

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 12, 2015

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: RONNIE DIXON, RAYMOND TURNER, CECIL THOMPSON, BRIAN FROST, LISA CHESSER, AND EDDIE TYSON

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: BILL TORRANCE – CITY MANAGER, BILL BEDINGFIELD, FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK, MELISSA MOORE - ADMIN ASSISTANT, REID THRELKELD – CITY ATTORNEY, FRANK WAITS –VPD, ZACK FOWLER- VIDALIA COMMUNICATION, JEFF WEST – ESG, ROBBIE AKINS – ESG, BRIAN SIKES – FIRE CHIEF, KATHY HILT – THE ADVANCE, SHAUN OLIVER – CITY MARSHALL

MAYOR DIXON BROUGHT THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00p.m.

THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY: REV. JAMES JOYCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS: - Dr. Geoff Conner is having a Commit to be Fit walk on January 17, 2015 and on April 11, 2015 starting at 10:00 a.m. The walk will be on sidewalks only and start and finish at the Presbyterian Church in Vidalia. The Council was in agreement that the event would not disrupt traffic, but recommended that they get with Police Chief Waits to review the route.

DVA: - Paula brought the Council up to date on activities of the DVA.

VCVB – No Report

ONION FESTIVAL – No Report

TOOMBS MONTGOMERY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Bill Mitchell brought the Council up to date on activities of the Chamber. The Chamber's annual membership meeting will be on February 5th at the Community Center. He also informed the Council that the new speck building is getting a lot of interest. Mr. Torrance informed the Council that the timber has been cut at the Airport property, and we have a bid from Troy Reddick for \$6500.00 to clear and clean the property up so it will be available for the Chamber to show to prospective clients.

FINANCIAL REPORT - BILL BEDINGFIELD - Mr. Bedingfield gave the financial report for the month of December. A motion was made by Councilwoman Chessser to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - A motion was made by Councilwoman Chessser to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2014 meeting and the December 18, 2014 meeting. Councilman Turner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

AGENDA

1. **CDBG RESOLUTION** – Mr. Torrance presented a resolution (see attached) approving the City's participation in the 2015 CDBG grant for the addition to the Boys and Girls Club. The approval of the resolution will also allow the Mayor to sign all documents in connection with the grant. A motion was made by Councilman Turner to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.
2. **BUILDING DONATED TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB** – Mr. Torrance presented the bill of sale for the building donated by the Vidalia City School for use at the Boys and Girls Club. The building is on site and ready for use by the Club. Councilman Tyson made a motion to accept the building. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.
3. **CITY OF ETHICS RESOLUTION** – Mayor Dixon presented a resolution to approve the City's continued wish to adhere to the guidelines established by the GMA as a Certified City of Ethics. (see attached) A motion was made by Councilwoman Chessser to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT –

Mr. Torrance presented to the Council the final report from the County wide Recreation Committee. Mr. Torrance asked the Council to take the report and carefully review it so that it could be discussed at a later date. Mr. Torrance would like to schedule a work session after the GMA Mayors Day Conference to discuss this and other possible projects.

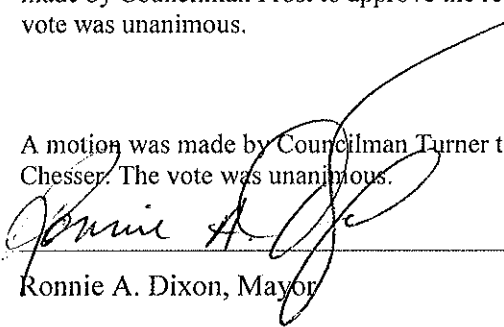
Mr. Torrance reported the City closed on the Pal Theater last week, and has taken possession of the building.

Mr. Torrance presented a proposal to complete the fountain and sidewalk work at the City Amphitheater Park. The bid to complete the fountain and walk ways is approximately \$107,500.00. After some value engineering the cost has come down to \$87,500.00. Mr. Torrance is recommending that the Council approve this and feels it can be handled in the current SPLOST call. Councilman Turner made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous. He also presented a project that needs to be addressed on Green Acres Drive. A cross drain and headwall need to be replaced. The cost would be \$70,637.97. Also the City needs to replace a 6" water line that serves the Rocky Creek (Achenbach) property. The bid from McLendon is \$26,903.39. Mayor Dixon referred the Green Acres project back the Streets and Sanitation Committee and the water line project back to the water and sewer committee.

