MINUTES

The City of Blountstown, County of Calhoun, State of Florida, met in Regular Session Tuesday, March 13, 2018 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 Mert Stephens.

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

Also present were: April Bailey, Trevor Burch, Doris Traylor, James Grant, Arzella Smith, Teresa Boyd and Patrick Bell.

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

Mrs. Hall presented to Council the Add-on bills and Ordinance 2018-01 in regards to the 911 addresses on homes in the City for the 1st reading to be added to the Agenda. Councilman Griffin made the motion to adopt the Agenda with the additions. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The first item was the approval of the February 13, 2018 Minutes. Councilman Griffin made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

There were no proclamations or awards.

The first item of old business was the Capital Solutions Report. Mrs. Hall stated Mr. Bell would be late so please skip and come back to the Capital Solutions Report.

Next was the Engineer's Report. Mr. Trevor Burch provided an update for the Council. Mr. Burch stated they are still looking for possible land for the WWTF Effluent Disposal System. Mr. Burch stated he should have more information for Council next month.

Mr. Burch provided Council an update on the City Paving Project. Mr. Burch stated they are still waiting for the waterline on the western end of Evans to be completed to start paving. Mr. Burch stated he anticipates that portion of the waterline job to be completed by the end of next week and paving can begin.

Mr. Burch provided Council an update on the Pear Street Lift Station. Mr. Burch stated the permit from DEP has been received. Plans were reviewed by staff, updates were made, and are ready for the final review by staff. The Pear Street Lift Station could possibly go out for bid next month.

Mr. Burch stated the State Historic Preservation Office has released information for the Small Matching Grant Program. The program will be opening April 1st through June. Mr. Burch

stated there will be a workshop this month for any changes for this year's program. Mr. Burch stated unless the Council advises otherwise the project will be to get the tracks fixed on the M & B Train through the grant.

Mr. Burch stated any waste water plant in the state that has any trace of Mercury found must have a Mercury Minimization Plan. Mr. Burch stated he has presented a copy of the plan to Council for approval. Councilman Jackson made a motion to approve the Mercury Minimization Plan. Councilwoman Stephens seconded motion. Motion Passed.

Mr. Burch stated SCOP Applications are due by the end of the month, but he plans to have them in by the end of the week.

The first item of new business was Ms. Teresa Boyd. Ms Boyd was absent.

Next in new business was Northwest Rural Area of Opportunity Memorandum Agreement. Mrs. Hall asked Council to authorize Mayor to execute the updated Northwest Rural Area of Opportunity Memorandum Agreement. Councilman Jackson made a motion for Mayor to execute the updated Northwest Rural Area of Opportunity Memorandum Agreement. Councilman Griffin seconded motion. Motion passed.

The next item of new business was the 1st reading of Ordinance 2018-01 The posting of 911 Street numbers in the City of Blountstown. Attorney Carter read Ordinance 2018-01 The posting of 911 Street numbers in the City of Blountstown. Councilman Griffin made a motion to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance 2018-01. Councilwoman Stephens seconded motion. Motion passed.

Mayor Shoemake opened for public comment.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Shoemake closed public comment.

Mayor Shoemake opened the meeting for City Staff Reports.

City Attorney Jeff Carter had no report.

Police Chief Mark Mallory provided Council with an update. Chief Mallory stated he has contacted Mr. McMillan from Neal Land and Timber regarding the new Animal Shelter location. Mr. McMillan and his lawyer have located the insurance policy they wanted. Chief Mallory stated he is now waiting to receive a copy of the insurance policy. Chief Mallory stated he has the survey for when it's time to annex the proposed property for the new Animal Shelter available if any Councilmember would like to see it.

Chief Mallory stated Captain Terry wrote a grant for the Police Department to receive funds for a new Mule (motorized vehicle). Chief Mallory stated the grant resulted in the Police Department receiving $16k for a new Mule. Chief Mallory asked Council for approval of the grant for a new Mule for the Police Department. Councilman Jackson made a motion to accept the grant for the new Mule for the Police Department. Councilwoman Stephens seconded motion. Motion passed.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated she as well as others in the community appreciated how proactive Blountstown Police Department has been with the new School Safety App. Chief Mallory stated the School Board has shown a tremendous amount of interest and effort. Chief Mallory stated the School Board is now having a weekly meeting on Safety in the Schools.

