

**MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL & REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA ON JANUARY 2, 2018 AT TUESDAY AT 10:00 AM CBC (OLD LODGE), 696 SKY VALLEY WAY**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor MacNair, Councilors Durpo, Howard, Larsen, Piontkowski & Wheeler

**STAFF PRESENT:** City Manager Lapeyrouse, City Clerk Fast, Chief Estes & Public Works Supervisor Holbrooks

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor MacNair called the meeting to order.

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

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

City Clerk Fast swore in Mayor MacNair & Council Members Howard, Piontkowski & Wheeler.

**3. Nomination and Selection of 2018 Council President-**

Councilor Piontkowski made a nomination to select Councilor Durpo. Councilor Howard seconded the nomination. No other nominations. The nomination was unanimously approved.

**4. Set 2018 Regular Meeting Dates**

Councilor Durpo made motion to set the regular meeting date for the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 AM. Councilor Larsen seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**5. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

Bob Bierman gave the Invocation and Mayor MacNair led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**6. Approval of Minutes**

October 17, 2017- Council Work Session -2018 Budget

October 24, 2017- Public Hearing- 2018 Budget

November 14, 2017- Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Larsen made a motion to approve all minutes. Councilor Wheeler seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

**7. Adoption of Agenda**

Councilor Howard made a motion to approve adoption of agenda. Councilor Durpo seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

**8. Mayor's Remarks**

Mayor MacNair will not vote on any issue only vote in case of a tie.

**9. Council Remarks**

Howard-Wants to have non-voting workshop one week prior to Council Meeting to include public input and also requested Old Business items to remain on the agenda until complete/ City Manager advised we can create a section on the agenda to report on items that do not require Council action

Wheeler- Tree Ordinance will be on the February agenda

Durpo- Thanks for coming- lots happening for the future

Larsen- Thanks for showing up & she will keep the guys in line

Piontkowski- Transparency, Listen & Compromise/important for all tax payers to be involved

## **10. City Manager & Department Reports – Exceptions and Questions**

City Manager Lapeyrouse welcomed all the new members.

Reports will be sent at a later date due to the early meeting date.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **11. Selection of Signatories for City Bank Accounts**

Councilor Wheeler made a motion for Mayor MacNair, Councilors Howard & Piontkowski to be added to the city bank account. Councilor Durpo seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

### **12. Nomination & Selection of Three Planning & Zoning Commission Members**

Councilor Piontkowski nominated Richard Boyle, James Martindale & Laurie Okun to serve on the Planning & Zoning Commission. Councilor Wheeler seconded the nominations. The nominations were unanimously approved.

### **13. Appointment of Two Representatives from City for 3-Way/2-Way Marketing Funds**

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to appoint Chip Durpo & Neil Howard. Councilor Piontkowski seconded and unanimously approved. City Manager Lapeyrouse explained how the marketing expenses are approved.

### **14. Appointment of City Council Liaison(s) to Various City Departments**

Mayor MacNair stated the following Council Members will serve as liaisons for departments - Councilor Piontkowski/ Police Department- Councilor Wheeler/ Public Works- Councilor Howard/Finance- Councilor Durpo/Comprehensive Planning- Councilor Larsen/POA, Timeshare, Garden Club.

Councilor Larsen stated she was not aware of the changes. She had only been told about the changes from Councilor Durpo a few days before. She stated she felt left out.

### **15. Budget Amendment for 2017**

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to approve Budget Amendment for 2017. Councilor Howard seconded the motion. Councilors Wheeler, Howard, Larsen & Piontkowski voted yes. Councilor Durpo voted no. The motion passed with four yes votes & one no vote.

### **16. Set Qualifying Fees for 2018 General Election**

Councilor Howard made a motion to set qualifying at \$15. Councilor Wheeler seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **17. Public Forum and General Comments**

Steve Mason- Reviewed Financial Statement & was nice to know we are under budget

Rudy Masi- Congratulations to this year's Mayor & Council

Thanks to Linda, Ella, Chief Estes & James for a great job in 2017

Kudzu eradication – call in or write in if you are interested in the assisting with 2018 Eradication in April & May- Dates will be sent out by city.

Following up on Myrna Warner's request about dredging the pond- item will placed on first workshop agenda.

Bob Larsen- An aerial photo from early 70's would be beneficial to compare the pond.

Debbie McAfee- Inquired how the City Manager would be involved with liaisons – City Manager is still City Manager per Mayor MacNair.

Councilor Durpo stated he had talked with a GMA attorney and questioned how four members create a quorum instead of three.

Tommy Culkin with the Clayton Tribune responded three out the five, unless the Mayor is present. City Manager Lapeyrouse stated, our Mayor does count, our quorum would be four.

Susie Piontkowski- Old Business- Trees at the Scaly Mountain/Sky Valley Fire Department – City Manager Lapeyrouse responded that the work had already been done.

Ray Becker- Asked about the interest of pursuing a sewer system for Sky Valley. Mayor MacNair said there needed to be more discussion but asked that he continue representing Sky Valley on the Board. City Manager asked if they wanted to have the EMI presentation at the February workshop. Mayor MacNair requested the presentation to be made at the February workshop & regular council meeting.

Barbara Kobacker – Sewer costs a lot of money, December thru February are not productive due to the number of part time people that are not here.

Maureen Platt- Thank you to the City Employees – Police & Utility Departments

Helen Kleiber – Congratulations to newly elected officials. We need to maintain a good working relationship with Harrison Merrill since he owns over 500 acres.

Mayor MacNair advised he, Councilors Durpo, Piontkowski, Howard and Wheeler have visited with Harrison Merrill about the future development of Sky Valley. Mr. Merrill offered assistance with his companies and other affiliates when needed at a reasonable cost. Mayor MacNair also stated Sky Valley has nothing to offer and to increase property values we need to pursue hotel/convention center. The flat area near the post office would be great for an assisted living facility.

Councilor Larsen requested to be included in the discussions with Merrill in the future.

Councilor Durpo – stated he has meet with Harrison Merrill multi times and reviewed different designs.

Rudy Masi asked that there be workshops not to put money on property that is not ours.

Councilor Howard stated the non-voting workshops are to keep the citizens aware & in the sunshine that we are a responsible council.

Councilor Durpo stated that everything we have discussed there are No Tax Payer Dollars will be used.

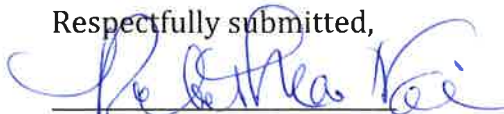
Helen Kleiber- Elephant in the room, you cannot build a convention center/hotel or assisted living facility until we have a sewer system which would require tax money and grants, which is a catch twenty-two, you build it they will come. The future is bright but it will require tax money.

### **18. Adjournment**

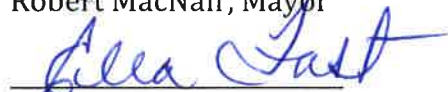
Councilor Durpo made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Wheeler seconded the motion and was unanimously passed.

There being no further business to come before Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert MacNair, Mayor



Ella Fast, City Clerk