MINUTES

The City of Blountstown, County of Calhoun, State of Florida, met in Regular Session Tuesday, July 11, 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, Councilman Clifford Jackson, Councilwoman Sheila Blackburn, and Councilwoman Janie Boyd.

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, Justin Ford, Lori Goodman, Dorcus Goodman, Vicki Montford, Deborah Sisic CHP, Mark Hicks CHP, Trevor Burch, James Grant, Ralph Yoder, Clifford Newsome, Tony Arrant, Danny Ryals, Gayle Dalati, Marjorie Peterson, Ronnie Williams Sr., Chelsea Cook Miss Calhoun County, Sarah Burk Teen Miss Forgotten Coast, Megan Hursh Teen Miss Blountstown, Samantha Schwendeman Teen Miss River City, and Monica Atkins Junior Miss Liberty County.

Mayor Shoemake called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. Councilman Jackson led the Invocation. Samantha Schwendeman Teen Miss River City led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Hall presented to Council the Add-on bills to be added to the Agenda. 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 June 13, 2017 Minutes. Councilman Griffin made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Jackson 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 Blackburn seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next item of old business was the Capital Solutions Report. Patrick Bell was unable to attend meeting. Mr. Bell provided Council with a written update.

Next was the Engineer's Report. Trevor Burch provided an update for the Council.

Dewberry/Preble-Rish received the preliminary report of the geotechnical testing for the WWTF Effluent Reuse System Site. After reviewing the preliminary report additional testing is being performed near "sandy ridge" area.

On the City paving project, Dewberry/Preble-Rish has been in contact with the contractor to changer order in paving Blount and Fifth Streets. The change order for paving Blount and Fifth Streets will fall into the additional amount added to budget. Dewberry/Preble-Rish will be finishing up with the contractor to get a change order completed and get the project in motion.

Mr. Burch provided an update on Finlay and Evans Waterline Replacement Project. Existing utilities are being located and planning with Public Works Director is underway.

There were no bids submitted for the M & B Train Restoration Project. Dewberry/Preble-Rish has asked the state for an extension on the project.

Mr. Burch provided a task order for surveying, design, and inspection for the Pear Street Lift Station project. Dewberry/Preble-Rish proposed new lift station, pumps, and equipment to

replace aged existing lift station. The new lift station will not be grant funded; it will funded by the City. It is in the City's budget.

For the first item of new business, Mrs. Vicki Montford, Mrs. Deborah Sisic CHP, and Mr. Mark Hicks CHP provided Council with options concerning Employee Health Insurance Renewal Rates. The rate has an approximate 7.65% increase over current rates. The renewal rates are in effect for the remainder of 2017 (October, November, and December) New rates will come out before year end that will be effective January 2018. At that time the City can accept those rates for the calendar year 2018 or go out for bid.

Councilman Griffin made a motion to renew Employee Health Insurance at the Renewal Rate. Councilwoman Boyd seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Next in new business was the approval of Task Order for Design of Pear Street Lift Station Project. The 1st step of this project is the Design Phase. Mrs. Hall asked Council to approve this task order and authorize staff to execute it. Councilman Jackson made a motion to approve the task order and authorize staff to execute it. Councilwoman Blackburn seconded motion. The motion passed.

The last order of new business is the City Website. Last month Mrs. Hall was asked by the Council to contact local vendors to see if anyone in the City area produced websites and hosted them with governmental experience designing websites. Mrs. Hall contacted Fastlane Computers in Blountstown to see if they provided such service or if they knew anyone locally that designs websites and hosted them with governmental experience. Fastlane Computers in Blountstown stated they did not provide this service and they did not know of anyone else in the local area that did. Mrs. Hall provided the Council with 2 options for the City's website. Option # 1 is a year to year contract/agreement. Option # 2 is a 3 year contract/agreement. Mrs. Hall asked the Council to approve GovOffice as the web designer and host for the City's website under option #2 and authorize staff to execute contract after review from the City Attorney. Councilman Jackson made a motion for the City to choose option # 1 the year to year contract/agreement. Councilwoman Blackburn seconded motion. The motion passes with 4 yay's and Councilman Griffin voting nay.

Mayor Shoemake opened for public comment.

