

Minutes of the  
REGULAR MEETING  
of the  
City Council of Lookout Mountain, Georgia  
July 16, 2015

**PRESIDING:** Vice Mayor David Bennett

**PRESENT:** Council Members Beth Soloff, Taylor Watson, and Jim Sabourin; Attorney Jed Roebuck (substituting for City Attorney Bill Pickering); City Manager Brad Haven, Chief Todd Gann; and City Clerk Cindy Roberts.

**ABSENT:** Sandy Gothard Mayor, Council Member Caroline Williams, and City Attorney Bill Pickering.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Mayor David Bennett called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 1214 Lula Lake Road, Lookout Mountain, Georgia. Council Member Taylor Watson opened the meeting with a prayer.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The minutes of the Council's Special Meeting of June 25, 2015, were approved as submitted.

**UPDATE ON PURCHASE OF METHODIST CHURCH PROPERTY:** Vice Mayor David Bennett informed the Council that appraisals of the Methodist Church property on Red Riding Hood Trail have been completed indicating a market value of \$120,000.00 to \$125,000.00. The contract price in the City's option to purchase the property is \$135,000.00. Mr. Bennett recommended that the City offer to purchase the property for the higher appraised amount of \$125,000.00. Council Member Taylor Watson made a motion to accept the \$125,000.00 appraisal and to offer to purchase the Methodist Church's property on Red Riding Hood Trail for that amount. The motion was seconded by Council Member Beth Soloff and passed unanimously.

**PACE – CREDIT CARD SERVICES:** City Clerk Cindy Roberts addressed the Council on allowing Pace, a credit card service, to process payments by credit card in person at City Hall or by login to the City's website. Ms. Roberts added that the NWUD has informed the City that a contract renewal will be issued in September and has requested that the City provide a merchant identification number for sewer collections. The NWUD can no longer process credit card payments under its merchant identification number. Ms. Roberts also informed the Council that all fees will be absorbed by the customer and that this service will be provided at no cost to the City. Council Member Beth Soloff made a motion to approve Pace credit card services. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jim Sabourin and passed unanimously.

**SEWER PAST DUE COLLECTION PROCEDURE:** Sewer Board Advisory Board Chair Jimmy Campbell addressed the Council on the continuing problem of delinquent sewer bills. Mr. Campbell submitted a list of delinquent customers and the current collection procedure.

**FRANK HITCHINGS DISCUSSION BOUNDRY LINES:** Vice Mayor David Bennett addressed the Council on City-owned property that runs behind Frank Hitchings' property. This item was also discussed at last month's Council meeting. Attorney Jed Roebuck informed the Council that City Attorney Bill Pickering has advised that this is covered by Ordinance No.3, Section 2-113, which permits the City to dispose of real property that is surplus and unusable. If the City Manager determines that the property is unusable and of no benefit to the City, he may submit a recommendation to the Council that the property be abandoned or disposed of for a nominal sum. Mr. Hitchings has agreed to pay all costs associated with the transfer of the property. Mr. Roebuck suggested that Mr. Haven prepare a memorandum setting forth his determination regarding the property and submit it at the next regular Council meeting.

**MONTHLY CITY MANAGER'S, STORMWATER & SEWER REPORT** – The monthly stormwater and sewer report was provided to the Council. City Manager Brad Haven informed the Council that:

- EPD Audit will be performed on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Hydro Project is complete and it will be too expensive
- Two trucks have been purchased out of SPLOST for the Public Works Department.

**CHIEF'S REPORT:** The monthly police report was provided to the Council.

**VICE MAYOR'S REPORT** – Vice Mayor David Bennett advised the Council that the Lookout Mountain Police Department recovered a stolen vehicle within 12 hours after the theft. Work on the RFP is continuing, and it should be ready at the next regular Council meeting to be held August 20, 2015. Mr. Bennett stated that a survey to divide the house from the public works property located on Lula Lake Road will be ready in the next few weeks.

Disposition of property was removed from the agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Roberts  
City Clerk