

# CITY OF STATHAM

## MINUTES

Statham City Hall

327 Jefferson Street, Statham, GA 30666



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**WORK SESSION – September 7, 2023**

**6:30 P.M.**

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**CALL TO ORDER-** Mayor Piper called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call- Present was Mayor Piper and Council Members Venable, Penn, Patterson, and Thrasher.

Also present was Rachel Bembry, JAT Accounting and Joe Davis, Deputy City Clerk.

Absent was Jody Campbell, City Attorney.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Mayor Piper led the pledge of allegiance and thanked all veterans and their families.

**Swear in Christine Bogenrieder as New Council Member** - Mayor Piper shared that since Christine Bogenrieder was the only candidate that qualified to fill the City Council seat vacated by Debi Krause, she automatically becomes a new Council member and the special election scheduled for November has been cancelled. Joe Davis, Deputy City Clerk, swore in Christine Bogenrieder using the oath from Section 3.08 of the City Charter.

## WORK SESSION

### MINUTE APPROVAL

1. August 15, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes (Provided to Council August 17, 2023)
2. August 24, 2023, Special Called Meeting Minutes (Provided to Council August 28, 2023) Motion to approve both sets of minutes was given by Councilmember Penn and seconded by Councilmember Bogenrieder and was unanimously approved.

### REPORTS

1. Finance Department - Rachel Bembry shared financial data through August with a handout. No questions or comments.
2. Police Department - Mayor Piper covered the Police report.
3. Public Works Department - Mayor Piper covered Public Works report.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. ARPA (*Tabled from August 15, 2023 Regular Meeting*): to approve the project list for ARPA funds. Rachel Bembry shared that we are not limited to how these funds are used as long as they are used for government business purposes. Councilmember Penn asked if they could be used for repairing roads. This was affirmed. Councilmember Venable shared that roads would be covered by TSPLOST and he feels we should allocate these funds to running scopes on the utility line in front of Statham Elementary School as they are close to 60 years old. Councilmember Thrasher asked if there would be funds to repair and enhance the Hillman-Rainwater Park and Meeting Building. Mayor Piper said work was being done currently to pothole (identify) line needs in

order to apply for funds through Senator Ossoff's office. Councilmember Venable asked if anyone was opposed to getting scopes of the sewer lines with the funds as he would like to get quotes for the work. Councilmember Venable asked if current utility funds could be used for scoping.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Arbor Day 2022:** to approve the mayor to sign a proclamation declaring that March 11, 2022 was recognized as Arbor Day by the City of Statham. - Tim Terilli explained that he was requesting this approval for the mayor to sign this proclamation in order to keep our "Tree City" designation. We have proclamations for the years "21" and "23". Just missing "22".
2. **IGA for TYLER Technology System** - Mayor Piper explained this was an Intergovernmental Agreement with Barrow County to share in the new system "New World" used by law enforcement. Captain Nichols shared that all cities in Barrow County were on board with the program except for Auburn.

## **CITIZEN INPUT**

Tim Terilli - thanked volunteers for the park clean up and gave a report on what was accomplished.

Cheryl Venable- has concerns that the city is behind and that it needs a plan in a hurry to use these ARPA and TSPLOST funds to catch us up. Mayor and Council must meet and devise a plan for the monies with proper advertising of the jobs/bidding and to follow policy.

**ADJOURN** -At 7:08 p.m., Mayor Piper asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Venable made the motion and it was seconded by Councilmember Thrasher and was passed unanimously.