

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Bridges at 7:00pm.

Members present were Mayor Robert Bridges, Council Members Perry Barton, Hattie Thrasher, Edward Jackson, Dwight McCormic and Betty Lyle. Also in attendance was City Administrator, Michelle Irizarry, City Clerk, Mai Chang, City Attorney, Thomas Mitchell, Public Works Director, Sam Powell. Media was represented by Ron Bridgeman of the Barrow Journal.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-MAYOR

Mayor Bridges asked if there was a motion for a Vice-Mayor. Betty Lyle stated they usually write the name on a piece of paper. The turnout were Perry Barton received 3 votes, Dwight McCormic received 1 vote, and Hattie Thrasher received 1 vote. Perry Barton became the Vice-Mayor with the most votes.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Council Meeting, December 19, 2017

Betty Lyle made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2017 Council meeting as written. Hattie Thrasher seconded the motion, unanimous.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Subeh Business , LLC; Alcohol License Application

Muhamma Rahman spoke about the background history of his business and would like to get his alcohol business license. He has been here the last few meetings and there are still complaints. His backgrounds are cleaned, then last meeting, a lady complained about the distance of school and church. He did a survey according with State and City law with no distance issues. He is here to get approval from the City to get his license.

City Attorney, Thomas Mitchell stated the certification from the survey well established the distance required. Thomas also requested an open records request from the City of Winder and nothing turned out on the documents he received.

Dwight McCormic made a statement. He stated he read the City Ordinance regarding the sale of beer and wine. He said it's a nightmare to get a beer and wine license. He saw a number of things that he doesn't like particularly the surrounding of an establishment and etc. and for this to not go well for the community. He have not seen the due process/or document that he was supposed to be provided and all he's heard was that "we as a City Council has been advised by the Attorney by you that we need to pass this or we could be sued". He does not like or appreciate that kind of pressure. He feels very uncomfortable voting for this. Dwight goes on and asked more questions toward Muhamma.

City Clerk, Mai Chang answered Dwight's questions. Mai stated that applicant does have a register agent in Barrow County and can provide it to Dwight as a Council Member however there are personal information that would have to be redacted for others to see. Mai stated agent must live in Barrow County and she has to get a copy of her driver's license. Thomas read out the statement for the agent.

Perry Barton made a statement of somebody trying to dig up things and has never seen the amount of blockage against somebody. People started talking. Mayor Bridges stated “we will not get out of control like the other night. It doesn’t matter who you are, Council Member or anybody else, I’m going to ask the Police Officer to take you out.”

Perry Barton made motion to approve the alcohol license for Subeh Business. Betty Lyle seconded the motion. Perry Barton, Betty Lyle and Edward Jackson voted yes. Dwight McCormic and Hattie Thrasher voting no. Motion passed with 3/2.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Georgia Cities Week, April 22-28, 2018

Hattie Thrasher made motion to approve the Georgia Cities Week. Betty Lyle seconded the motion, unanimous.

6. CITIZENS CONCERN:

A. Business Association: Springfest

Mr. Casto stated the Business Association will be taking over the Springfest. They don’t have an exact date yet. Nicole Green is working on the application. Mayor Bridges stated he is in favor of that. Hattie Thrasher asked if it was going to be a 2 day event. They are looking at date of either the first week in May or last week in April.

Perry Barton made motion to support the Business Association taking over the Springfest. Dwight McCormic seconded, unanimous.

B. Brian Klein: Purchase Property for Thrift Shop & Homeless Ministry

Brian stated he is looking at the Church on Dooley Town Road. He will get Barrow County to look at the building and then also follow City regulations. Thomas Mitchell stated he searched and what appears to be the most pact is in Public Health for them to determine what is required, what is allowed and what they need to do to run that process. The property is zoned R1 and there is not a category that permits that type. The closest thing is a conditional use in R1 and R3. He advised of a Special Use Permit (SUP) or Conditional Use Permit. If owner uses it and he then leaves, it can not be transferred to a new owner.

Thomas Mitchell asked for permission to spend some more time to research it. Mayor Bridges gave Thomas his approval to do more research.

C. Kendra Sexton: Alcohol License for Old Piggly Wiggly (Absent)

Dwight McCormic asked Mayor Bridges if he could make a point regarding last Thursday when he was being sworn in as a new Council member. It was very nice to have his son to witness his father but only to have two Council members to attempt to destroy it by attacking the citizens. He hoped to get love, joy, peace and happiness flowing back into the community. He is prepared to take fire and criticism and whatever is thrown at him and if it is required he will keep his mouth shut as he did on Thursday.

Betty Lyle stated Dwight, the only way you going to make that happen is for you to get your buddies back where they belong.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No executive session

8. ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the Council, Hattie Thrasher made a motion to adjourn. Edward Jackson seconded the motion, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.