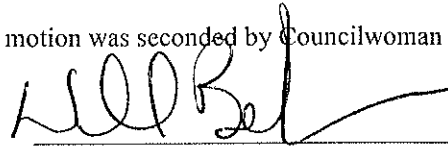
Mr. Torrance reminded the Council of those coming up for re-election in 2015. He stated that the ad to the paper informing the public of the offices up for election, qualifying fees and qualifying dates has to go in the paper before February.

Mr. Torrance presented the FAA/DOT Contract for the hangar design and restriping of runway 7-25. The Council needs to approve the contract and allow the Mayor to sign all necessary documents. A motion was made by Councilman Frost to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.



Ronnie A. Dixon, Mayor



William E Bedingfield, City Clerk

1/12/15
Vidalia City Council Meeting

NAME	ADDRESS
Melissa Moore	City of Vidalia
John [unclear]	Tomb's County
Robert [unclear]	Vidalia, Ga.
Dwight Dixon	Vidalia
Rn James [unclear]	
James A Stokes	Vidalia, Ga.

CALLED COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 15, 2015

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: RONNIE DIXON, RAYMOND TURNER, CECIL THOMPSON, BRIAN FROST, LISA CHESSER, AND EDDIE TYSON

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: BILL TORRANCE – CITY MANAGER, BILL BEDINGFIELD, FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK, MELISSA MOORE - ADMIN ASSIST. AND REID THRELKELD – CITY ATTORNEY

MAYOR DIXON BROUGHT THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 2:40p.m.

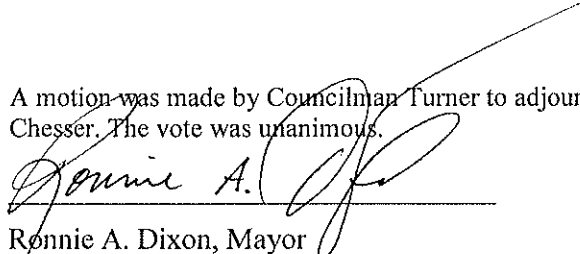
PUBLIC COMMENTS: - None

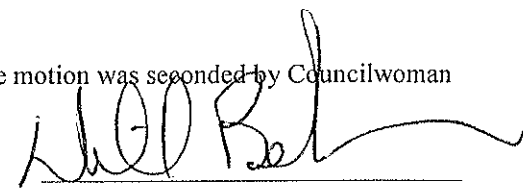
AGENDA

1. **Streets and Sanitation Meeting 1/15/15** – Councilman Frost presented the minutes from the Streets and Sanitation meeting held today at 2:00. (see attached minutes) The recommendation is to replace a cross drain with a 42” pipe and build two head walls. The cost would be \$70,637.79 and would come from SPLOST. Councilman Frost made a motion to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous
2. **Water Sewer Meeting 1/15/15** – Councilman Tyson presented the minutes from the Water and Sewer Committee meeting held today at 2:15. (see attached minutes) The recommendation is to replace the water line an Adams Street that services the Rocky Creek subdivision. The bid is \$26,903.39 and the funds would come from the 09-14 SPLOST. Councilman Tyson made a motion to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Torrance presented a request to fund the original bid to finish the amphitheater. The original proposal was \$107,500.00 and was approved for \$87,500.00 at the January 8, 2015 meeting. This recommendation would be to add \$20,000.00 to the proposal. A motion was made by Councilman Turner to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.


Ronnie A. Dixon, Mayor


William E Bedingfield, City Clerk

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

February 9, 2015
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: RONNIE DIXON, RAYMOND TURNER, CECIL THOMPSON, BRIAN FROST, LISA CHESSER, AND EDDIE TYSON

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: BILL TORRANCE – CITY MANAGER, BILL BEDINGFIELD, FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK, MELISSA MOORE - ADMIN ASSISTANT, REID THRELKELD – CITY ATTORNEY, FRANK WAITS –VPD, ZACK FOWLER- VIDALIA COMMUNICATION, JEFF WEST – ESG, JAMES O’NEAL – ESG, BRIAN SIKES – FIRE CHIEF, TOMMY SASSER – RECREATION DIRECTOR, CHRIS BLOXHAM – REPUBLIC SERVICES.

MAYOR DIXON BROUGHT THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00p.m.

THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY: REV. CHESTER PROCTOR

Police Chief Frank Waits introduced several new Police Officers to the Council. They are Anthony J. Smith, Joshua Keener, Christian Hadaway, Leonor Phillips, Korey Sherrod and Daron Tutan. The Council welcomed them and thanked them for their service.

Martha Powell, with the Toombs County Library brought the Council up to date activities of the Library. Mr. Torrance asked if the Library had any more information on the roof issue at the Vidalia Library. She stated that they are working on pricing and options on paying for the repair, but may have to come the Council and the County Commissioners for help in the near future.

