

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017
7:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Bridges at 7:00pm.

Members present were Mayor Robert Bridges, Council Members Gayle Steed, Perry Barton, David Huth, Hattie Thrasher and Betty Lyle. Also in attendance was City Administrator, Michelle Irizarry, City Clerk, Mai Chang, City Attorney, Thomas Mitchell, Public Works Director, Sam Powell. Media was represented by Ron Bridgeman of the Barrow Journal.

Mayor Bridges presented Gayle Steed and David Huth with a plaques of appreciation for their services as Council Members and a Center of Town Monument brick each in honor of their names.

Mayor Bridges asked Betty Lyle to give a report on the Sunflower Festival committee fund giveaway. Betty stated they were shocked. They had 90 boxes of food that was given away on Saturday morning and they sent about that much to the Church to the Food Bank. Also out of the Christmas fund, which they are combining with the Sunflower Festival fund. They shopped for 83 children and they each got 4 real nice toys. They tried to use the money made and give back to the community.

Questions and comments were made from the audience regarding the food and toy giveaways.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Council Meeting, November 21, 2017

Betty Lyle made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2017 Council meeting as written. Gayle Steed seconded the motion, unanimous.

3. PUBLIC HEARING:

A. Subeh Business , LLC; Alcohol License Application

Mayor Bridges asked if anybody wants to talk about it. Kendra Sexton gave out information to Mayor and Councils regarding how to support not issuing an alcohol license for the Subeh Business. She stated she is not against new business coming in but she is against the alcohol sales going in there only. Kendra pointed out the sections on how far the store should be located from residential, church buildings and schools. She also pointed out how the distance should be measured according to Barrow County Municode , “Section 6-55: General regulations pertaining to all licensees” and also by Georgia Law. She stated that the new owner is in violation on the residential and educational distance and is not near 1000 feet from the school.

City Attorney, Thomas Mitchell stated that the distance requirement with the City’s code is similar to Barrow County’s. Thomas stated the City’s code distance requirement is 100 yards which is 300 feet from schools and is measured by the direct route of travel and not by a straight line measurement.

Mayor Bridges stated it will be postponed.

Public hearing was opened at 7:06pm and closed at 7:23pm.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Subeh Business , LLC; Alcohol License Application

David Huth made motion to table this item. Hattie Thrasher seconded the motion, unanimous.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Statham Oaks Storage

City Attorney, Thomas Mitchell stated as discussed on Thursday night, city required a Special Use Permit (SUP) for outdoor storage. He had a conversation with Mr. Hampton and apparently he has had a conversation with Mr. Randy Gordon and Mr. Gordon does not seem to recall the SUP requirements and does not recall seeing it. Thomas has had three conversations with Mr. Gordon. Mr. Hampton indicated he was going to turn this matter over to his attorney but Thomas has not heard from his attorney yet.

Mr. Hampton gave out documents to Mayor and Councils which contained the SUP adopted in 2012 and the Council meeting minutes from May 20, 2014. He stated the SUP does not apply to them. If a SUP was required then it should have been brought up to them then.

Thomas made recommendation to review it next month and review that SUP. No action was made.

B. Applications of Tenants- Old PD Building

City Clerk, Mai Chang called out the names of the three applicants. Mayor Bridges asked if any wanted to talk.

Nicole Green spoke that Chad and herself would like to open up a Coffee Shop that opens up at 5:30am with a drive thru window to get coffee and awesome breakfast and some very good sandwiches. They would like the opportunity to expand.

Eddie Nelson explained how their BBQ place started down in Florida and then came to Georgia and their business is basically based on families. What they want to bring into Statham is the good smoking in the air with some chopped pork ribs, smoked turkeys, collard greens, mac n cheese, french fries and etc. They love feeding people and giving back to the community. They've already gave back \$50,000 to the community. He also explained their business operation is Thursday thru Sunday and close on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Hattie Thrasher made motion to accept Eddie's BBQ. Betty Lyle seconded the motion, unanimous.

6. CITIZENS CONCERN:

A. Muhammad Shahabuddin: The new business coming into the old Piggy Wiggly store (**Absent**)

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

David Huth made motion to go into Executive Session at 7:36 pm. Hattie Thrasher seconded the motion, unanimous.

David Huth made motion to go out of Executive Session at 7:38 pm. Hattie Thrasher seconded the motion, unanimous.

8. ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the Council, David Huth made a motion to adjourn. Hattie Thrasher seconded the motion, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.