Lori Goodman asked Council to approve House United Miniseries 5K Run Fundraiser on October 14th on the Greenway Bike Trail. Mayor Shoemake asked Ms. Goodman if she had spoken with Police Chief Mallory or Fire Chief Hall to make sure no other functions were being held that day. Ms. Goodman stated she had. No other functions were being held that specific day. Mayor Shoemake asked Ms. Goodman to bring documentation by City Hall stating current officers and members of organization. Councilman Jackson made a motion to approve House United Ministries 5K Run Fundraiser on October 14th on the Greenway Bike Trail. Councilwoman Boyd seconded motion. The motion passed

Next on public comment local queens Chelsea Cook Miss Calhoun County, Sarah Burk Teen Miss Forgotten Coast, Megan Hursh Teen Miss Blountstown, Samantha Schwendeman Teen Miss River City, and Monica Atkins Junior Miss Liberty County introduced themselves.

Mayor Shomake thanked the queens for coming and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Robin Hill thanked the Council for letting the local queens attend the City Council meeting.

Ms.Gayle Dalati stated she went to the Blountstown Police Department and received the policy and procedures manual and found things that she is not prepared to discuss at this time. Mrs. Dalati let the Council know she will be back at a later date to discuss the findings. However, she as a concerned citizen, Mrs. Dalati stated she will be going forward with issues that need to be addressed.

Mayor Shoemake ended public comment.

Mayor Shoemake opened the meeting for City Staff Reports. City Attorney Jeff Carter stated the City has received a motion for a summary judgment ruling in the Barbara Dawson case. When Attorney Carter receives written confirmation he will share with the City and the Council.

Attorney Carter received a response from FDOT stating the sidewalks on River Street are ADA compliant.

Attorney Carter is working with Public Works Director on an agreement for cutting down a tree for Saint Mary's Missionary Baptist Church as discussed in last meeting.

Audience member Gayle Dalati asked Attorney Carter if past policy and procedures are kept on file. Attorney Carter stated he did not know at this time, he would get that information by the next meeting.

Police Chief Mark Mallory provided Council with an update concerning the new animal shelter. Chief Mallory spoke with surveyor Frank Snowden. Mr. Snowden is working on getting the survey done for the new animal shelter. Chief Mallory spoke with Phillip McMillan concerning the 10 year lease of the location for the new animal shelter. Mr. McMillan stated there were no issues with the lease; he had not received anything from his attorney. Chief Mallory spoke with Michael Devuyst at the Calhoun County Health Department. Mr. Devuyst stated the new animal shelter will need a 900 gallon tank with 308 square feet of drainage. Chief Mallory then sent emails to get quotes from septic tank companies in Blountstown, Marianna, Tallahassee, and Panama City. Chief Mallory received two responses, one from Blountstown the other from Marianna. Both estimates were from $2250-$3000, from information and site given.

Councilwoman Sheila Blackburn asked Chief Mallory would the facilities be used for other things such as the firing range. Chief Mallory stated it would be accessible for the firing range to use. Audience member Gayle Dalati asked Chief Mallory if according to building codes the restroom at the new animal shelter would have to be handicap accessible. Mr. Grant the Building Inspector for the City stated he would have to look and study the new structure before he has a definite answer on the restroom at new animal shelter.

Chief Mallory asked the Council if the new animal shelter would require an architect for the new structure to be built. Mr. Grant the Building Inspector for the City stated if the structure is under $25,000.00 an architect or engineered plans would not be necessary. Councilwoman Blackburn asked Chief Mallory if there is any of the old animal shelter that could be salvaged

and used for the new shelter. Chief Mallory stated there is very little of the old structure that could be used for the new structure.

Fire Chief Ben Hall provided the Council with a Code Enforcement update.

Fire Chief Hall stated Napa Auto Parts is moving 2 cars a week and cleaning out the building at the same time to get this location clean and up to code.

Fire Chief Hall is receiving a text each week from Whit's Auto. He is moving 100 tires a week to get his location cleaned and up to code. Fire Chief Hall has also been in contact with Barnes Tire to confirm.

Fire Chief Hall and Building Inspector Mr. Grant are scheduling a meeting with Mr. Anders to discuss plans for the Ander's building soon.