Chief Mallory stated he spent $2k out of the Police Department Building Maintence Budget to put in a portable holding cell at the Police Department. The Sherriff's Office is now requiring the Police Department to have a probable cause complaint in hand before the Police Department takes an inmate to the Sherriff's Office.

Councilwoman Stephens asked Chief Mallory if the School Resource Officer's have guns. Chief Mallory stated the School Resource Officer's do have guns.

Fire Chief Hall provided the Council with a Code Enforcement update. Chief Hall stated he would like to get the approval from Council to advertise bids to get two properties, the Bloodworth and the Porter properties cleaned to get both locations up to code. Councilwoman Blackburn asked if anyone has lived at either property. Chief Hall stated to his knowledge no one has lived at these properties for some time. Mayor Shoemake stated that is the next step in our normal process to advertise for bids, a motion is not necessary.

Councilman Griffin asked about the Pennington Ave property. Chief Hall stated he is working on the Pennington Ave property.

Public Works Director, Jeremy Norris provided Council with an update. Mr. Norris stated next month he will bring Council a quote on an Arrow Board. Mr. Norris stated an arrow board is required for working on State Roads. Mr. Norris stated the cheapest Arrow Board he found online is $3600.00 not including shipping. Mr. Norris stated he has a borrowed sign so work can be completed on Highway 20.

Mr. Norris stated he has someone coming to the City on Thursday to look at 3 manholes behind Burger King to make sure they are structurally sound and to see if lining is an option for those 3 manholes. Mr. Norris stated he will have more information on those manholes on Thursday.

Mr. Norris reminded Council April 1st will be the start of amnesty pickups.

Councilman Griffin stated he knew someone with 7 or 8 manholes for $1000.

Councilman Griffin asked what happened to the old garbage truck. Mr. Norris stated the old garbage truck will not fire. Mr. Norris stated the old garbage truck was towed to Shiver's

Diesel is Tallahassee to be fixed. Councilman Griffin stated Mr. Norris should inquire with Chad Clemons in the future.

Mayor Shoemake asked Mr. Norris what happened with the waterline on Gaskin St. Mr. Norris stated the company working for Southern Light hit the line. Mr. Norris stated there was a line located but it was not the correct line. Mr. Norris stated there was also a busted waterline at Benchmark Apartments at the same time.

Mrs. Hall provided Council with an update. Mrs. Hall stated she will relay to Senior Citizens the City will continue the donation allotted in the budget for them.

Mrs. Hall stated the transmission work scheduled for Gulf Power is complete. Mrs. Hall stated the City went to FPU on Wednesday and the work was completed on Saturday afternoon. Mrs. Hall stated everything went well.

Mrs. Hall stated she submitted no safety incidents for the Electric Department in 2017 to FMEA. Mrs. Hall stated the Electric Department will receive an award in the near future.

Mrs. Hall stated the City website is in programming and before leaving Chief Hall will be taking a photo of each Councilmember for the website.

Mrs. Hall stated she has not heard otherwise so the Super Council Meeting will be held on March 29th in the Heritage room at the Library, Mrs. Kristy Terry will send out notices soon.

Councilwoman Stephens asked if the City has the Christmas Tree ordered. Mrs. Hall stated the Christmas Tree is ordered along with two swags that hang across Highway 20 with a 40% discount.

Mayor Shoemake closed City Staff Reports.

Mayor Shoemake stated the Council will now go back to Old Business item A. Patrick Bell with Capital Solutions. Mr. Bell stated there have been a lot of issues going on during session. Mr. Bell stated the City did not get its water project funded. Mr. Bell stated there was $87 million in the Senate's water list and the House refused to pay it. The House did $25 million. From Lake City to Pensacola Florida, North Florida was cut deeply. Mr. Bell stated he has spoken with Senator Montford and he is deeply disappointed.

Mr. Bell stated he was contacted by Senator Montford over the Martin Luther King weekend and was told he had access for the funding of two Fire Stations and he asked Mr. Bell where he wanted them. Mr. Bell stated he wanted one of the funded Fire Stations to be in Blountstown. Mr. Bell stated in case of a School shooting incident the Fire Department as well as the Police Department will need to be the best they can be to address those problems. Mr. Bell stated we are going to greatly depend on these departments to save lives if an incident happens in our area. Mr. Bell stated he contacted Chief Hall and he wrote up the grant. Mr. Bell stated he expects it will be about 3 weeks before anything is completed on this grant it is waiting on the Governor's signature and he has not officially received it yet. Mayor Shoemake stated there will be a workshop to discuss this grant as well as other projects going on in the City soon.

