

MINUTES
City of Whitesburg
Mayor and Council Meeting
February 01, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 50Booster Field Drive, Whitesburg, Georgia 30185

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Silence All Electronic Devices.
2. Ascertain Quorum.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Lucy Gamble, Councilmember William Smolar, Councilmember Kim Arnell, and Councilmember Mike Sprayberry: **ABSENT:** Mayor Amy Williford.

II. INVOCATION– Councilmember Mike Sprayberry

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Councilmember William Smolar

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED: Motion – Smolar, Second – Sprayberry. Vote: 3-0.

V. MINUTES APPROVALS

Mayor and Council Meeting – January 11, 2021

APPROVED: Motion – Smolar, Second – Arnell. Vote: 3-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**MINUTES TO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ARE NOT OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2 (e) (2) (c)**

Motion by Councilmember Smolar, second by Councilmember Gamble to amend the agenda to enter into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation and a personnel matter. VOTE: 3-0.

Clerk's Note: At this time, (6:07 p.m.) the Mayor and Council relocated to enter into Executive Session. During the Executive Session, an Affidavit was circulated and signed by each member of the Mayor and Council in attendance attesting that the items discussed (potential litigation and personnel matter) during Executive Session were pursuant to Georgia State Law (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2 (1) and (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2)).

Upon return to the Council Chambers at approximately (6:16 p.m.), Motion by Councilmember Smolar, second by Councilmember Sprayberry to enter back into open meeting session. VOTE: 3-0.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS/ISSUES

Mr. Viral Kumar Patel appeared before the Council to inquire about a business license and an alcoholic beverage license to open a liquor store/convenience store at property located at 658 Main Street.

Councilmember Smolar advised Mr. Patel that a building for a liquor store must be at least 3,000 sq. ft. and must be a free-standing building only. Therefore, a combination liquor store/convenience store would not be approved.

Mr. Patel then inquired about the possibility of a convenience store at the location. Councilmember Smolar advised that the location could be approved for a convenience store. However, the gas pumps currently located at the location would have to be inspected and certified. Mr. Patel stated that new gas pumps meeting EPA standards would be installed if his business license/alcoholic beverage license is approved. Water Superintendent Robert Gamble advised Mr. Patel that the City would need correspondence confirming that well pumps would not be required for the gas pumps at the location.

Councilmember Smolar advised Mr. Patel that if it was his intention to open a convenience store at the 658 Main Street location, he must complete a new business license/alcoholic beverage license application. Councilmember Smolar also advised Mr. Patel that a criminal background check would be conducted through GAPS system for approval of an alcoholic beverage license.

Mr. Patel then advised that he may be interested in purchasing the old carwash property on Main Street to build a liquor store.

VII. BUSINESS SESSION

1. Business License/Alcoholic Beverage Application – Bhaunath LLC

Clerk's Note: This agenda item was for discussion purposes only. (See previous Citizen Comments for additional details regarding the matter).

VIII. CITIZEN COMMENTS

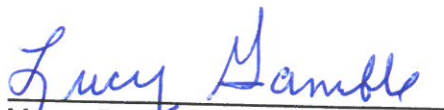
None.

IX. MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS


- Police Chief Thompson advised that after a license reader is installed, the new Police Department SUV will be in service.
- Superintendent Gamble advised that there was a six (6) inch water main break in January, which has happened for the fourth (4th) time.
- Councilmember Arnell inquired as to the status of hiring a new police officer. Chief Thompson advised that he has not received any applications for the position. Chief Thompson explained the requirements for the position, including information regarding P.O.S.T. certification.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Gamble advised that the Senior Citizens have discussed the possibility of having a drive-through Valentines Party.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.



Mayor Pro-Tem Lucy Gamble



ATTEST

The Agenda for each Mayor and Council Meeting is available for review in the City Clerk's office located at 60 Booster Field Drive, Whitesburg, GA 30185 and on the City's website at www.whitesburg-ga.com at least five (5) business days prior to a Mayor and Council Meeting. A summary of Agenda items acted upon is available within 48 hours of the meeting at the address and website listed above. Minutes to any previous meeting (once adopted) are available upon request or may be viewed on the City's website, www.whitesburg-ga.com. The City complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special assistance at a meeting, the City will try to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please call (770) 834-0848 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if special assistance is needed.