MINUTES

The City of Blountstown, County of Calhoun, State of Florida, met in Special Session Monday, August 28, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. at the City Council Meeting Room. The following members of the City Council present were: Mayor Tony Shoemake, Councilman Clifford Jackson, Councilman James Griffin, Councilwoman Janie Boyd, and Councilwoman Sheila Blackburn.

Also present were: City Manager Traci Hall, Police Chief Mark Mallory, Public Works Director Jeremy Norris, and Fire Chief Ben Hall.

Also present were: April Bailey, Jim Castle, Sol Blount, and Jerrod Waldron.

Mayor Shoemake called the Budget Workshop to order at 5:00 P.M. Councilman Jackson led the Invocation. Mayor Shoemake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Hall discussed changes made to Budget Draft #1 as per the last Budget Workshop.

For the Electric Department two employees' salaries were discussed. City Manager adjusted salaries to match what had been done for a previous employee, as of October 1st the two individuals will be raised up to $17.19 an hour, and when they finish linemen school they will increase to $21.75 an hour and their positions will change from groundsmen to linemen.

For the Administrative Department, it was decided to increase Council salaries from $100 per month to $500 per month.

For the Police Department a $14k increase to Capital Outlay due to half of a patrol car budgeted in error, should have budgeted for a full patrol car, and off site back up equipment was removed.

For the Street Department, $200k was added for paving in 2018.

For Wastewater Department, $13,500 was added to install Scada at lift station #5.

After discussion, Council decided to remove the open position for Electric Department.

Council clarified all City new hires will receive budgeted raises on their 12 month anniversary, pending their evaluation.

Salaries of 3 employees on the Street Department were discussed. 2 of the employees were new hires. They were allotted a $1 per hour raise on their 12 month anniversary, pending their evaluations. The 3rd employee will receive a $1 raise as of October 1st, pending his evaluation. An Administrative Department employee salary was discussed as well. Council decided that person will receive $1 raise as of October 1st.

Two employees for the Police Department raises were changed. The first employee received a raise of $1000, the second employee received a raise of $1500, and it was discussed Chief Mallory was to decide his other employee raises.

After discussion, Council decided to adjust Police Officers starting salary to $31,118.00 to match DOC new hire salary.

Councilwoman Boyd expressed her concerns toward increasing Council salaries from $100 per month to $500 per month. After much discussion, Council decided to move forward with the increase $100 per month to $500 per month per Council Member.

After discussion, Council decided to adjust Street Capital Outlay and put $45k in this year's budget and the remainder in next year's budget for the New Catapillar 420F2 Backhoe Loader.

Mrs. Hall advised Council the City is pulling $142,383 from reserves prior to changes discussed tonight. The City is carrying over $127k for paving and $338k for Pear St Lift Station from 2017 budget and if those projects were not carried over the City would not be pulling from reserves.

Mrs. Hall reminded Council about the City Election on 08/29/2017.

Mrs. Hall asked Council what they would like to see on Mrs. Doris Traylor's plaque. Council discussed Mrs. Doris Traylor's plaque, no decision was made at that time.

There being no further business Councilman Griffin made the motion to adjourn. Councilman Blackburn seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mayor Shoemake adjourned the meeting at 6:07 P.M.

BY: Tony Shoemake
Tony Shoemake, Mayor

ATTEST: Traci S. Hall
Traci S. Hall, City Manager