MINUTES

The City of Blountstown, County of Calhoun, State of Florida, met in Regular Session Tuesday, October 10, 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, and Councilwoman Janie Boyd.

Absent was 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, Trevor Burch, Charlotte Faircloth, Chelsea Faircloth, Doris Traylor, Mert Stephens, Tony Arrant, Patrick Bell, and Arzella Smith.

Mayor Shoemake called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. Councilwoman Boyd led the Invocation. Mayor Shoemake 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. Councilwoman Boyd seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The first item was the approval of the September 9, 2017, September 11, 2017, and September 12, 2017 Minutes. Councilwoman Boyd stated, she noticed an error in the September 25, 2017 Minutes. The September 25, 2017 Minutes will be corrected and resubmitted in the November Meeting for approval. Councilman Griffin made a motion to approve all minutes with the exception of September 25, 2017 due to error. 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. Councilman Jackson seconded 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 he had several projects get vetoed by the Governor's Office. The Governor's Office will particularly be looking at projects with matches.

Mr. Bell stated Hurricane preparedness is a very hot topic right now, with the recent storms passing through the State of Florida. Mr. Bell stated if there is anything that went wrong or something that could help Blountstown in any way to let him know.

Mr. Bell stated a lot is being said about Utility Companies as far as Companies cutting their budgets for trimming trees.

Mr. Bell stated he is working with Mrs. Hall to get a grant funding request filled out and getting it submitted next week.

Next was the Engineer's Report. Trevor Burch provided an update for the Council. Mr. Burch stated he is working on the paperwork for the WWTF Effluent Disposal System Project and will have it ready to turn in by next week. Reporting from GeoTech has shown the land for the WWTF Effluent Disposal System Project is not as good as expected. Mr. Burch stated he is scheduling a meeting with DEP, Mrs. Hall, and himself to discuss the project.

Mr. Burch provided an update on the Finlay and Evans Waterline Replacement Project. Mr. Burch stated the Finlay Waterline Replacement Project is 85% complete. Plans for the Evans Waterline Replacement Project are underway.

Mr. Burch provided Council with an update on the Pear Street Lift Station project. Mr. Burch stated Dewberry/Preble-Rish have received the survey back from Surveyor, Frank Snowden it is being passed on to designing and engineering. Mr. Burch stated he anticipates a design for the Pear Street Lift Station Project within the next few months.

The first item of new business was the 2nd & Final Reading of Ordinance 2017-07- Internet Café' Moratorium. Attorney Carter read the Ordinance 2017-07 Internet Café' Moratorium by title only. Councilman Jackson made a motion to approve the 2nd & Final Reading of Ordinance 2017-07 Internet Café' Moratorium. Councilwoman Boyd seconded motion. Motion Passed.

Next in new business was the Approval of Resolution 2017-03- Adopting the City's Cafeteria Plan for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. Mrs. Hall presented Resolution 2017-03 to Council for approval. Councilwoman Boyd made a motion to adopt the City's Cafeteria Plan for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. Councilman Jackson seconded motion. Motion Passed.

Next in new business was Approval of Resolution 2017-04- Supporting the Construction of a New Sidewalk along River Street. Mrs. Hall presented Resolution 2017-04 to Council for approval. Councilman Jackson made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-04- Supporting the Construction of a New Sidewalk along River Street. Councilwoman Boyd seconded motion. Motion passed.

Mayor Shoemake opened for public comment.
There were no public comments.
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 on the new Animal Shelter. Chief Mallory stated the City does not have the lease agreement from the property owner at this time. Chief Mallory stated he spoke with Phillip McMillian. Mr. McMillian stated he would contact his attorney. Chief Mallory stated he has spoke with surveyor, Frank Snowden and the survey is not completed at this time. Chief Mallory stated he toured the Bay County Animal Shelter to get a few ideas and speak with personnel.

Fire Chief Hall provided the Council with a Code Enforcement update. Chief Hall stated there are 3 locations not making progress. Chief Hall stated he will be meeting with Attorney Jackson Summers before the next Council Meeting to schedule a hearing on those 3 locations.

Chief Hall stated he is working on completing Fire Inspections for business owners to be able to renew their business license with the City.

Public Works Director, Jeremy Norris provided Council with an update.
Mr. Norris stated the Street Department is currently working on picking up Amnesty items for residents during the month of October. The Street Department is also working on the Finlay Waterline Replacement Project. Mr. Norris stated the Street Department has taken 3 loads of Amnesty thus far.

