

**CITY OF EUHARLEE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 6, 2017**

Mayor Dennis Thayer called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Clerk Carolyn Banks called the roll and the following were present: Mayor Dennis Thayer, Council Members Craig Guyton, Ronald Nesbitt, David Duncan, Joe Turner, City Manager James Stephens and City Attorney Boyd Pettit were present.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member David Duncan motioned to approve the minutes for the City Council Meeting 05.02.17 and City Council Work Session 05.16.17. Council Member Joe Turner seconded the motion. The motion was carried with Council Members Guyton, Nesbitt, Duncan, Turner and Mayor Thayer all voting in favor.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Amend Agenda

Council Member Joe Turner motioned to amend the agenda to add item # 3 Joe Cowan Park to new business. Council Member Ronald Nesbitt seconded the motion. The motion was carried with Council Members Guyton, Nesbitt, Duncan, Turner and Mayor Thayer all voting in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual POW WOW Event – Janell Wilder

Janell Wilder represented Native Heart, Inc. and requested to use Frankie Harris Park to have their annual POW WOW event on October 5 – 8, 2017. Mayor Thayer asked if they were meeting all the stipulations with using the property having insurance and 501© (3) status. Mrs. Wilder replied yes. Council Member David Duncan said, due to his association with the event he abstained from voting. Council Member Joe Turner motioned to allow Native Heart, Inc. to utilize Frankie Harris Park on October 5 – 8, 2017. Council Member Craig Guyton seconded the motion. The motion was carried with Council Members Guyton, Nesbitt, Turner and Mayor Thayer voting in favor 4 -1. Council Member David Duncan abstained from voting.

Euharlee 2020 SPLOST Committee – Mayor Dennis Thayer

Mayor Dennis Thayer brought to council's attention they have been approached by the county to prepare for the next vote. The county is planning to vote next year for the SPLOST 2020. They will be having a meeting on August 19, 2017 with the Mayors to discuss, by law, before the intergovernmental agreement. Right now, the projection is at 160 million dollars from 2018 – 2025. The 2018 is a misprint and it should be 2020. Mayor Thayer stated, the city of Euharlee will get a 4.13% which is projected using the same census which was done the last time. He is very confident the census is up a little bit from 2010. We don't have another census to use and will probably have to go with 2010. He said, one of the things council will need to start working on is the list of items would be. Our projected revenue over the period will be about 5.4 million dollars. One of the suggestions the county has and he definitely

agreed, is instead of specific projects we put a percentage of our SPLOST of where the money would go. Instead of specific projects. We have committed some to go to sewer, some would be infrastructure upgrades but we might want to do be road ways, facilities and not tie ourselves down to specific projects like intersection or something like that. He said, like they do at Cobb and we are very tied for it because by the time you start getting your money 3 or 4 years down the road you never know what you need the worst. He said, we need to start discussing over the next few months what our projects might be, what the percentages for the things we want it to go towards, like the projection of our cost of the sewer, and obviously for us have to come off the top because we know we are going to do that. After the August meeting he said he will be able to answer questions. Hopefully they will have the intergovernmental agreement before the end of the year and have our projects and percentages in line before then.

Joe Cowan Park – Mayor Dennis Thayer

Mayor Dennis Thayer said he wanted to bring this up, not to discuss it tonight but would like to put on the agenda for next work session. As we start preparing for 2018 budget, one thing we need to look at that we have talked about previously is that we have a deficit in income every year and proceeds to not equal what is going out. Fortunately we have had a fund balance to support it the last few years. We know the fund balance will only support another 2 years past this year if everything stays like it is. Revenues are up by 8% right now which is good. Bringing us back closer as it was before the downturn of the economy. However, one of the things we need to look at is Joe Cowan Park. It's been up and operating for almost 4 years now. Like anything it takes a little while to work out the bugs to get it to work to where you want it to be. We have definitely had our ups and downs with staffing. I think we are in good place with staffing and it is where it needs to be. We finally got that worked out. However, Joe Cowan Park is costing the city, after proceeds, about \$170,000.00 a year. The ability for the residence to use the park does not equal that. The biggest benefactor of the park is obviously, travel teams are most of them are outside of Euharlee. He does not know and struggles with the fact that we are utilizing our tax funds to benefit outside organizations as we are. He was not he was not here when the park was originally planned but thinks the park is being used as originally plan was established. He does not know if it is being done exactly like it was but we need to discuss that, new options and if we want to continue down the road of what we are doing now or recreation sports or something completely outside the box. I personally am struggling spending the kind of money we are, taxpayers money and not getting the benefits for residents. The city residents are not getting the benefits for that park. In his opinion they are not getting the bang for the buck. He wanted to bring to bring it out and give everybody time to think about it, digest it and put some time and thought into it and put it on for the next meeting and discuss it in great detail. We don't have to come up with any answers by tomorrow by any means but it is something to discuss before we start getting serious in our budget and preparation for next year.

Council Member David Duncan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm. Council Member Craig Guyton seconded the motion. Council Members Guyton, Nesbitt, Duncan, Turner and Mayor Thayer all voted in favor.

With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned.