



CITY OF MORROW, GEORGIA

CITY OF MORROW COUNCIL LAKE CITY COUNCIL

Special Called Joint Meeting

July 21, 2015

Minutes

6:00 pm

Mayor JB Burke called the Special Called Joint Meeting of the Morrow City Council to order at 6:00 pm on July 21, 2015. The meeting took place in the Council Chambers of the Morrow Municipal Complex located at: 1500 Morrow Road, Morrow, GA, 30260.

Mayor JB Burke asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silent reflection.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor JB Burke asked **City Clerk Viet Tran** to call the roll.

City Clerk Viet Tran called the roll and those present were **Mayor JB Burke, Mayor Pro Tem Hang Tran, Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges, Councilman Larry Ferguson and Councilman Christopher Mills**. He stated there was a quorum present.

MEETING AGENDA:

Mayor JB Burke called for a motion to approve July 21, 2015 Meeting Agenda.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges made a motion, seconded by Councilman Christopher Mills. The motion passed unanimously.

City Manager Sylvia Redic and Attorney L'Erin Barnes asked **Lake City Mayor Willie Oswalt** call the Lake City Council meeting to order.

Mayor Oswalt stated "we're here on behalf of the City and we have two (2) questions need answers."

Attorney L'Erin Barnes explained that "since the advertisement was a Special Called Joint Meeting between Lake City and the City of Morrow, we must follow the public meeting procedure to avoid violating the Sunshine Law or we must cancel this meeting."

Mayor Oswalt agreed and called **Lake City Council** meeting to order. He stated "we don't do roll calls since we knew everyone is here."

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor JB Burke called for a motion to recess the Special Called Joint Meeting and to convene into the Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilman Larry Ferguson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Christopher Mills. The motion passed unanimously.

Attorney L'Erin Barnes asked **Mayor Oswalt** to call for a motion to convene **Lake City Council** into Executive Session.

Mayor Oswalt denied the request from **Attorney L'Erin Barnes** to convene **Lake City Council** into the Executive Session. He stated he had a discussion with **Attorney Steve Fincher** today and was advised that he won't go to the Executive Session without his City Attorney "We're here on behalf of the City and we don't go to the Executive Session. We have questions and need the answers".

Attorney L'Erin Barnes asked **Mayor JB Burke** to adjourn the Executive Session to allow **Lake City Mayor Oswalt** to present his questions.

Mayor JB Burke called for a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and to resume the Special Called Joint Meeting.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilman Larry Ferguson made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges. The motion passed unanimously.

The Executive Session was adjourned and the Special Called Joint Meeting was resumed at 6:18 pm.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS:

Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges concerned if the questions related to legal or personnel matter.

Attorney L'Erin Barnes explained that Mayor and Council can answer the questions that are not related to legal or personnel matter and any questions related to these concerns will be answered after the Executive Session.

Mayor Oswalt stated "we are here on behalf of the City and we had several meetings but we still don't have the answers". His first question was: "Will the City of Morrow E911 Service be merged to Clayton County E911 Service? If you do, we will go to plan B". His second question was: "Lake City



gave the City of Morrow our proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and need to have an answer YES or NO?"

Mayor JB Burke stated these questions related to personnel and legal matters. The answers will be given after the Executive Session.

Mayor Oswald stated "I am not a friend of the Executive Session and we were here to seek the answers on those two (2) questions and if we can't get the answers, we will leave."

Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges and **City Manager Sylvia Redic** explained that this is a complicated matter and we need collectively gathering the information since this matter related to personnel and amongst others issues.

Attorney L'Erin Barnes asked **Mayor Oswald** to give Morrow Council time to discuss and will give the answers.

Councilman Larry Ferguson stated he had three (3) meetings with Lake City members. The first meeting included Former Morrow Fire Chief Mark Hereenden, the second meeting included Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges and City Manager Sylvia Redic. After the second meeting, Lake City issued the City of Morrow an MOU. Morrow Mayor and Council did not agree to the MOU and did not respond. Later, Councilman Larry Ferguson informed City Manager Sylvia Redic he was planning to have dinner with Mayor Oswald. Following this meeting, Councilman Ferguson drafted an MOU counteroffer and presented this to Mayor and Councilmembers. No action was taken on the draft MOU.

Morrow Council requested to go to the Executive Session for discussion of the issues.

Mayor Oswald stated if the Morrow Council Executive Session last 30 minutes, he and his board will leave the meeting. He requested Morrow Council Executive Session for only 15 minutes.

RECONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor JB Burke called for a motion to recess the Special Joint Called Meeting and to reconvene into the Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges made a motion, seconded by Councilman Larry Ferguson. The motion passed unanimously.

The Special Called Meeting was recessed and Executive Session was convened at 6:35 pm.

Mayor JB Burke called for a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and to resume the Special Called Joint Meeting.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges made a motion, seconded by Councilman Christopher Mills. The motion passed unanimously.

The Executive Session was adjourned and the Special Called Joint Meeting was resumed at 6:56 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION ACTION ITEMS:

1. MOU from Lake City and Negotiation of a New Contract.

Mayor JB Burke called for a motion to deny the MOU from Lake City as the way it written and enter into the negotiation of a new contract with Lake City.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges made a motion, seconded by Councilman Christopher Mills. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Merging Morrow E911 Service with Clayton County E911 Service.

Mayor JB Burke called for a motion to enter into the negotiation with Clayton County to merge our E911 service with Clayton County E911 service.

Councilman Larry Ferguson stated the cost for maintaining City of Morrow E911 Center was very expensive and Department Leaders felt that the service from the Clayton County E911 Center would not suffer. In addition, the Clayton County has an excellent radio system and radio towers.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges made a motion, seconded by Councilman Christopher Mills. The motion passed unanimously.

Morrow Mayor and **City Council** also agreed to authorize **City Manager Sylvia Redic** to enter into the negotiation of a new contract with Lake City. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** will meet with **Lake City Manager Joel Lanken** to discuss and negotiate a new contract. She will present to Mayor and Council the result of the negotiation on July 28, 2015 Regular Council Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

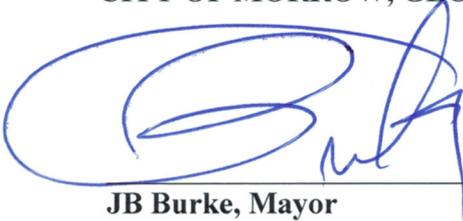
Mayor JB Burke called for a motion to adjourn the July 21, 2015 Special Called Joint Meeting.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilman Larry Ferguson made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Jeanell Bridges. The motion passed unanimously.

The Special Called Meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Approved this 28th day of July, 2015.

CITY OF MORROW, GEORGIA



JB Burke, Mayor

Attest



Viet Tran, City Clerk
Seal

