

**CITY OF EUHARLEE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 6, 2018**

Mayor Steve Worthington called the meeting to order, followed by a prayer lead by Council Member Craig Guyton and then the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Clerk Carolyn Banks called the roll and the following were present: Mayor Steve Worthington, Council Members Craig Guyton, Tracy Queen, David Duncan, Joe Turner and City Manager James Stephens. City Attorney Boyd Pettit was not present.

**Approval of Minutes**

Council Member Craig Guyton motioned to approve the minutes for the City Council meeting 01.02.18 and City Council Work Session 01.18.18. Council Member David Duncan seconded the motion. The motion was carried with Council Members Guyton, Queen, Duncan, Turner and Mayor Worthington all voting in favor.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Resolution for Approval of Comprehensive Plan – James Stephens**

City Manager James Stephens stated the resolution is follow up to a motion that was passed by the council in November for the comprehensive plan. The council unanimously approved for it to be sent to the Department of Community Affairs for review and edits. There were no edits and this is basically logistics and they need to adopt the resolution to accept the final plan which has been approved by the state. Council Member Craig Guyton motioned to approve the resolution. Council Member Tracy Queen seconded the motion. The motion was carried with Council Members Guyton, Queen, Duncan, Turner and Mayor Worthington all voting in favor.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading 2018 Budget – Mayor Steve Worthington**

Mayor Steve Worthington said thank you to City Manager, James Stephens for the hard work he put in preparing the budget. James Stephens stated in follow up to the work session, he confirmed to the council he was able to work with the department heads to get from where they were on January 18<sup>th</sup> to comply with the instructions given by council to come up with a budget that would leave them operating expenses in the fund balance in 2018. He said, working with the department heads and Mrs. Banks as she continues to make yearend adjustments. He had modifications that brought them from a deficit of \$96,224.00 as of January 18<sup>th</sup> to a deficit of \$27,194.00. He stated they have a detailed sheet of the line items that made the difference from \$96,224.00 to \$27,194.00. The budgeted number, which is a tight budget, is workable. We don't know what the future holds but it is workable and extremely tight. It will leave them with 4.06 months of annual operational expenditures in their fund balance for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading. It is based on no millage rate, no employee raises and no staff reductions. The revenue is not as conservative as he submitted last year. He believes it is pretty accurate because it is later in the year. It's almost like having a partial open book test. He knows exactly what the accruals are because the city clerk has finished at this point. Some of the revenue numbers actually increased as projected in the January 18<sup>th</sup> budget discussion. He doesn't believe it's infeasible because it is like an open book test. Based on that, the ordinance general fund revenue appropriated of fund balance and expenditures is

\$1,808,494.00, SPLOST- \$615,000.00, Police Department Special budget - \$7,100.00 and Municipal Court Info Fund - \$16,824.00 as the 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

As you all know, we have a public hearing advertised for next Tuesday required by state code. He will contact council to confirm the time. The 2<sup>nd</sup> reading is scheduled for February 20, 2018. If it pleases the Mayor, rather than having a work session have a special called meeting.

Council Member Craig Guyton said, if they do that they can still discuss things like in a work session.

Mr. Stephens said, if you get home and go over the list and have questions, we can modify and make changes and it does not slow thing down. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading can still be accomplished by February 20<sup>th</sup> even if there are changes you want to make based on information from the public hearing or from more details from each of you.

Council Member Guyton said, by law we are required to have 3 public hearings and this constitutes 1 of them.

Mr. Stephens stated, this reading which was advertised by law, had to be advertised 7 days prior to this reading and the public hearing and 2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading have all been advertised. He said, you are not required by state code to be there for the public hearing. He stated, Council Members Guyton and Turner, himself and the city clerk were the one's present last year and no one from the community showed up.

Council Member David Duncan asked can more than 2 council members be there and Mr. Stephens stated it is a legal meeting.

Mayor Worthington stated, the 1<sup>st</sup> reading does not require a vote. He said, thank you again to Mr. Stephens for his hard work to get them this far.

Mr. Stephens said he would like to compliment city staff and their attitudes to remain positive and for council support and guidance. He said to Neil McGahee, news reporter, this budget does not include any changes in the operation of Joe Cowan Park relating to outsourcing in any fashion. The budget does constitute the City of Euharlee operation. He said, he would follow up with him if he has any questions because he knew of talk throughout the year of possible changes.

Mayor Worthington said they knew it was going to be tough going in.

Council Member Craig Guyton motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Tracy Queen seconded the motion. The motion was carried with Council Members Guyton, Queen, Duncan, Turner and Mayor Worthington all voting in favor.

With no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.