Tommy Sasser thanked the Council for the new lighting at Ed Smith complex. They were officially turned on Friday night and the park looked fantastic.

Councilwoman Chesser introduced some members of the Special Olympics that are in the audience tonight. They are having a Valentines Dance at the Callaway Center on February 14th from 2 – 4 pm and would like to invite the Council to attend. The Council thanked them for the great work they do, and several members stated that they would try to attend the dance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: - Vidalia’s Voluptuous Vixens are requesting that they be allowed to have a Color Run on March 28, 2015 beginning at 8:00 am. This event is somewhat smaller than last years. There will be only the run and no music and food afterward as in the past. They would again need to use the Community Center parking lot, but would not need the Arts and Crafts area. Councilman Turner made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

DVA: - No Report

VCVB – No Report

ONION FESTIVAL – Tom Cato brought the Council up to date on the upcoming Onion Festival. He stated that sponsorships are coming in on schedule, and that Paul Thigpen has agreed to be a mega sponsor at \$20,000.00.

TOOMBS MONTGOMERY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Bill Mitchell brought the Council up to date on activities of the Chamber. The Development Authority will meet next Thursday the 19th at the Chamber. The Chamber Connection will be March 19th at STC from 5:15 – 7:00 pm.

FINANCIAL REPORT - BILL BEDINGFIELD - Mr. Bedingfield gave the financial report for the month of January 2015. A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -A motion was made by Councilman Turner to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2015 meeting and the January 15, 2015 meeting. Councilman Frost seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

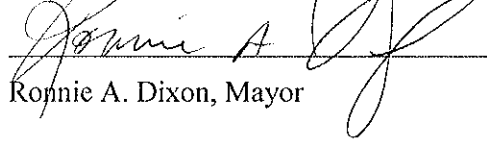
AGENDA

1. **Fire Chief Brian Sikes** – Chief Brian Sikes brought the results of the latest ISO rating that has just been completed in Vidalia. He is proud to announce to the Council that the City has been awarded an ISO rating of 4. The prior rating was a very high 5. The new rating is very close to being a 3, missing it by only 3.5 points. The overall increase for the City was 16 points. This should have a positive effect on property owners insurance in Vidalia. The Council thanked Chief Sikes and his staff for all their hard work in obtaining this rating.
2. **Water/Sewer Committee Meeting 2/9/15** – Bill Torrance presented the results of the Water and Sewer meeting held today at 11:00 am. (See Attached Minutes) A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.
3. **Hotel/Motel Tax Resolution** – Mr. Torrance presented a resolution to the Council that needs to be approved before the City can raise the Hotel/Motel tax rate from 5% to 8%. Once approved the City can apply to the Georgia Legislature to have the Vidalia Convention and Visitors Bureau approved as an authority. A motion was made by Councilman Frost to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.
4. **2015 Capital Request** – Mr. Torrance presented the 2015 capital request to the Council. He stated that \$190,767.59 from the General Fund would be taken from the current 2015 budget. The \$224,000.00 for the water and sewer department would come from SPLOST. Councilman Turner made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.
5. **Rick Allen Request to use Office at Community Center** – Rose Ann Holman brought a request from Representative Rick Allen to use the office vacated by John Barrow. The office is located in the Community Center. A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the request. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
6. **Alcohol License Application** – Kris Eisenhut has applied for a beer and wine license for his new Italian restaurant located at 115 SE Main Street. The application is complete and has been signed by the appropriate departments. Councilwoman Chesser made a motion to approve the application. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous. Councilman Thompson abstained for business reasons.
7. **Housing Authority Appointment** – The housing Authority is requesting that the Council re-appoint Stan Yancey to another term on their board. Councilman Frost made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous.
8. **City Attorney and City Judge Appointment** – Councilman Turner made a motion to appoint Reid Threlkeld as the City Attorney and Mackey Bryant as the City Judge. Councilman Tyson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
9. **Downtown Development Authority** – Councilwoman Chesser made a motion to re-appoint Jackie Collins, Ellis Collins and John Ladson to the Downtown Development Authority. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous.
10. **Vidalia Development Authority** – A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to re-appoint Mike Calhoun to another term on the Vidalia Development Authority. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous.
11. **Vidalia Planning Commission** – Councilwoman Chesser made a motion to re-appoint Dennis Donahue, Phil Barfield and Pam Langston to the Vidalia Planning Commission. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous.
12. **Revolving Loan Committee** – Councilman Frost made a motion to re-appoint Archie Branch to another term on the revolving loan committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.
13. **City Committees** – Mayor Dixon made no changes to the City Council Committees for 2015.

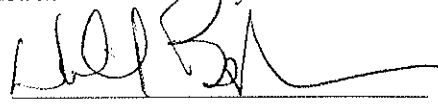
C CITY MANAGERS REPORT –

No Report

A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.



Ronnie A. Dixon, Mayor



William E Bedingfield, City Clerk

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 9, 2015

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: RONNIE DIXON, RAYMOND TURNER, CECIL THOMPSON, BRIAN FROST, LISA CHESSER, AND EDDIE TYSON

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: BILL TORRANCE – CITY MANAGER, BILL BEDINGFIELD, FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK, MELISSA MOORE - ADMIN ASSISTANT, REID THRELKELD – CITY ATTORNEY, FRANK WAITS –VPD, ZACK FOWLER- VIDALIA COMMUNICATION, KATHY HILT – ADVANCE, JEFF WEST – ESG, JAMES O’NEAL – ESG, BRIAN SIKES – FIRE CHIEF

MAYOR DIXON BROUGHT THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00p.m.

THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY: JUNIOR EL-KHATIB

PUBLIC COMMENTS: - Junior El-Khatib, with Cruise-in, reported to the Council the success of this Saturday’s event, and informed them that they would be holding a Beauty for a Cause event at STC on March 28, 2015 to help support crime stoppers, and also Police Officer Elliott Coursey

DVA: - Paula brought the Council up to date on activities of the DVA. The membership drive is underway and will end on April 30th. Festival planning is in full swing. She also reported that a \$500.00 grant had been awarded to Ellis Collins to fix the front of his building where Rialto, the new Italian Restaurant, is going.

VCVB – No Report

ONION FESTIVAL – No Report

TOOMBS MONTGOMERY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Bill Mitchell brought the Council up to date on activities of the Chamber. Youth leadership graduation is set for March 16, 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Vidalia First United Methodist Church. The next Chamber Connection will be held on March 19, 2015 at STC from 5:15 – 7:00 pm. Mr. Mitchell informed the Council that our area doesn’t have enough natural gas capacity to handle a new business of substantial size. He reported that the cost to add this capacity is so large that it will take a joint effort by several counties, and also working with State and Federal Legislators. He hopes to put together a group to start the process of making this a reality.

FINANCIAL REPORT - BILL BEDINGFIELD - Mr. Bedingfield gave the financial report for the month of February. A motion was made by Councilman Frost to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -A motion was made by Councilwoman Chesser to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2015 meeting. Councilman Tyson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

AGENDA

1. **Water and Sewer Committee Meeting 3/9/15** – Mr. Torrance presented the results of the Water and Sewer Committee meeting held this morning. (See Attached Minutes) A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the request of the Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous.
2. **License and Permits Committee meeting 3/9/15** – Mr. Torrance presented the results of the License and Permits Committee meeting held this morning. (See Attached Minutes) A Motion was made by Councilman Turner to approve the recommendation of the Committee. Councilman Tyson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
3. **One Day Alcohol Application Onion Festival -** Mr. Torrance presented the request from the Onion Festival Committee for a 3 day alcohol permit. This would include the Friday and Saturday evening concerts and the Golden Onion event held on Sunday. A motion was made by

Councilman Frost to approve the applications. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous. Councilman Thompson abstained for business reasons.

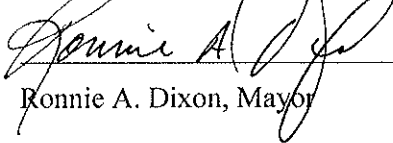
4. **Alcohol Application American Legion** - Mr. Torrance presented an application from the American Legion for a liquor license. He reported that this would be in addition to the beer and wine license that they already hold. He stated that the application was complete and that all required departments had signed the application. A motion was made by Councilman Frost to approve the applications. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous. Councilman Thompson abstained for business reasons. Councilman Turner also abstained for business reasons.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT -

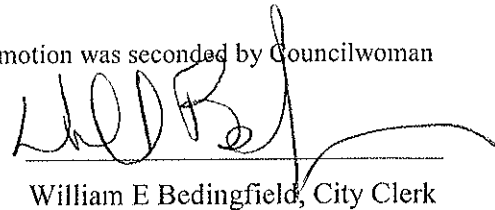
Mr. Torrance presented a request from Dennis Watkins, the Vidalia High School golf coach, for a donation of \$500.00 to this year's golf tournament held here in Vidalia. If approved the funds would come from the Council's legislative capital budget line item. A motion was made by Councilman Frost to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Torrance also reported that a request for a stop sign on Kissingbower had been received. He stated that after review the stop sign was not warranted. He informed the Council that he had denied the request. The Council was in agreement.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.



