friday, July 22nd, the same day they closed on the sale of their house. He said that David Carr had also previously served on Council.

The visitor center is very busy with people stopping in. He said that he talked to a family from Valdosta at the zip-line in Scaly who stayed in Sky Valley while they were here. The marketing efforts are paying off as he hears many people say they saw the City's Facebook page and website. He said that more homes are selling, and he is very excited to see the home values coming back.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilor Howard said it is good to see so many people here this morning to participate in their city's government. He said that he and his wife also talk about Sky Valley when they meet people on trips. He encouraged everyone to do that when given the opportunity.

Councilor Steil thanked everyone who helped make the annual Independence Day Celebration such a success. Mayor Goodgame said that the golf pro said they had 500 rounds of golf over that weekend.

Council President Lively thanked everyone for coming to the meeting, and thanked Megan Studdard from the Tribune for her work attending meetings and putting articles about Sky Valley in the Tribune. He said this is her last week working with the Tribune.

CITY MANAGER & DEPARTMENT REPORTS – EXCEPTIONS & QUESTIONS

City Manager Lapeyrouse said that the Planning and Zoning Commission has a meeting scheduled for August 22nd at 9:00 AM in the Lakeside Room to continue work on the Tree Ordinance. She asked people to attend the meeting and give their input, ideas, and suggestions for the Tree Ordinance.

Lapeyrouse reported on the visitor's center, website, and Facebook page.

Chief Mason reported that the Pro Shop was broken into. He said there were no signs of forced entry, and it is currently under investigation by the GBI. He added that we are not able to give any additional information at this time.

Councilor Howard asked about the number of traffic stops. Chief Mason said that many accidents on Hwy 246 are due to people driving too fast for conditions and failure to maintain lane. He said that once the cause of accidents is identified, they focus on preventing that cause.

NEW BUSINESS

- Appointment of Councilmember to Fill Vacancy Created by Liz Carr's Resignation

Mayor Goodgame opened the floor for the Council to make nominations to fill the vacancy. Council President Lively said that he would like to nominate someone who is very active in the community, Liz Morley, 2nd Councilor Steil. Mayor Goodgame asked for any other nominations. There being no other nominations, Mayor Goodgame called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

- HR Express – Agreement with GMA

Mayor Goodgame said that this is a new program offered by the Georgia Municipal Association to help provide training to our staff on human resources. City Manager Lapeyrouse gave additional information on the program highlighting the online training available to keep current on labor laws. It is \$500 per year, and we are eligible for a \$250 reimbursement. She recommended us participating in this program because it will help us keep current with human resource regulations. Councilor Howard made a motion to approve, 2nd Councilor Steil. Councilor Steil asked about the grant program. City Manager Lapeyrouse said that we apply for the grant annually. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM & GENERAL COMMENTS

Don Haney said that he notices police cars sitting around with no people in them and asked why. Mayor Goodgame said that as traffic has increased, there are more accidents, and we are seeing an increase in people speeding and changing lanes illegally. He said that because we only have one officer on duty at a time, the police car sitting helps provide a police presence so that people know we do have patrolling officers. He said that previously, we purchased two used vehicles that have been incredibly high maintenance, and these two vehicles were patrolling 12 hours a day every day. He explained that the Council determined it would be a better option for each officer being assigned a vehicle, and having four vehicles will help lessen the wear and tear on the vehicles.

Chief Mason added that the empty vehicle is a deterrent for speeding and also to stop at stop signs. He said we have a lot of running and walking activity through Sky Valley, and it is also important to make sure drivers stop at stop signs.

A resident asked about police department training. Chief Mason reported on training offered to officers.

Jim Curtis asked about the work on Alpine Drive. City Manager Lapeyrouse said that the County is finished with building the shoulder. She said that we have washed and swept the road trying to clean up and make it look nicer. They did sow grass seed, and if it does not take, we will re-seed. We will also be addressing the wash-out areas.

Council President Lively asked Chief Mason to explain what POST is. Chief Mason said it stands for Police Officer Standards and Training Council adding that officers are required to have 20 hours of continuing education per year, and that since he is a POST certified trainer, he will be able to offer officers much more training than required.

Council President Lively asked for an update on training available to citizens. Chief Mason said that Hollie Steil is getting a group together for firearms training.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Meetings when discussing or deliberating upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action, or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer – as per OCGA § 50-14-3(6)

Councilor Howard made a motion to move into executive session, 2nd Council President Lively, unanimously approved. Mayor Goodgame said that we will reconvene regular session after the executive session if anyone wants to stay.

Councilor Steil made a motion to reconvene regular session, 2nd Council President Lively, unanimously approved.

Councilor MacNair made a motion to approve Ella Fast as the new City Clerk, 2nd Councilor Howard, unanimously approved.

Councilor MacNair made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Councilor Steil, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted:



Hughel Goodgame, Mayor

Attested:



Ella Fast, City Clerk