Mayor Shoemake opened for Councilmember Comments.

Councilwoman Stephens stated Scott wanted her to mention the bench and the plaque for Mrs. Kelli Peacock Dunn have been received and they will need to place a slab in the designated area and they hope to have the dedication sometime in the Spring. Councilwoman Stephens stated she has noticed a lot of weeds around town as well as a utility pole leaning by the Courthouse. Mr. Norris stated he would have someone check out the leaning pole.

Councilman Griffin had none.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated if anyone missed the Chamber Banquet it was a good event. Kristy Terry and the Chamber did an outstanding job. It was a good thing for our City.

Councilman Jackson stated he has received noise complaint from a citizen about the firing range. Chief Mallory stated he had received a noise complaint from a citizen about the firing range. Chief Mallory stated the time referenced had nothing to do with the City of Blountstown. Chief Mallory stated what he explained to the citizen was the City has 5.83 acres used for the City, the other several hundreds of acres is leased to a gun/shooting club. The property is not in the City limits. The City has zero control over that area. Councilman Jackson stated this was the 1st complaint he has received about the firing range, he wanted to bring the complaint to the attention of the Council.

Mayor Shoemake stated the Council had discussed getting wifi at the parks in town and he would like to look into options for it.

Mayor Shoemake stated he feels the City has a litter problem. Mayor Shoemake asked if the City has an Ordinance for littering. Chief Mallory stated he did not know of an Ordinance like that, if an officer saw someone littering they could fine that person. Mayor Shoemake stated the City spends a lot of time picking up garbage and you could go back the next day and it is right back like it was. Councilwoman Blackburn asked if the City has "Do Not Litter" signs? Mayor Shoemake stated the City does not have any at this time, other than please do not litter.

Mayor Shoemake stated he would like to have a workshop to discuss different projects in the City and have a plan as far as what Blountstown could look like in 5 years.

Councilwoman Stephens stated she would like the City to have parking signs for citizens/visitors for Magnolia Square. Councilwoman Blackburn stated she feels there should be a better way to promote Magnolia Square. Councilwoman Blackburn stated we should have something on the board stating Magnolia Square can be rented/used for different occasions. Mayor Shoemake stated once we hear from the Governor the Council will set a workshop to discuss these items and more.

Mayor Shoemake asked if a sign could be put up on Charlie Johns near the bridge stating the bridge is not a pedestrian bridge.

Councilwoman Stephens asked if the holding pond behind the Dollar General is required to have a fence around it. Mr. Burch stated that information would be in the Land Development Code.

Audience member Ms. Teresa Boyd asked Council if the meetings still have Public Comment. Mayor Shoemake stated that portion of the meeting has past. Ms. Boyd stated she had something very important to speak with Council about. It was the consensus of the Council to let Ms. Boyd speak for 3 minutes. Ms. Boyd stated she wanted to discuss a mobile home on Azalea Drive. In 2016 the mobile home was approved for utilities to be there and now in 2018 the mobile home was not approved to have utilities connected. Ms. Boyd stated Mr. Grant the City Building Inspector has told her she needs a new telegram pole. Ms. Boyd stated she has asked Mrs. Hall how much it would cost her to have the City install a new telegram pole for her. Mrs. Hall stated the City does not offer that service. Ms. Boyd asked why were other leaning poles in the City not being replaced. Councilwoman Blackburn asked Ms. Boyd was her utilities disconnected for a certain period of time which require inspection before we could reconnect to it. Ms. Boyd stated yes they were. Councilwoman Blackburn stated then we have a rule in place stating that pole would have to be inspected. Ms. Boyd asked Council if they knew anyone that could put a telegram pole in the ground and then when it comes to digging you just send somebody out to start digging. Mrs. Hall stated before anyone starts digging they should call 811 Sunshine and they will send out utilities in your area to go and locate any utilities in that area and they will mark them. Ms. Boyd stated as of now all she can do is put a pole down and cement. Councilwoman Blackburn stated it is the responsibility of Ms. Boyd to call Sunshine 811. Mayor Shoemake stated there are people that set up mobile homes all the time and they would know someone to put a pole in or an attachment to a pole. Ms. Boyd stated because you all do not. Mayor Shoemake stated no ma'am that is not a service we offer.

There being no further business Councilman Griffin made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mayor Shoemake adjourned the meeting at 6:27 P.M.

BY: Tony Shoemake
Tony Shoemake, Mayor

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