

CITY OF STATHAM

AGENDA

Statham City Hall

327 Jefferson Street, Statham, GA 30666



REGULAR MEETING – April 19, 2022

7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Piper called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Piper and Councilmembers Krause, Patterson, Penn, Thrasher and Venable.

Also present: City Accountant April Stephens, City Attorney Jody Campbell and Police Chief Ira Underwood.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Piper led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Piper asked for a motion to amend the agenda and add the Winder Lions Baseball lease agreement as agenda item #14 and add Executive Session for the purpose of discussion personnel.

Councilmember Venable made a motion to amend the agenda. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Underwood and Public Information Officer Hood gave a public announcement regarding a situation that occurred at a city park. Mayor Piper stated that he has requested additional cameras to be installed in the area.

VOTING ITEMS

1. FY22 Budget Amendment and Budget Amendment Resolution R-22-01

Councilmember Patterson made a motion to approve the FY22 Budget Amendment and Resolution R-22-01. Councilmember Penn seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. **Alcohol License Application:** *Tabled from the March 15, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting.* Statham Food Mart, LLC, owner and applicant, Shani Joseph, has applied for a City of Statham alcoholic beverage license for retail sales of distilled spirits located at 1988 Railroad Street, Statham, GA 30666, Map and Parcel Number ST05 047, also known as Short Stop Express. The applicant currently owns and operates Short Stop Express and holds an alcoholic beverage license for retail sales of beer and wine.

Councilmember Thrasher made a motion to deny the alcohol license application. Councilmember Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-2 with Councilmembers Venable and Penn voting no.

- 3. GMA Direct Installment Program LS 090721:** To approve the Mayor to sign an appropriation certificate, resolution and lease supplement for the purchase of a police department Ford Interceptor. The term of the loan is 36 months at 3.12% interest. The purchase price of the Interceptor is \$37,339 and purchased at the state contract price. This was a budgeted item.

Councilmember Venable made a motion to deny the GMA Direct Installment Program lease, and to purchase the Ford Interceptor for \$37,339 outright. Councilmember Thrasher seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 4. GMA Direct Installment Program LS 033122:** To approve the Mayor to sign an appropriation certificate, resolution and lease supplement for the purchase of a public works department Ford F-150. The term of the loan is 36 months at 3.12% interest. The purchase price of the F-150 is \$39,495 and purchased at the state contract price. This was a budgeted item.

Councilmember Venable made a motion to deny the GMA Direct Installment Program lease, and to purchase the Ford F-150 for \$39,495 outright. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 5. Agreement for Professional Inspection Services:** To approve the Mayor to sign an agreement with SAFEbuilt Georgia, LLC for inspection and review services to include plan review, code enforcement, permit technician services and soil and erosion. This agreement includes the use of plan review, permit application, code enforcement inquiries and a pay online software system for no additional cost to the City. This agreement is for 12 months and will automatically renew unless otherwise terminated by either party. All fees associated are on a per-hour basis as indicated in the agreement. To provide for notice of termination of the City's current arrangement for inspection, this agreement shall go into effect June 1, 2022 unless otherwise suggested and agreed upon between City Staff and current provider.

Councilmember Patterson made a motion to approve the SAFEbuilt Georgia agreement for professional inspection services with the city attorney edits to the agreement. Councilmember Penn seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 6. Agreement for Managed Technology Services:** To approve the Mayor to sign an agreement for information technology services with Bradley Electronics. This agreement includes all-inclusive managed IT services for workstations and servers, includes Office 365 email, server backup and off-site cloud backup. This agreement is for 12 months for a cost of \$1,250 per month and will automatically renew unless otherwise terminated by either party. To provide for notice of termination of the City's current arrangement for managed IT services, this agreement shall go into effect June 1, 2022 unless otherwise suggested and agreed upon between City Staff and the current provider.

Councilmember Patterson made a motion to approve the Bradley Electronics agreement for technology services. Councilmember Penn seconded the motion. Councilmember Venable abstained due to conflict of interest with the current provider for technology services. The motion passed 3-1 with Councilmember Thrasher voting no.

- 7. Agreement for Defined Contribution Audit Services:** To approve the Mayor to sign a letter of intent with Bates Carter for a defined contribution audit for a cost not to exceed \$15,000.

Councilmember Patterson made a motion to approve the defined contribution audit agreement. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 8. Certified City of Ethics Resolution R-22-02:** To approve a resolution re-certifying the City of Statham as a Certified City of Ethics.

Councilmember Venable made a motion to approve R-22-02. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 9. Agreement for Accounting Restructure:** To approve the Mayor to sign an agreement for services, and the City Accountant to work with Harris Software and SmartFusion for a restructuring of the City's accounting system and account numbers. The cost for this restructuring is not to exceed \$2,500.

