

City of Byron
Mayor and Council Minutes
September 12, 2022

The City of Byron Mayor and Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Mayor Michael Chidester, Council Members James Richardson, Rusty Adams, Michael Chumbley, Chris Hodges and Alan Dorsey were in attendance. City employees that attended were City Clerk Telina Allred, City Administrator Tiffany Sandefur, Public Works Director Tiffany Bibb, Deputy Clerk Pam Flournoy, Police Chief Wesley Cannon, and Chief Court Clerk Dede Thibodeaux. City Attorney Brian Causey attended the meeting and there were six (6) visitors at the meeting. Representatives from the Byron Buzz and the Leader Tribune attended the meeting as well.

Mayor Michael Chidester called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, asked Council Member James Richardson to give the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Chris Hodges to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting held on August 8 and August 18, 2022. Unanimous.

CITIZEN TIME TO ADDRESS COUNCIL: Mary Ann Byrd addressed Mayor and Council regarding areas of blight in her Toomerville neighborhood. She said she has a group of concerned friends called the “Byron Blight Busters” and they work to get these matters resolved. She brought a book with pictures for all to review of the blighted areas she spoke of asking Mayor and Council and the City of Byron to please help them clean up the neighborhood. Mayor Chidester said that the city has been busy doing surveys not only in Toomerville but other areas of Byron as well considered to be health hazards, fire hazards and blight. He added that in the last two weeks, six of her fellow citizens had received letters from the City of Byron that put them on a clock to either let the city know what they’re going to do with their property or work with the city to tear it down and clean up the lots. If there is no response, the Mayor said his letter will come out next declaring the property a health hazard and telling them it will be torn down in 30 days if no measures are taken.

Ms. Byrd also mentioned torn up cars that are an eyesore. Mayor Chidester stated that he himself has had two of his three cars hauled off and the last one is soon to go. He did apologize that it took him so long to get rid of his cars. Council Member Alan Dorsey told Ms. Mary Ann that he would haul off cars for free at the owners’ request and dispose of them. She also stated that flooding was a problem at Ms. Barbers address. Ms. Sandefur stated that the city is working on a pre-application for a grant that is due October 14th and asked Ms. Byrd to please send any pictures she may have of any rain event where the flash flooding and rushing of water is happening. Mary Ann said she would send them to her. Council Member Richardson said that he was the other member that received a letter regarding clean up and understands these issues needing to be addressed and thanked her for being a concerned citizen. He stated that it will be taken care of. Mayor Chidester thanked her for coming in and sharing her concerns.

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SURPLUS OF VEHICLE: Motion made by Alan Dorsey, seconded by Chris Hodges to approve the request to surplus a 2015 Dodge Charger (VIN FH906834). Unanimous.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL REGARDING WASTE DISPOSAL: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Chris Hodges to approve advertising a Request for Proposal regarding waste disposal FY2023. Unanimous.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL REGARDING LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE: Motion made by Rusty Adams, seconded by James Richardson to approve advertising a Request for Proposal regarding Landscape Maintenance FY2023. Unanimous.

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD APPOINTMENTS: James Richardson made a joint motion, seconded by Michael Chumbley for the approval of the reappointments of Darrell Lettice, Louis Evans and April Hodges to the Planning & Zoning Commission Board, all terms to expire September 13, 2024. Unanimous.

NEW BANK ACCOUNT: Motion made by Chris Hodges, seconded by Alan Dorsey to approve opening a new bank account for Fire Department Donations. Unanimous.

RESOLUTION REGARDING MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH EGS: Motion made by Chris Hodges, seconded by Michael Chumbley to approve the following Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Preventive Maintenance Agreement with Energy Generation Solutions, Inc. regarding two (2) Fire Department generators; one located at the Fire Department and the other for the radio repeater at the water tower. Unanimous. (Resolution on file in the City Clerk's office at the Municipal Complex.)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON, GEORGIA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BYRON AND ENERGY GENERATION SOLUTIONS, INC. REGARDING THE PERFORMANCE OF MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE WORK FOR THE CITY OF BYRON FIRE DEPARTMENT GENERATOR; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Byron, Georgia and it is hereby so resolved by the authority of same that the Mayor is authorized to execute an agreement with Energy Generation Solutions, Inc. regarding the performance of maintenance and service work for the City of Byron Fire Department generator and attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

All Resolutions or portions of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SO RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BYRON, GEORGIA ON THE 12th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2022.

