

Winterville City Council – Minutes of Public Hearing & Regular Session

Public Hearing #5 of 5 – Charter Amendment

August 14, 2018

A fifth public hearing, of five scheduled, to consider the enactment of an ordinance that amends the Charter of the City of Winterville that would remove the Charter's restrictions that prevent the Mayor and City Council from granting licenses to sell spirituous, vinous, malt or other intoxicating liquors within the City of Winterville, and authorize the Mayor and City Council to issue licenses or permits for the sale or manufacture of distilled spirits, malt beverages or wine within the City of Winterville in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia and any rules, regulations and ordinances enacted by the City of Winterville.

Mayor Ferrelle called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 pm. There were 9 persons signed up to speak. All comments were heard and any questions were addressed by Mayor Ferrelle or City Attorney David Ellison. Mayor Ferrelle closed the Public Hearing a 6:56 pm.

Regular Meeting - Minutes

August 14, 2018

The Mayor and Council of the City of Winterville met at Winterville City Hall for the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 14, 2018. Mayor Ferrelle called the meeting to order at 6:56 pm. Also present were Councilpersons Mark Farmer, Brenda Keen, Mary Quinn, Gary Snow, City Attorney David Ellison, and Municipal Clerk Wendy Bond.

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all present.

Approval of Minutes: Councilperson Snow moved to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2018 regular City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Quinn. All votes were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Councilperson Farmer moved to amend the agenda to allow the City CPA Jerry Hawkins to present the 2017 Audit to Mayor and Council as the first item. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Quinn. All votes were in favor.

The First Item of New Business: Jerry Hawkins, the City's CPA presented the 2017 Audit and a summary of the City of Winterville Annual Financial Report ending December 31, 2017. A copy is attached. Councilperson Farmer moved to accept the 2017 Audit as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Snow. All votes were in favor.

The Second Item of New Business: Mayor Ferrelle stated Council has advertised, held the Public Hearings, required meetings, and discussed an alternate route of removing some of the wording in the amendment. If not approved the process will start over with 2 required Public Meetings, new language and 2 approved ordinances.

Councilperson Keen moved that the City Council adopt an ordinance so that the Charter of the City of Winterville shall be amended to delete the following from Section 25 in its entirety:

“The Mayor and City Council shall be forever prohibited from granting license in any form to anyone to sell spirituous, vinous, malt or other intoxicating liquors within said City of Winterville, and the said Mayor and City Council shall have right and authority to pass an ordinance prohibiting anyone from keeping any kind of intoxicants for the purpose of illegal sale within the corporate limits of said city.”

And to substitute the following words in lieu thereof:

“The Mayor and City Council shall be authorized to grant licenses or permits to persons to sell or manufacture distilled spirits, malt beverages, or wine within the City of Winterville in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia and any rules, regulations and ordinances enacted by the City of Winterville.”

The motion died on the floor for lack of a second.

Councilperson Farmer moved to consider running advertisements and holding Public Meetings to discuss an amendment of the charter, removing section 25 and replacing it with, the following:

“The Mayor and City Council shall be authorized to grant licenses or permits to persons to sell or manufacture, malt beverages, or wine within the City of Winterville in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia and any rules, regulations and ordinances enacted by the City of Winterville.”

The motion died on the floor for lack of a second.

The Third Item of New Business: Mayor Ferrell called for a vote on the Old Fire Hall wall. Councilperson Farmer moved to allow the Winterville Elementary School Art Class to use the Old Winterville Fire Department wall (currently the Winterville Bookstore block building), as a canvas for a wall mural to be created by the children of the class. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Keen. All votes were in favor.

The Fourth Item of New Business: The Winterville Library Advisory Board is recommending approval of 2 new members to their board. Councilperson Quinn moved to approve Starr Wright and Marie Mize as new members to the WLAB. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Keen. All votes were in favor.

The Fifth Item of New Business: A large tree has fallen from a citizen’s property adjoining Pittard Park into the park. This citizen is requesting financial assistance to help with the removal of the remaining large trunk. The citizen and Tom Doonan have received some quotes. Council has not received any written quotes and would like to receive quotes from repeatable companies to help Council with a decision. Councilperson Snow moved to table this item for further discussion. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Farmer. All votes were in favor and the item is tabled.

Committee Reports:

Public Finance – Clerk Bond provided a financial report for the year to date ending July 31, 2018. Copies are available for public review. The Finance Committee will begin more budget discussions in September for the 2019 budget.

Winterville Community Center – Jack Eisenman gave a brief report on the Community Center. JoAnn Snow has developed some new classes to be introduced soon.

Police Department – Joe Amendolar reported on an incident at the Dollar General Store involving an officer and a suspected shoplifter. A good citizen intervened and assisted Officer Mike Hill and the suspect was apprehended and taken into custody.

Fire Department – Chief Michael Gabriel stated the door to the Fire Department is currently working better and unless it breaks, they have received a tentative quote of \$1700 to replace the door motor if necessary. During the recent storms the tornado sirens were activated and the Methodist Church was opened in the event of the need of an emergency shelter.

Public Works – Tom Doonan reported there has been an increase in people using the multi-purpose court as a gathering place and not for its purpose of community play. The police department has stepped up patrol in the park to deter mischief.

Library Report – Shialoh Wilson reported the Winterville Branch Manager vacancy has been filled and the new Librarian, Deirdre Murray who started at the library on Monday.

Clerk’s Report – No additional report.

City Attorney’s Report –David Ellison briefly reported on the codes that have been adopted by the state as law and that the International Property Code should be reviewed more at the next workshop meeting.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Ferrelle gave an informal verbal report to the attending public. Winterville Charter day will be August 15, 2018.

Public Comment –None.

Councilperson Farmer moved to adjourn at 7:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Snow. All votes were in favor.

Clerk

Date