Ronnie A. Dixon, Mayor



William E Bedingfield, City Clerk

Vidalia City Council Meeting

NAME	ADDRESS
Melissa Moore	
James A. Stokes	
Darius Fogle	
Patricia White	
Junior EL-Khatib	
Art Allen Jr	

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 13, 2015

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: RONNIE DIXON, RAYMOND TURNER, CECIL THOMPSON, BRIAN FROST, LISA CHESSER, AND EDDIE TYSON

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: BILL TORRANCE – CITY MANAGER, BILL BEDINGFIELD, FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK, MELISSA MOORE - ADMIN ASSISTANT, REID THRELKELD – CITY ATTORNEY, FRANK WAITS –VPD, ZACK FOWLER- VIDALIA COMMUNICATION, JEFF WEST – ESG, JAMES O’NEAL – ESG, BRIAN SIKES – FIRE CHIEF, KATHY HILT – ADVANCE, TOMMY SASSER – RECREATION DIRECTOR

MAYOR DIXON BROUGHT THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00p.m.

THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY: REV. EFTON GREEN

PUBLIC COMMENTS: -

DVA: - Paula brought the Council up to date on activities of the DVA. She highlighted the upcoming Miss Vidalia Onion Beauty Pageant taking place this weekend.

VCVB – No Report

ONION FESTIVAL – Tom Cato brought the Council up to date on activities of the Onion Festival Committee. He explained that the Blue Angels will arrive next Thursday and should create some buzz as they fly over Vidalia. He stated that there would be a Committee meeting in the morning at 12 noon at City Hall.

TOOMBS MONTGOMERY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE -- Bill Mitchell brought the Council up to date on activities of the Chamber. Showcasing Toombs-Montgomery will be held on May 1st at the Vidalia Community Center beginning at 6:00p.m. He also informed the Council of several companies that have shown some interest in investing in our community.

FINANCIAL REPORT - BILL BEDINGFIELD - Mr. Bedingfield gave the financial report for the month of March. A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -A motion was made by Councilwoman Chesser to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2015 meeting. Councilman Tyson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

AGENDA

1. **Streets and Sanitation meeting 3/25/15** – Mr. Torrance presented a request from Massie McIntyre, representing Altamaha Bank, to close Wendell Street. (See Attached Minutes) A Motion was made by Councilman Turner to approve the request pending Attorney Reid Threlkeld’s review. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous. Councilman Frost abstained for business reasons. The Committee also requested that a section of Anderson Street be closed and deeded back to the adjoining property owners. (See Attached Minutes) Councilman Frost made a motion to approve the recommendation. Councilwoman Chesser seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
2. **Request from Naval Warfare Group Two** – Mr. Torrance presented a request from Naval Special Warfare Group TWO to hold training exercises in the old Thomas and Betts building owned by Meadows Regional Hospital. The training will take place on July 24th through July 27th 2015. The Hospital has already given their permission for them to use the building. The request is also to allow the unit to set up camp during this period in the unused area of the City Hall Annex. Councilman Turner made a motion to approve the request and allow the Mayor to sign the

document approving the exercise. The motion was seconded Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.

3. **Toombs Montgomery Relocation Guide Ad** – Mr. Bedingfield presented a request from the Vidalia Advance for the City to place an ad in the Toombs-Montgomery Relocation guide that is printed every three years. The cost of the full page color ad is \$1450.00. Also the request is for an ad in the Advance for next week's Onion Festival. The cost of this ad is \$475.00. Councilman Tyson made a motion to approve both ads, and to pay for it from the Council's legislative capital. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT –

Mr. Torrance presented a request from Recreation Director Tommy Sasser to have a 2004 van painted. The van is in such bad shape that it needs to be painted and the Recreation Department does not have sufficient funding available. Councilman Tyson made a motion that the City pay to have the van painted and to take the funds from the general fund contingency line item. Councilman Frost seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Torrance informed the Council that the GMA regional meeting has been called for the 23rd of April in Lyons, GA. This of course is the night of the Movie under the Stars Festival event. Yalonde Tanner, with GMA, has been notified that the City would not be able to participate.