Concerning the property on McClellan Ave, the home owner has discussed interest in donating the property to the City with Fire Chief Hall. Fire Chief Hall asked the Council if the City would entertain the idea of the home owner donating the property to the City. The Council asked Fire Chief Hall to get more information on the property.

Fire Chief Hall updated the Council on 8 locations in the City limits concerning couches, trash, and chairs in the City. Those locations are now clean.

Fire Chief Hall left a message with the property owner of the Car Wash next to Burger King, to get it cleaned and up to code.

Councilwoman Blackburn asked about Connelly's on North Pear Street. Fire Chief Hall stated he is stopping by this location regularly to ensure the property is clean and up to code.

Councilman Griffin made a motion for the City to have a bi-annual facilities report. The City Manager is responsible for City Hall; The Police Chief is responsible for the Police Department, The Public Works Director is responsible for the City Complex, and the Fire Chief is responsible for the Fire House. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Audience member Gayle Dalati asked Mayor Shoemake what citizens do if they have a mattress that they longer use or want. Mayor Shoemake stated the items must be stored until amnesty comes around or find someone who would like to have it. Fire Chief Hall stated the items must be out of plain view from the street side until amnesty in April or October.

Public Works Director, Jeremy Norris provided Council with an update.

Mr. Norris stated the new garbage truck will be here in 8 weeks. Mr. Norris stated he had a meeting with Dewberry/Preble-Rish and would like to schedule a workshop to explain I and I Wastewater Treatment Plant issues. The Council agreed to schedule a workshop.

Mr. Norris explained River Street has 2194 feet of sidewalk that needs to be replaced out of 3000 feet. The Council agreed to revisit River Street sidewalk replacement after River Street has been paved.

The Council agreed to have the workshop for the I and I Wastewater Treatment Plant issues on July 25, 2017 at 4:00 PM.

Mrs. Hall provided Council with an update.

Mrs. Hall asked Council for names to appoint a Canvassing Board for the City Election. The Council will need 3 individuals to serve, 2 participants and 1 alternate. The Council named Mrs. Arzella Smith and Mr. Bob Fleck to be the 2 participants and Police Chief Mark Mallory to be the alternate. Mrs. Hall Stated she would call the individuals and ask for their participation. Audience member Gayle Dalati asked if the Council would consider the Women's Business Club in Blountstown. Mrs. Hall stated she did not know such club existed in Blountstown. Mrs. Hall stated she would call Mrs. Arzella Smith and Mr. Bob Fleck, if that doesn't work out, Mrs. Hall will then contact the Women's Business Club of Blountstown. Audience member Gayle Dalati asked the Council if it would be a conflict for a City employee to participate in the City Election. Mrs. Hall stated Police Chief Mark Mallory would only be an alternate participant and there would not be any conflict. Police Chief's in the past have participated with no conflict. Mrs. Hall stated the City Election is open to the public.

Mrs. Hall was asked at the last Council meeting to get more information about online payments for City Utility Customers. Customers will incur a 3.5 percent fee to take payments online; also the customer would have to have customer information and create a User ID and Password. Mrs. Hall stated City Hall services a 3 mile radius. Customers can be helped on the phone as well. City Hall can take payments via the phone with a Credit Card/Debit Card.

Mrs. Hall informed the Council Shawn Pitts will be taking April Bailey's position as Clerk Typist, July 12, 2017 will be her first day and April Bailey has taken the Administrative Assistant position. There were no questions for City Manager.

Mayor Shoemake opened for Councilmember Comments

Councilwoman Boyd had none.

Councilman Griffin had none.

Councilwoman Sheila Blackburn thanked the School Board Members for attending the Council meeting. Councilwoman Blackburn stated she would like for the School Board and the City Council to work together on protecting our children at school by having a School Resource Officer at every school. The School Board has arranged for Mike Jones from Panama City on Thursday morning to tour the schools and give information on how to keep the schools safe. School Board Member Danny Ryals asked the Council to consider funding a School Resource Officer this year for Blountstown Elementary School.

Councilman Jackson had none.

Mayor Shoemake had none.

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 6:36 P.M.

BY: Tony Shoemake
Tony Shoemake, Mayor

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