MINUTES

The City of Blountstown, County of Calhoun, State of Florida, met in Regular Session Tuesday, December 12, 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 James Griffin, Councilwoman Janie Boyd, Councilman Clifford Jackson, and Councilwoman Sheila Blackburn.

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

Also present were: April Bailey, Mert Stephens, Trevor Burch, Patrick Bell, Doris Traylor, and Albert Yon.

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

Mrs. Hall presented to Council the Add-on bills Councilman Griffin made the motion to adopt the Agenda with the additions. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The first item was the approval of the November 14, 2017 Minutes. Councilman Griffin made a motion to approve Minutes, Councilwoman Boyd seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Monthly Bills and the Add-on List was presented for action. Councilman Griffin made the motion to pay the monthly bills and the add-on list. Councilwoman Boyd seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item of old business was the Capital Solutions Report. Mr. Patrick Bell provided Council with an update. Mr. Bell stated in January he has plans to schedule a meeting with Mrs. Hall, Mr. Burch, Senator Montford, Representative Beshears, and DEP to discuss the WWTF Effluent Disposal System Project for next plan of action.

Mr. Bell stated Mayor Shoemake had asked about internet in rural areas. Mr. Bell stated internet in rural areas is a hot topic and he expects to see something this session.

Mr. Bell thanked Councilwoman Boyd for her years of service to the City.

Next was the Engineer's Report. Trevor Burch provided an update for the Council. Mr. Burch stated he has good news regarding other possible parcels and people willing to work with Dewberry/Preble Rish on land for the WWTF Effluent Disposal System. Mr. Burch stated it would be beneficial to have the meeting with Mr. Bell and other attendees in reference to the WWTF Effluent Disposal project to get DEP's standing on the project. Mr. Burch stated he would like to schedule a workshop soon after the meeting with DEP on procedures to keep Council informed on the project.

Mr. Burch provided an update on the Finlay and Evans Waterline Replacement Project. Mr. Burch stated Finlay is finishing up and Evans Waterline Replacement Project is scheduled to begin soon.

Mr. Burch stated the Pennington Avenue project was funded and is slated for 2019. The money will start coming out in August 2018.

Mr. Burch provided Council with an update on the Pear Street Lift Station project.

Mr. Burch stated he should be able to send permits in the next week on the Pear Street Lift Station project.

Mr. Burch stated he has been in contact with The State Historic Preservation Office regarding the grant for the M & B train. Mr. Burch stated his contact told him the information regarding the grant will be available via email. Mr. Burch and Mrs. Hall have signed up to receive the information via email.

Mr. Burch provided Council an update on the Charlie Johns School Zone project. Mr. Burch stated he has given Mr. Norris information about signage DOT is recommending for school zone. Mr. Norris is waiting on a quote for recommended signage. Councilwoman Blackburn asked Mr. Burch if the Schools take part in any of the payment for the signage when adding a School Zone. Mr. Burch stated it is at the City's discretion to put the School Zone at the location. It is not at the Schools descretion. The City would be responsible. Mr. Burch stated it is going to be mutually beneficial for the City as well as the School. The City could discuss the School Zone signage with the School Board to see if there could be a split or funding/grants available for the School Board. Mayor Shoemake stated the City will get a price for the signage before proceeding. Mrs. Hall stated DOT has increased their standards at School Zones. The City is responsible and is reimbursed for the two current School Zones that are on State Highways. Mrs. Hall forwarded Mr. Norris the email stating the new requirements. Mr. Norris will look at the current School Zones, note what is needed and submit back by the end of the year. Mrs. Hall stated there is potentially funding available for some of those needed items.

The first item of new business was the Ordinance 2017-08 Temporary Moratorium on Medical Marijuana – 1st Reading. Attorney Carter read Ordinance 2017-08 Temporary Moratorium on Medical Marijuana. Councilwoman Boyd made a motion to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance 2017-08 Temporary Moratorium on Medical Marijuana. Councilman Jackson seconded motion. Motion passed.

Mayor Shoemake opened for public comment.

Doris Traylor on behalf of Keep Calhoun County Beautiful thanked Council for the beautiful plaque she was awarded during the last Council Meeting for her time and efforts as the Project Coordinator of the Magnolia Square Gazebo Complex for Keep Calhoun County Beautiful.

Mayor Shoemake closed public comment.

Mayor Shoemake opened the meeting for City Staff Reports.

City Attorney Jeff Carter had none.

Police Chief Mark Mallory provided Council with an update. Chief Mallory stated he and Mrs. Hall met with Phillip McMillian from Neal Land and Timber on November 28, 2017. Mr. McMillan stated he would proceed with the lease, but would like the City to maintain additional

insurance on the land. Chief Mallory stated Mr. McMillian has not produced an amount for the additional insurance or a lease, so at this time the Animal Shelter project is on hold.