Mr. Torrance explained that we are still working with the Vidalia City School System on their program to employ at risk students. He requested that the Council approve \$5000.00 in the budget so that as soon as the final approvals are in place we can move forward and hire two positions. Councilwoman Chesser made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Turner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Torrance explained that the City has a drainage problem on Lofton Lane that will require a fix similar to the one repaired on Brumette Street. Water is coming off Hwy 280 and causing a number of issues for several home owners. The cost will be approximately \$3300.00 to correct, and the funds would come from the SPLOST streets line item. The City has met with each property owner and will get the proper easements needed to fix this issue. A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Torrance informed the Council about several issues that are being addressed before the Onion Festival next weekend. He stated that the light over the sign on the back of the Amphitheater would be changed to a smaller light. He also reported that two new security lights had been installed at City Hall, and that one was on order for the entrance to the City Hall Annex from Hwy 280 West.

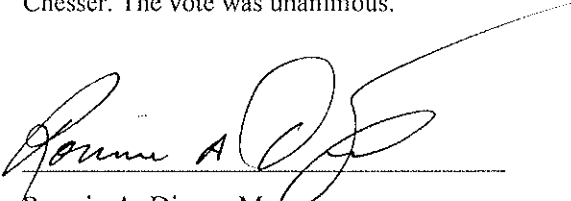
A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn and enter executive session to discuss personnel and the acquisition of real estate. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn and enter regular session. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.


Mr. Torrance presented a request from Fire Chief Brian Sikes to add a 4th Captain by promoting from within, and then hiring two additional entry level firemen. This would improve our overall coverage and help with our next ISO review. The funding would partially come from the upcoming retirement of long time Captain Frank Williams. A motion was made by Councilman Turner to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Torrance informed the Council that the restroom and concession building next to the Community Center, which was built by the Kiwanis Club, is no longer needed by the club. He feels that, although the City owns the property, we should at least offer the Club \$1000.00 for the building. We would then maintain it and be able to use it for events like the upcoming Onion Festival. A motion to offer the Kiwanis Club \$1000.00 was made by Councilman Tyson. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.



Ronnie A. Dixon, Mayor



William E Bedingfield, City Clerk

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

May 11, 2015
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: RONNIE DIXON, RAYMOND TURNER, CECIL THOMPSON, BRIAN FROST, LISA CHESSER, AND EDDIE TYSON

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: BILL TORRANCE – CITY MANAGER, BILL BEDINGFIELD, FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK, MELISSA MOORE - ADMIN ASSISTANT, REID THRELKELD – CITY ATTORNEY, FRANK WAITS –VPD, JOHN KOON- VIDALIA COMMUNICATION, JEFF WEST – ESG, JAMES O’NEAL – ESG, BRIAN SIKES – FIRE CHIEF, TOMMY SASSER – RECREATION DIRECTOR

MAYOR DIXON BROUGHT THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00p.m.

THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY: BILL TORRANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS: - None

DVA: - Paula brought the Council up to date on activities of the DVA. She reported that the DVA made \$2500.00 on Saturday during the Onion Festival. Given the rain, she felt it was very successful. She also stated that the Downtown Music Festival planning was now taking place, and that Jason Colbert wanted to be at this meeting to discuss the plans, but was sick and unable to attend. She informed the Council that he would be at the June meeting.

VCVB – Alexa Britton gave an update of the activities of the Vidalia Convention and Visitors Bureau. She reported that she was working on an economic impact study based on the 2015 Onion Festival. She reported that the Museum year to date had had 1965 visitors. These visitors represent 34 States and 6 Countries. She also presented the Summer Concert Series line up as of May. June 6th will feature the “Headliners”, a beach music band from Hilton Head, along with activities for children. On July the 4th the “Georgia Ride” band will perform, and this event will hopefully have a fireworks display.

ONION FESTIVAL – Bill Torrance presented a report on the City wide costs of the Onion Festival. He stated that he had all departments include time spent on festival activities only, and that when compiled the number was \$65,387.12. (See Attached Report)

TOOMBS MONTGOMERY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Bill Mitchell brought the Council up to date on activities of the Chamber. He reported that the Showcase for Toombs Montgomery was very successful, and that the new speck building was completed. He also updated the Council on the problem of natural gas and the lack of service in our area.

FINANCIAL REPORT - BILL BEDINGFIELD - Mr. Bedingfield gave the financial report for the month of April. A motion was made by Councilwoman Chesser to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -A motion was made by Councilman Frost to approve the minutes from the April 13, 2015 meeting. Councilman Turner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