LOST DISTRIBUTION FY2023: Motion made by Chris Hodges, seconded by Michael Chumbley to approve the LOST (Local Distribution Sales Tax) distributions as negotiated and authorize the Mayor to execute the certificate of distribution. Unanimous.

COPIER REQUEST: Motion made by Chris Hodges, seconded by Rusty Adams to approve a new copier request for the City Clerk and Public Works Administration Departments to be leased from Ashley Business Solutions. Unanimous.

COVENANT TO ANNEX: Gavel was handed over to Mayor Pro Tem Michael Chumbley regarding this item as Mayor Chidester had done some legal work for Mr. Waddell and did not wish it to be a conflict of interest. Motion made by Chris Hodges, seconded by Alan Dorsey to approve a Covenant to Annex per request of Ronald Waddell regarding property located on 436 Sledge Road (053B 094) for the purposes of acquiring water services. Unanimous. Gavel was then passed back over to Mayor Chidester.

PERMANENT BMP MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT: Motion made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Alan Dorsey to approve the Mayor to authorize a Permanent BMP Maintenance Agreement with Halpern Enterprises, Inc. (Starbucks-Byron) regarding tax map 055D 096. Unanimous.

NEW TRAFFIC SIGNAL: TABLED

LMIG FY2023: Motion made by Rusty Adams, seconded by James Richardson to authorize the Mayor to approve the submittal of the Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) FY2023 and the 30% matching funds as well as the authorization to sign the joint LMIG contract. Unanimous.

PHASE 1 TEA PROJECT: Motion made by Chris Hodges, seconded by Alan Dorsey to approve moving forward with the advertising of the bid package for Phase 1 of the 2021 TEA Project. Unanimous.

ANOTHER CITIZEN TO ADDRESS COUNCIL: Douglas Trayer spoke with Mayor and Council regarding his neighborhood near Marion Drive. He has lived in town since 1999. He stated some citizens are not cutting their grass and have siding hanging off their homes, He had complaints about the trash service and the city not answering the phones timely. City Clerk Telina Allred gave Mr. Trayer her direct line if he had any more trouble with not getting through to City Hall when he called. Mr. Trayer inquired about recycling services and the Mayor stated that it may not be picked up but citizens may have to take it to a location. Mayor Chidester added that the trash services contract is going to be bid out for next year in hopes that it will improve services. Mr. Trayer then commented on water costs being expensive, sidewalks needed in Toomerville because the old ones were unlevel and unsafe, and the speeding down Boy Scout Road. Mayor Chidester did agree that

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there was a sidewalk grant in the works but it was not awarded and he said that the water costs in Byron were very reasonable with regard to other cities. Mr. Trayer did say that he plans to stay in Byron and loves the town. The Mayor stated that the city will be made aware of all these issues and thanked Mr. Trayer for his concerns and being a long time citizen of Byron.

CLOSED SESSION: At 6:48 PM, Motion was made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Chris Hodges that the Mayor and Council go into closed session all allowed by O.C.G.A. 50-14-2 for the purpose of discussing real estate.

MOTION APPROVED

Those voting in favor of the motion for closure: Council Members Michael Chumbley, James Richardson, Rusty Adams, Alan Dorsey and Chris Hodges. Those voting against the motion for closure: None.

Those attending the Closed Session were Mayor Michael Chidester, Council Members Rusty Adams, James Richardson, Michael Chumbley, Alan Dorsey, and Chris Hodges. City Attorney Brian Causey attended the meeting as did City Clerk Telina Allred, Deputy Clerk Pam Flournoy, Public Works Director Tiffany Bibb and City Administrator Tiffany Sandefur.

OPEN SESSION: Motion was made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Chris Hodges to return to open session at 7:12 PM. Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Michael Chumbley, seconded by Chris Hodges to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 PM. Unanimous.

Telina Allred
Clerk of Council