Police Chief Mallory stated he and Attorney Carter are currently working on an agreement between the Blountstown Police Department and the Altha Police Department regarding animal control in the town of Altha. Attorney Carter stated the agreement is complete.

Fire Chief Hall provided the Council with a Code Enforcement update. Chief Hall stated Title searches on 3 locations are complete, 2 of the properties came back having liens for more than the value of the home. Chief Hall stated he would like to put a hold on these properties to speak with Attorney Carter and Council to see what steps need to be taken next.

Chief Hall stated he has spoken with Ms. Carrie Baker about the houses on River Street; all information needed was not presented to be able to demolish the houses. Chief Hall stated C.W. Roberts will be coming back to pave Chipola Road in January and when they come back they will be demolishing 6 or 7 of the houses and disposing of them. Chief Hall stated after January if the demolition has not taken place at that point he will start sending out hearing notices.

Chief Hall stated he would like to have a survey done on the Johnson Street property. Mrs. Hall stated she would look at City Hall to see if a survey for the Waste Water Treatment Plant property can be located and will ask Waste Water Personal to see if a survey is at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Chief Hall stated there is possibly a portable building on the City's property and would like for it to be moved.

Attorney Cater stated he and Chief Hall needed a vote from Council to release a lien on the Margrill property. The lien is satisfied. Councilwoman Boyd made a motion to release the lien on the Margrill property. Councilman Griffin seconded motion. Motion passed.

Public Works Director, Jeremy Norris provided Council with an update. Mr. Norris stated the Street Department will be working on the waterline on Charlie Johns and Evans Street this week.

Mr. Norris asked Council for a motion to sell old garbage truck on gov deals. After discussion Councilman Jackson made a motion to sell old garbage truck on gov deals. Councilman Griffin seconded motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Norris stated Gulf Coast Underground will be here lining 9 manholes in January.

Mrs. Hall provided Council with an update. Mrs. Hall stated she was contacted by Lore Ann Paloor. Ms. Paloor wanted to sell the City her property on Maple Ave. After discussion Council was not interested in purchasing the property on Maple Ave.

Mrs. Hall reminded Council the Ethics Training is due by December 31, 2017.

Mrs. Hall stated Auditors have begun City Audit today.

Mrs. Hall stated Gulf Power was supposed to start yesterday working on updating some of our lines. Gulf Power's contractor contacted the City and stated he will call back to let the City know when work would start on that project.

Mrs. Hall reminded Council the City Christmas Party is Friday December 15, 2017.

Mrs. Hall stated she was contacted by Jeff Billingsley about purchasing the City's corner lot also known as "Chicken Corner". After discussion Council was not interested in this offer at this time.

Mayor Shoemake opened for public comment.

Mr. Albert Yon thanked Council and Chief Mallory for their assistance with the Martin Luther King March in past years. Mr. Yon requested approval of the Martin Luther King March on Monday January 15, 2018 at 9:00 am. Councilman Jackson made a motion to approve the Martin Luther King March on Monday January 15, 2018 at 9:00 am. Councilwoman Boyd seconded motion. Motion passed.

Mayor Shoemake closed public comment.

Mayor Shoemake opened for Councilmember Comments.

Councilwoman Boyd commended the employees on the great job they are doing in the City and the Christmas lights in the City look great.

Councilman Griffin stated he would like Council to revisit the project to make an alternate exit from City Hall. Mayor Shoemake asked Attorney Carter how the City would go about challenging a survey. Attorney Carter stated the City would get another survey and the difference would be settled in court. After discussion Council decided Mrs. Hall will call her contact at Bay Ford to discuss options for an alternate exit from City Hall.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated she would like to see organizations within the City work together on projects within the City.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated she has spoken with Mrs. Hall as well as Benjamin Walden about a street lamp that has been paid for by Brenda Seays' family. The street lamp is currently in the City's barn, Councilwoman Blackburn stated she would like to see that street lamp put up in the City soon. After discussion Council decided the street lamp would be put in the parking lot between Bels Group and Helping Hands pending Bels Group owner Steve Bailey's written approval and an easement.

Councilman Jackson stated he would like the speed limit on Yates Street to be 20 miles per hour. After discussion Councilman Jackson made a motion to change speed limit on Yates Street to 20 miles per hour. Councilwoman Blackburn seconded motion. Motion passed.

Mayor Shoemake stated he appreciates the City crews decorating their trucks for the Christmas Parade and commended them on the Christmas decoration in the City.

Mrs. Doris Traylor stated she has met with the Class of 1985 for a placement of the bench and the weeping willow tree in Memory of Kelli Peacock Dunn.

There being no further business Councilman Griffin made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Boyd seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mayor Shoemake adjourned the meeting at 6:11 P.M.

BY: Tony Shoemake
Tony Shoemake, Mayor

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