AGENDA

1. **Donation of \$2000.00 to the Air Show Committee** – Mayor Dixon presented for approval the donation of \$2000.00 to the Onion Festival Air Show. The funds would come from legislative capital. Councilman Frost made a motion to approve the donation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous.
2. **Graduation Ad on Vidalia Communication** – Mr. Torrance presented a request from Vidalia Communications to place an Ad in May congratulating this year’s graduates. The cost of the Ad is \$185.00 and would come from general fund advertising account. Councilwoman Chesser made a

motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

3. **Fireworks Ordinance Addition – HB -110** – Mr. Torrance presented the new fireworks law to the Council for their review. He is recommending that Reid Threlkeld review and provide input into any necessary ordinance changes. When this review has been completed Councilwoman Chesser, Chairwoman of the License and Permits Committee, will call a meeting of her committee to discuss and bring a recommendation to the Council. This is for information only and requires no action by the Council tonight.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT –

Mr. Torrance presented a request from the United Way for the city to place two teams in the upcoming golf tournament to be held on May the 21st. The cost would be \$1000.00 Councilwoman Chesser made a motion to approve one team at \$500.00 and to take it from the Council's legislative budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Torrance presented a request from the Census Bureau to help spread the word on a pilot program that is internet based, and could help improve the response from citizens in the 2020 census. He informed the Council that the Census had a table set up at the Friday night street dance during the Festival to help get the word out. Councilwoman Chesser stated that she would help by spreading the web link on her face book page. The Council was in agreement to help in any possible way, but with an end of May deadline felt that not much could be done.

Mr. Torrance presented a request to purchase a new diesel Kubota mower at \$12,000.00. The Kubota was not the lowest priced mower, but the Street Department was adamant that the Kubota is far superior to the Hustler, which is \$2000.00 less. Mr. Torrance explained that the money was in the capital budget for 2015, but wanted to bring this request to the Council for approval. Councilman Frost made a motion to approve the purchase of the new Kubota at \$12,000.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.

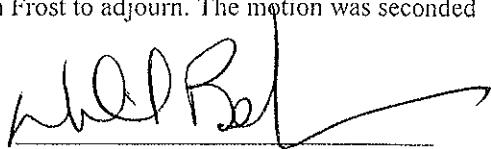
Mr. Turner made a request to close Poe Street in June for a block party for the children that is held every year. He did not have the actual date, but informed the Council that it would be before the next Council meeting so he was asking for their approval when he got the official date. The Council was in agreement to allow the closing.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn and enter executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Councilman Frost to adjourn from executive session and enter open session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

Being no further business a motion was made by Councilman Frost to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.


Ronnie A. Dixon, Mayor


William E Bedingfield, City Clerk

CITY OF VIDALIA
AFFIDAVIT AS TO OPEN MEETING LAW

The undersigned chair or presiding officer, under oath, certifies that a meeting of the Mayor and Council held on the date identified below being the date of this document, the Board closed its meeting as permitted by the Open Meetings Act of Georgia. The only matters considered or discussed during the closed portion or executive session of its meetings is as checked below:

Staff meetings held for investigative purposes under duties or responsibilities imposed by law.
[O.C.G.A. §50-14-3]

Meetings when discussing or deliberating upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring disciplinary action or dismissal or periodic evaluation or rating of a city official or an employee. (Note: The final vote if made is open to the public.)
[O.C.G.A. §50-14-3 (6)]

To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the City or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved;
[O.C.G.A. §50-14-2]

To discuss the future acquisition of real estate;
[O.C.G.A. §50-14-3 (4)]

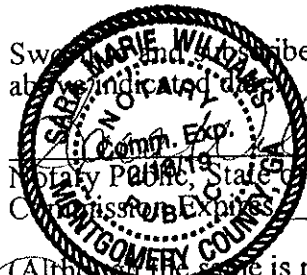
This the 11th day of May, 2015.

CITY OF VIDALIA

By: _____

Mayor or Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me on the _____ day of _____, 2015.

 _____
Notary Public, State of Georgia
Commission Expires 2/18/19

(Although this is not mandatory, the following participants concur with the accuracy of this Affidavit.)

Note: This form is to be used on all meetings of the City of Vidalia when four (4) or more council members are present.

Vidalia City Council Meeting

NAME	ADDRESS
Alexa Britton	Vidalia CVB
Melina Moore	City
Bill Welch	

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 8, 2015
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: RONNIE DIXON, RAYMOND TURNER, CECIL THOMPSON, BRIAN FROST, LISA CHESSER, AND EDDIE TYSON

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: BILL TORRANCE – CITY MANAGER, BILL BEDINGFIELD, FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK, MELISSA MOORE - ADMIN ASSISTANT, REID THRELKELD – CITY ATTORNEY, FRANK WAITS –VPD, ZACK FOWLER- VIDALIA COMMUNICATION, KATHY BRADFORD – ADVANCE, JEFF WEST – ESG, JAMES O’NEAL – ESG, BRIAN SIKES – FIRE CHIEF, TOMMY SASSER – RECREATION DIRECTOR

MAYOR DIXON BROUGHT THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00p.m.

THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY: REV. JAMES JOYCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS: - None

DVA: - Paula brought the Council up to date on activities of the DVA. She asked that the Council attend a Vietnam Certificate Ceremony at the Partin Park Calloway Center on June 22nd. The event will start at 6:00 p.m. Paula Toole introduced Jason Colbert, who discussed the upcoming Down Town Music Festival. He is requesting that the Council approve the same street closings as last year’s event, and stated that they will use only the new stage for their bands. The event will be on September 12, 2015. Councilwoman Chesser made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

VCVB – No Report

ONION FESTIVAL – No Report

TOOMBS MONTGOMERY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Bill Mitchell brought the Council up to date on activities of the Chamber. He stated that the new Leadership Toombs class was under way and included a great group of students.

FINANCIAL REPORT - BILL BEDINGFIELD - Mr. Bedingfield gave the financial report for the month of May. A motion was made by Councilman Thompson to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -A motion was made by Councilwoman Chesser to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2015 meeting. Councilman Turner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

AGENDA

1. **License and Permits Meeting 5/20/15** – Council Woman Chesser presented the results from the License and Permits Committee meeting held on May 20th. (See Attached Minutes) She stated that after the meeting, she, Bill Torrance and Bill Bedingfield followed up with City Attorney Reid Threlkeld and had Mr. Threlkeld make some changes to the ordinance. (See Attached Ordinance) The changes were then sent to Councilman Tyson and Councilman Turner for review. The Committee is recommending that the ordinance be adopted as presented, and that the new fee associated with it take effect in 2016. A motion was made by Councilman Tyson to approve the Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous. Councilwoman Chesser also explained that with the adoption of this new Ordinance the City would need to amend our current Ordinance by deleting Section 10-32 and 10-33. (See Attached) Councilman Turner made a motion to amend the Ordinance as requested. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

2. **Hotel/Motel Ordinance Amendment** – Mr. Torrance informed the Council that the City needed to amend Section 18-32 and 18-33 of the City's Ordinance to reflect the new Hotel/Motel tax rate of 8%. (See Attached) A motion was made by Councilman Frost to approve the amendments. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner. The vote was unanimous.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT –

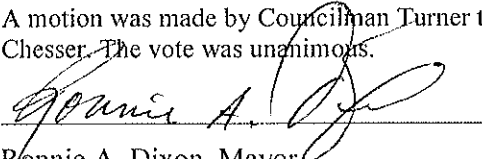
Mr. Torrance presented a request from New Vision Baptist Church to close Smith Street between 3rd Street and Rhodus Drive from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. on the 16th, 17th and 18th of June. This would be for the safety of children crossing the street during this 3 day event. A motion was made by Councilman Thompson to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frost. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Torrance informed the Council that the pump at the City Pool had failed, and that he is recommending that we replace the pump rather than have it re-built. The cost would be around \$9000.00 to replace the pump, strainer and corresponding fittings. He is also recommending that we have the old one re-built to have on hand as a spare. Mr. Torrance also presented a price from Southeast Centerline to have the parking lot at the Ed Smith Complex sealed and re-stripped. The cost of this project is \$14,657.44. Mr. Torrance also informed the Council that a water line on Hall Way between Aimwell and Waters Ave. is a 2" line that is right beneath the asphalt. There are six houses on Hall Way that are getting very hot water during the summer months because of the proximity of this line to the road surface. He is recommending that this line be replaced with a 6 in line. The total cost of this project would be \$39,858.22. Mr. Torrance stated that he felt all of these projects could be funded from the 2008-2014 SPLOST. A motion was made by Councilman Frost to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson. The vote was unanimous.

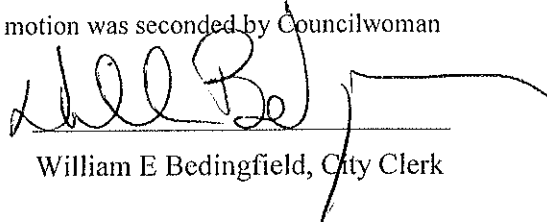
Mr. Torrance also reminded the Council of the Adams Street Ribbon Cutting on Wednesday at 10 a.m. and the Town Hall Meeting that will be held on June the 15th at the Smith Street Baptist Church at 6:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Chesser complimented those involved in the concert held on Saturday night. She also complimented Chief Waits on his Citizen Academy Program. She informed him that his officers were doing an excellent job in teaching the classes.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Chesser. The vote was unanimous.



Ronnie A. Dixon, Mayor



William E Bedingfield, City Clerk