

J ALLEN COLLINS - Mayor
SHIRLEY MARCHMAN
RUSTY DEAN

City of Villa Rica

571 West Bankhead Highway
Villa Rica, Georgia 30180

Mayor Pro Tem – WOODY HOLLAND
VERLAND BEST
PATRICK HENRICKSON

LARRY WOOD
City Manager

BARBARA DANIELL
City Clerk

Minutes for Called Work Session June 21, 2011

The Mayor and Council of the City of Villa Rica will met on Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at 4:00p.m. in the Holt-Bishop Justice Center, Municipal Courtroom, 101 Main Street for a special called work session. There were 18 people in attendance. City Attorney David Mecklin was not present.

Mayor Collins called the meeting to order at 4pm.
Invocation was given by Marchman
Pledge of Allegiance

Items for Discussion – no vote

Mayor asked that Sewer Plant payment be added to this agenda. Holland made motion/Henrickson seconded – 5/0. Due to this being a called work session there was no need to a motion and item will be added at the bottom of the agenda.

Sunday Alcohol Referendum: Marchman stated that she was not for Sunday sales but did feel it was the right of the people to make that decision. The council and mayor would like to see the hours change from opening on Sunday at 12:30pm to 1:00pm. Best did question because the state put in the referendum, could we change. Dean explained that this was just their recommendation and it could be changed by decreasing the hours but you could not increase the hours. It was determined that the decision to place on the ballot should be voted on at the July Council Meeting and the hours could be adjusted should the ballot vote be a positive vote.

City Redistricting: Mayor Collins presented the new districts to the council and public in attendance and explained these are the Wards which were drawn up at the State off with the assistance of councilpersons Henrickson, Holland, Dean, Marchman and City Clerk Barbara Daniell along with City Attorney David Mecklin. Also that the reason for this redistricting was the census number which shows we have grown from 4,000 to 14,000 which the majority of that growth in one city ward. It was agreed that the alignment of the wards was not popular with mayor or council but they were based on the census blocks determined by the government.

The mayor called for comments from the citizens:

John Hannaback, 3106 Golfers Lane: His biggest concern was that the lines/map that was provided by the state is not clear and does not correspond the way the roads are running in the city. He would like to see a better map show streets as well as a map showing the census blocks.

Suzanne Zoda, stated she was completely confused because the way Shoreline is shown on the map and would like to see something that reflects Shoreline more accurately.

Pete Croft, 3011 Stillwater Drive, Agrees we need a better map because of the inaccuracy of the map provided by the state.

Mayor asked if we could not get a better map showing the ward line better and city manager stated he would ask for a better map. City will request maps by ward and one showing census blocks.

City will schedule another meeting for the public and their comments once we have received new maps, as well as have these maps available at city hall.

Take Home City Vehicles-Best stated that because of some of the concerns I wish to withdraw this item and continue with this at next budget year. Mayor asked city manager if he has plans to tweak this. Wood passed out estimate for the take home vehicles for council and mayors information. City manager is reviewing and checking to see if a vehicle was part of the employment package and once determined will check to see who those employees are that need, because of the job, to take home a vehicle.

Mayor believes if they are in a position of command and live a long way outside of the city, what is the cost, do you need to drive every day, maybe just when they are on call.

Wood explained some of the vehicles have equipment that is required for repairs or testing and therefore those can go to the site quickly and quickly resolve the problem. He will bring back suggestion at the July 5, 2011 council meeting.

Water Quality Improvement Plan Update – Wood gave a report to mayor and council. We test weekly for water quality. When we test most is iron being eroded from a pipe, ours or within the buildings/residents. If the problems is located within the home or business that would be the responsibility of the owner of building/home. We have already replaced line on Bolijour and have a 3-year plan in place to replace all the old low water pressure lines in the downtown area. Working on upgrading the old water plant. Mayor asked if we are still producing the water the same as we did in 1972, City Manager, yes, same equipment and same process. Our operators are doing an excellent job considering the equipment they have.

Phones at City Hall & Customer Service – The Mayor would like to see the phones at city hall answered by a receptionist and not use the automated system. He has received complaints that it is very confusing. Several council members stated we are in this century and we have to adjust and other felt it was confusing. City Manager Larry Wood said that for one week we will have all the phones go to a receptionist and see how this works and report back to the council on the results.

Speed Limit on Highway 61 – Mayor stated he had received a request from a constituent regarding speed limit along Highway 61. The speed limit up to North Avenue on Hwy 61 is 35 mph, as you pass North Avenue the speed goes to 45 mph starting in front of the hospital. This individual requested that the speed be reduced from 45 mph to 35 mph in front of the hospital.

Chief Mansour spoke with both the Mayor and City Manager and at their request started working on this request. Chief Mansour contacted Mike Long with GDOT and he stated there were procedures which took about 2 months to complete. First the Mayor would need to send a letter to GDOT requesting the speed be reduced from 45 mph to 35 mph starting at North Avenue on Highway 61 and extending 1000 ft past Punkintown Road. The next step would be GDOT doing a road survey. If 85% of the people driving in that section went 45 mph, there would have to be a better reason, than a resident request, but if 85% went 35 mph in that section they could go ahead and reduce the speed limit. The Mayor is working on the letter and will be forwarding to Chief Mansour to get this process going with hopes that within 60 days we can reduce the speed limit. Holland stated that a15 years ago he had request that on Hwy. 78 coming in from Temple the speed goes up quickly and wanted to

know if we could extend the 45 mph speed limit up to Martins. Chief said he did not want to go to Martins, but that he will look into this request.

Chief stated if we randomly change speed limit sign they could not run radar so the city must go through this process.

Budget 2011-2012 adoption of Minutes – Mayor had question regarding the minutes from the April and May Council meetings. At the April meeting the items added caused us to have an unbalance budget. A motion was made to increase revenues, was the adjustment made in revenues, Mayor stated at May meeting there was some misunderstanding as to what was amended, reserves or revenue. Is the budget we are operating under the one voted on in April where the motions was revenues and did we make the changes in the budget in revenues, or what was stated in the May meeting using adjustment to reserves. City Manager confirmed the adjustments to the budget were made in revenues as voted on in the April meeting. Mayor stated that the minutes from the May meeting will be corrected at the July council meeting to reflect correct information.

Sewer Plant Payment – Holland stated he had talked with the City Manager and learned that we are close to our 30 day limit, tomorrow being the 30th day to make payment of \$880,000. Henrickson said we should go ahead and make this payment, it is money owed. Mayor stated it is against his better judgment to pay this but it would behoove the city to go ahead and pay this amount and with the same passion that this council work to fight the change order.

Public Comments- there being no more public comments, Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn.

Adjourn – Marchman made motion to adjourn/seconded by Dean – 5/0 – motion carried. Adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

J Allen Collins – Mayor

ATTEST:

Barbara Daniell - City Clerk