

**City Of Bowman
Monthly Council Meeting
March 25th, 2024
Minutes**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor, Scott Harpold

Council Woman Mary Clark

Council Member Jeff Spratin

Council Member, Henrietta Williams

Council Member, Leah Carey

Council Member, Betty Jo Maxwell

ATTORNEY PRESENT:

Douglas Kidd, Attorney

MEDIA PRESENT

Mark Berryman, 105.3 Radio station

Rose Scoggins, Elberton Star

STAFF PRESENT:

Assistant City Clerk, Savannah Ivester

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. A prayer was said by Council Woman Mary Clark. The Pledge of Allegiance was said after our prayer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (O.C.G.A 50-14-1(e) (2))

Mayor Harpold asked for a motion to approve the February 26th council meeting minutes *and the March 4th call meeting minutes.*

Council Woman Mary Clark stated that she did not have enough time to review the minutes.

Mayor Harpold stated we will post-pone the approval of the minutes until the next council meeting.

AMMENDING OF AGENDA:

Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell made a motion to amend the agenda to vote on the Mayor Pro-tem position. Council Woman Mary Clark seconded the motion. Councilman Jeff Spratin expressed concerns regarding the recall going on, we should table it. Council Woman Mary

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Clark stated that even though the outcome of the recall is unknown, all we would have to do is vote again.

Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell made a motion to nominate Council Woman Leah Carey as Mayor Pro-tem. Council Woman Mary Clark seconded. Mayor Harpold called a roll vote.

Council Women Betty Jo Maxwell and Mary Clark voted yes. Councilman Jeff Spratlin voted no. Council Woman Henrietta Williams abstained *but changed to vote no*. Council Woman Leah Carey voted for herself. Motion carried for Council Woman Leah Carey to be Mayor Pro Tem.

CITY CLERK POSITION:

Mayor Harpold asked for a motion to amend the agenda to vote for the city clerk position. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made the motion. Council Woman Henrietta Williams second. Motion carried.

Mayor Harpold appointed Tiffany Verdell as the City Clerk. Mayor Harpold asked for a motion to hire her as the city clerk. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made the motion. Council Woman Henrietta seconded. A roll call vote was made. Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell voted against; Council Woman Mary Clark voted yes. *Councilman Jeff Spratlin voted yes. Council Woman Henrietta Williams vote yes.* Council Woman Leah Carey did not vote. Motion carried.

SOLAR PANEL ORDINANCE:

SPEAKER - *Hard to piece together due to do so much noise around recorder* *the speaker had trouble with how the ordinance was being worded word for word from the county ordinance.*

Mayor Harpold stated that this will be on hold until the ordinances can be re-typed and be discussed as a council.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

Mayor Scott Harpold asked for a motion to approve "Bureau Veritas" as our building and permit inspector. Council Woman Mary Clark made the motion. Council Woman Henrietta Williams seconded. Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell opposed. Motion carried.

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MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor Harpold stated he is working to get a few other estimates to do the city road work. Mayor Harpold also gave the update that there are two additional beer and wine applications that are not completed yet. Council Woman Mary Clark asked if we are sure that we have what is needed to repair the most severely damaged streets first before we work on the park road. Mayor Harpold stated that is it different. The LMIG is a specific grant for the road park since we have to spend that soon as possible. The T-SPLOST will be for the road repairs. He also stated that the DOT has a grant called "the raise grant" and once we get in compliance that may can help to pave over the repair jobs we will do with the T-SPLOST money.

ATTORNEYS REPORT:

No report.

TAMMY DALTON:

Tammy Dalton stated that there is a gentleman that is wanting to put up a granite memorial in honor of Mecole Hardman winning the super bowl. She stated that the goal is to have an unveiling in June. Mayor Harpold asked for a motion to approve this. Council Woman Henrietta Williams made the motion. Councilman Jeff Spratlin seconded. Motion carried.

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT:

Council Woman Leah Carey - nothing

Council Woman Henrietta Williams reported that the community clothes closet will be open on the second and fourth Friday each month from 10:30am-1:00pm at the community center. Mrs. Williams also stated that the city is still continuing to sell bricks for the veteran's walkway for \$50.00 each. *Mrs. Williams stated that the community center was for rent and application for the Bowman Spring Festival was available.*

Council Woman Mary Clark - nothing

Jeff Spratlin gave an update that the ballpark is being used now by a softball team, bathrooms are cleaned up and water is cut back on.

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Council Woman Betty Jo Maxwell stated that she expressed that she would like to dedicate the street name that Mecole Hardman used to live on in honor of him. Mrs. Maxwell also stated that she wanted to clean up the cemetery, as well as gather a fundraiser to get some of the monuments cleaned up.

GAS DEPARTMENT PURCHASE:

Councilman Jeff Spratlin reported on behalf of the public works department on the purchasing of a fusion machine and the tooling to go with it. From a cost standpoint, it would be \$10,166.00 was the total cost. Mr. Spratlin stated that this cost can be added into the gas loan that the council had previously approved.

Mayor Harpold asked for a motion to purchase this equipment. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made the motion. Council Woman Henrietta Williams seconded. Motion passed.

HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REPORT:

Tammy Dalton reported that the average daily censuses for the month of February was 14.7 patients. Average length of stay of seven days. Emergency room visits decreased to 580 in February 2024 from 745 visits in February 2023. Gross patient revenue of 2,941,670 in February 2024 versus 2,846,660.00.

Mrs. Dalton also stated that there will be holding a Duck Derby on May 4th, \$5 for 1 duck, 5 ducks for \$20 or a flock of ducks for \$35. First place: \$500, second place: \$250, third place: \$150.

SPEAKERS:

David Harper: Spoke on updates regarding the Bowman Recourse Center.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Scott Harpold asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Jeff Spratlin made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Woman Mary Clark seconded. Motion carried. Meeting Adjourned.