MINUTES

The City of Blountstown, County of Calhoun, State of Florida, met in Regular Session Tuesday, April 10, 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, Arzella Smith, Tony Arrant and Patrick Bell.

Mayor Shoemake called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. Councilman Jackson led the Invocation. Councilwoman Stephens 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. Councilwoman Stephens seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The first item was the approval of the March 13, 2018 Minutes. Councilman Griffin made the 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. Mr. Bell provided Council with an update. Mr. Bell stated he is currently working on completing the paperwork for the new Fire Station.

Mr. Bell stated he had a meeting with the Secretary of the Department of Corrections and they are not planning on closing any prisons. Mr. Bell stated the prisons are having issues getting new applicants. Mr. Bell stated he met with Ralph Yoder, Superintendent of Schools in Calhoun County, Mr. Bell stated he and Mr. Yoder discussed Blountstown High School teaching a Corrections Class for Juniors and Seniors. Mr. Bell stated the Secretary of Corrections told him she would give each student who completes the Corrections Class a job at the Department of Corrections. Mr. Bell stated an individual cannot guard inmates or complete gun training until the age of 19 per state law. The Secretary stated she would put those individuals in front offices at the prisons in Calhoun, Liberty, and Gulf Counties. Mr. Bell stated if individuals come to the City looking for a job and nothing is available at that time, please suggest Department of Corrections. Mr. Bell stated he is going to the next Calhoun County School Board Meeting to propose Blountstown High School teaching a Corrections Class for Juniors and Seniors.

Next was the Engineer's Report. Mr. Trevor Burch provided an update for the Council. Mr. Burch stated last month Dewberry/Preble-Rich personnel rode through a proposed piece of property South of Blountstown to evaluate with a soil map and found a few areas were more favorable than the original map had shown. Mr. Burch stated he received an email just before the meeting stating a new map of the proposed property is finished. Mr. Burch stated he will review the map and present to Council and conversations with the land owners can begin next month.

Mr. Burch provided Council an update on the City Paving Project. Mr. Burch stated C.W. Roberts told him they would let him know when they are available for the City Paving Project. Mr. Burch stated they are working it back into their schedule to come out and finish Evans, Blount, and Fifth, as well as the change order on the Agenda tonight. Mr. Burch stated he will send Mrs. Hall an update for Council soon.

Mr. Burch provided Council an update on the Finlay and Evans Waterline Project. Mr. Burch stated the waterline replacement is nearly complete. Mr. Burch stated the end of Evans near State Road 71 should be completed soon. Mr. Burch stated he will need it to be cleared with DEP to do the taps and that project will be complete.

Mr. Burch provided Council an update on the Pear Street Lift Station. Mr. Burch stated the advertisement will be running in the newspaper for the next couple of weeks for the lift station rehab.

Councilman Griffin expressed his concerns toward the Sewer Plant Spray Field Project timeline. Mr. Burch stated the sewer plant is expensive and that is the issue. Mr. Burch stated they are doing everything they can to find the funds for the sewer project. Mr. Burch stated he has gotten an SRF Loan that will help pay for the land. Mr. Burch stated as they move forward with the sewer project it would be beneficial to have a workshop to keep Council up to date on the project as well as answer any questions about the project.

Mr. Burch stated the SCOP applications for Railroad and Azalea are submitted to be evaluated by DOT.

Mr. Burch stated the Minor Modification for the WWTP was approved by DEP.

Mr. Burch stated the Mercury Minimization Plans have been sent.

Mr. Burch stated the State Historic Preservation Office Grant window is open. Mr. Burch stated he will apply for the grant obtained last time for the repair of the tracks under the train.

The first item of new business was the Ordinance 2018-02 Rezoning Property located at 20143 NW Evans Street. (Mercer) 1st Reading. After discussion, Attorney Carter read Ordinance 2018-02 Rezoning Property located at 20143 NW Evans Street. Councilwoman Blackburn made a motion to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance 2018-02. Councilman Jackson seconded motion. Motion passed.

Next in new business was Chris Johnson of Carr, Riggs, & Ingram. He reviewed the findings of the City's Annual Financial Audit with the Council. Mr. Johnson advised the City has a clean audit in his opinion. Mr. Johnson stated of all the Counties and Cities they audit the City of Blountstown is financially and efficiently the best. Mr. Johnson stated the City is in budget.

Council had no questions.

Next in new business was Ordinance 2018-01 Posting of 911 Addresses 2nd and Final Reading. Councilman Jackson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-01. Councilwoman Stephens seconded motion. Motion passed.

Next in new business was Authorization to Execute Change Order for Paving Project. Councilman Griffin made a motion to authorize staff to Execute Change Order for Paving Project. Councilwoman Stephens seconded motion. Motion passed.

Next in new business was Authorization to Execute FDOT's Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019. Councilman Jackson made a motion to Authorize staff to Execute FDOT's Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019. Councilman Griffin seconded motion. Motion passed.

Next in new business was Authorization to Execute Mutual Aid Agreement with APPA (American Public Power Association). After discussion, Councilman Jackson made a motion to authorize the execution of Mutual Aid Agreement with APPA. Councilwoman Stephens seconded motion. Motion passed.

Next in new business was Approval of Policy for Installation of New Commercial Electric Service. After discussion, Councilman Griffin made a motion to approve the Policy for Installation of New Commercial Electric Service. 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 Mrs. Hall received a lease agreement this afternoon from Neal Land and Timber regarding the possible location of the new Animal Shelter. Chief Mallory stated after the lease is final he will get a written commitment from Neal Land and Timber for permission to annex in the surveyed part of the land into the City limits.

Chief Mallory stated he is seeking Council's approval to amend the current Blountstown Police Department Firearms Policy. Chief Mallory stated he is also seeking Council's approval to implement a Physical Abilities Test (PAT) annually for any active member of the BPD starting January 2019. After discussion, Councilman Griffin made a motion to approve a

Physical Abilities Test (PAT) annually for any active member of the BPD starting January 2019. Councilman Jackson seconded motion. Motion passed. Councilwoman Blackburn made a motion to approve Chief Mallory to amend the current BPD firearms policy. Councilwoman Stephens seconded motion. Motion passed.

Fire Chief Hall had no report.

Public Works Director, Jeremy Norris provided Council with an update. Mr. Norris stated he is waiting on one more quote, but the cheapest new Arrow Board he has found is $4k. Mr. Norris stated he could have it here in two days. After discussion, Councilwoman Stephens made a motion to approve the purchase of the Arrow Board in the amount of $4k. Councilman Griffin seconded motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Norris stated there are 13 manholes that need to be relined in the City and there are 6 manholes that need to be lined first. After discussion, Councilman Jackson made a motion to set a cap of $30k for the selected 13 manholes to be lined in the City. Councilwoman Stephens seconded motion. Motion passed.

Councilman Griffin stated he would like to see the roof at the Bay Ford building the City purchased recently checked for leaks as well as the gate at the City Complex fixed. Mr. Norris stated he would work on getting those items completed.

Mrs. Hall provided Council with an update. Mrs. Hall stated the Electric Department has received an award for a Perfect Safety Record in 2017 and the Restoring Community's Award for their efforts during Hurricane Erma from FMEA.

Mrs. Hall stated on April 20, 2018 Kyle Russell and Travis Smith will graduate from Lineman School.

Mrs. Hall stated on Saturday, April 21, 2018 the dedication ceremony for the bench and tree in memory of Kelli Peacock Dunn will be held at Magnolia Square at 10:00am.

Mrs. Hall reminded Council the Wild Flower Festival will be April 28, 2018.

Mayor Shoemake closed City Staff Reports.

Mayor Shoemake opened for Councilmember Comments.

Councilwoman Stephens stated she would like to see a sign pointing toward the Railroad Museum for the public. Councilwoman Stephens stated she would also like to see a public restroom in the City for public use.

Councilman Griffin stated he would like to see the Bay Ford Property around the back cleaned up.

Councilman Griffin stated he would like to see the new Police Department to have an office for the Highway Patrol because they will occasionally patrol the Schools in our area.

Councilman Griffin stated he would like to see City Hall rewired in the near future. After discussion, Mrs. Hall stated she would get quotes on the rewiring of City Hall.

Councilman Griffin stated he would like to see Water Street resurveyed.

Councilman Griffin stated at the last Council Meeting there was talk of combining the new Fire Station and the new Police Station and he does not agree with it.

Mayor Shoemake asked Council, Would they like to have another survey done on Water Street? After discussion, Councilwoman Blackburn made a motion to have another survey done on Water Street. Councilwoman Stephens seconded motion. Motion passed.

Councilwoman Blackburn had none.

Councilman Jackson stated he would like to see something done with the Water Tower on River Street. Councilman Jackson stated the Water Tower is an eye sore and individuals are cleaning up River Street. Mayor Shoemake asked Mrs. Hall to find out how much it would cost the City to have the Water Tower taken down and removed.

Mayor Shoemake stated he noticed the Electronic Sign belonging to the City has missing panels and he would like to see the sign back up to par. Chief Hall stated he would call the company and get someone to come check it out.

Mayor Shoemake stated he saw the Police Department running traffic on Charlie Johns Street today while School was getting out. Mayor Shoemake stated it was the first time he had saw them.

Mayor Shoemake asked, would the City need to adopt the State Litter Ordinance for the City. After discussion, Chief Mallory stated he would discuss with the City Attorney and bring it back to next month's meeting.

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 7:00 P.M.

BY: Tony Shoemake
Tony Shoemake, Mayor

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