Mrs. Hall provided Council with an update.
Mrs. Hall asked Council to determine a match amount to be included on the applications for the Effluent Discharge Project. After discussion, Councilman Jackson made a motion to put up $200,000 for a match on the Effluent Discharge Project. Councilwoman Boyd seconded motion. Motion passed.

Mrs. Hall provided Council with the information and step by step instructions on completing the Ethics Training if they were unable to attend in Marianna on October 6, 2017. Mrs. Hall stated the deadline for the Ethics Training is December 31, 2017.

Mrs. Hall stated The City has been notified Gulf Power wants to do work on their transmission lines. Gulf Power has spoken with Florida Public Utilities. Gulf Power wants to feed us off of the Altha substation lines through Florida Public Utilities. Florida Public Utilities has stated they can support the City of Blountstown's load. It ties in at Angle Street and Highway 71. The switch that was put in place there several years ago was only to service the Hospital, Nursing Home, and Grocery Store in the event of an emergency, it is minimal. The wire coming off of the tie in point is 4/0 aluminum for about 3 or 4 spans and then it goes to 4/0 copper. That aluminum wire cannot hold the load. Mrs. Hall stated she had to solicit the services of Power Services to help with this. The Electric Department supervisor stated he did not feel that it would work. Public Works Director, Jeremy Norris, Electric Supervisor. Sol Blount, Mr. RL Willoughby of Power Services and City Manager, Mrs. Traci Hall have been on conference calls with Gulf Power and Florida Public Utilities. Mr. RL told Gulf Power and Florida Public Utilities what the City would need in order for this to take place. The City would need 1.1 miles of new lines reconductored. Gulf Power's only other option is to bring in temporary transmission station. Gulf Power stated temporary transmission stations are expensive. The only expense to the City at this point is the services rendered from Power Services thus far. At this point in the project there are no dates set. Information is being gathered for Gulf Power to determine what is going to be the best choice for this project.

Mayor Shoemake opened for Councilmember Comments

Councilwoman Boyd had none.

Councilman Griffin had none.

Councilman Jackson had none.

Mayor Shoemake stated where the City was in terms of the road being built behind City Hall. Mrs. Hall stated the road will not be able to be built. Mayor Shoemake stated the City had a survey done on the property and as a result of the survey, the road will not be able to be built. Mayor Shoemake asked Attorney Carter if the City would be able to abandon the property. Attorney Carter stated the City has utilities on the property therefore; the property could not be abandoned by the City. Councilman Griffin expressed his concerns toward building the road behind City Hall. Mayor Shoemake stated at this point the project to build a road out the back of City Hall is a non issue due to the results of the survey.

Mayor Shoemake stated when the budget was completed there was a donation left out for Keep Calhoun County Beautiful. After discussion, Councilwoman Boyd made a motion to donate $1000 to Keep Calhoun County Beautiful. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Councilman Griffin expressed his concerns toward the new garbage truck not being used at this current time. Mrs. Hall stated the new garbage truck is not being used at this time because the City is waiting to obtain the documentation to get a tag for the new garbage truck.

Councilman Griffin expressed his concerns towards the Street Department working on quotes for man holes relining.

Mayor Shoemake stated he would like to see if a new internet provider would be interested in coming into the City to provide the citizens with better internet. Attorney Carter stated the City cannot advertise for internet companies to come into the City of Blountstown for residential use.

Councilman Griffin stated there are streets in the City with bushes and tree limbs hanging over them. Councilman Jackson stated the City was unable to obtain inmate crews for a few weeks to help maintain the bushes and tree limbs. Mayor Shoemake asked if the Electric Department would have time to help with trimming trees and bushes. Mr. Norris stated it depends on the day and how many work orders come in for the Electric Department. Mr. Norris stated some of the reason is the recent amount of rain we have received. Mrs. Stephens asked if anyone has noticed the weeds growing on the sidewalks in the City. Mayor Shoemake stated he called City Hall and a work order was placed. Mrs. Hall stated the City sprays weed killer on the sidewalk to take care of the weeds growing on the sidewalk in the City.

There being no further business Councilwoman Boyd made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mayor Shoemake adjourned the meeting at 5:50 P.M.

BY: Tony Shoemake
Tony Shoemake, Mayor

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