Councilmember Krause made a motion to approve the accounting restructure with Harris Software and SmartFusion. Councilmember Patterson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 10. GIRMA Renewal:** To approve the Mayor to sign the City's 2022-2023 property and liability insurance policy with GIRMA for a total amount of \$77,709.

Councilmember Venable made a motion to approve the GIRMA renewal. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 11. Proclamation National Safe Digging Month:** To approve a proclamation to declare the month of April as Safe Digging Month.

Councilmember Patterson made a motion to approve the proclamation. Councilmember Venable seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 12. Well Development, Additional Site(s) Exploration:** To approve the Statham Water Department to continue the well development project adhering to the goals of Mayor and Council of water independence. Due to Well No. 3 not being the most viable at this time and capping site No. 3 at Hillman-Rainwater, City staff requests \$60,000 with a 15% contingency for well exploration of a potential three sites to include surveying and drilling per detailed in the attached letter dated April 5, 2022 from the water department's operator Jordan McDaniel.

This approval also includes the Mayor's signature on agreement(s) with Ground-Water Services, Inc., the firm assisting the City with well exploration and development, in order to keep the project moving while personnel, contractors and equipment are on-site.

Councilmember Thrasher made a motion to deny well development and additional site exploration. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion. The motion failed 2-3 with Councilmembers Venable, Patterson and Penn voting not.

Councilmember Patterson made a motion to table well development and additional site exploration to the May 5, 2022 Work Session to allow more time for discussion and questions. Councilmember Venable seconded the motion. The motion to table passed 3-2 with Councilmembers Thrasher and Krause voting no.

- 13. K-9 Purchase:** To approve City Attorney Campbell to review, and to approve the Mayor to sign an agreement and with Custom Canine Unlimited for the purchase of a police department K-9 in the amount of \$11,750.00. This item was added to the April 19, 2022 regular meeting agenda and to amended budget per Councilmember Venable at the April 7, 2022 work session and public hearing.

Doug Smith, Chief Sales Officer of Custom Canine Unlimited was present for questions. Councilmember Venable inquired on the breeds of dogs, biting and warranty. Mr. Smith stated they obtain most dogs from overseas, and they do not have issues with biting unless commanded. He stated there is a two-year genetic warranty and a one-year workability warranty. The agreement also includes three years' worth of dog food that is made for these types of dogs with high activity. Councilmember Venable inquired on the turnaround time, and Mr. Smith indicated the next classes for training is June 6, and again in August.

Councilmember Venable made a motion to approve the purchase of a K-9 through Custom Canine Unlimited. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 14. Winder Lions Club Baseball Lease Agreement:** *This was an amended (added) agenda item.*

Councilmember Venable inquired about the liability. The City Attorney was unsure about the agreement or liability as he did not have time to look at anything with it being an amended agenda item. Councilmember Krause asked if the item could be tabled, and the City Attorney said it could. Mayor Piper stated they do provide liability. The City Attorney located the previous agreement, and believes it is month-to-month at this point, so if it is tabled, the agreement could continue as-in.

Councilmember Penn made a motion to table this agreement to the May 17, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda. Councilmember Venable seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Piper noted that he has reached out to GDOT about the project at the Hwy 316 Corridor. They have provided him maps of the proposed project, which will be hung at city hall for public viewing. Councilmember Krause was able to contact the county school system for use of their facilities for a citizen input meeting. She stated a meeting will be held at the Bear Creek Middle School, either the gymnasium or cafeteria with GDOT's availability via Zoom. The meeting information will be made available, and Councilmember Krause asked for help to spread the word and encouraged people to attend the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: *This was an amended (added) agenda item.* Meeting to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee as provided in Georgia Code section 50-14-3(b)(2).

At 7:56 p.m., Mayor Piper asked for a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel. Councilmember Penn made a motion to enter Executive Session. Councilmember Patterson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

At 8:23 p.m., Mayor Piper asked for a motion to exit Executive Session. Councilmember Thrasher made a motion to exit Executive Session. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The City Attorney noted that no votes were taken.

MINUTE APPROVAL

1. April 7, 2022 Public Hearing & Work Session Minutes (draft minutes provided to mayor and council on April 13, 2022).

Councilmember Krause stated that her questions about where and what was being stored on the server and where it was backed up when discussing Technology Services was not included in the April 7, 2022 minutes. She also stated that Rudy Krause spoke at the last meeting and was not included in the minutes.

City Accountant April Stephens stated that Mr. Krause did not sign up for citizen input but will add him to the minutes as well as Councilmembers questions about the server.

Councilmember Penn made a motion to approve the April 7, 2022 minutes with the additions added. Councilmember Krause seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

At 8:27 p.m., Mayor Piper asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Thrasher made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Penn seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.