

CITY OF FLOWERY BRANCH
Council Meeting
June 23, 2005 - 6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Bryan Puckette, Council Members Jim Herold, Jan Smith, Larry Pritchett, Ed Lezaj and Jim Worl, City Attorney Ron Bennett, City Manager Chris Rainwater, City Planner James Riker and City Clerk Judy Foster.

OPEN MEETING: Bryan Puckette called the Council Meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Bryan Puckette led the pledge of allegiance and gave the invocation.

Bryan Puckette amended the agenda to have Citizens Comments first on the agenda.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Henry Skipper stated that he was disappointed with the 10% increase in water and sewer rates above the 20% of the bond requirement. Mr. Skipper stated that the weeds were knee high around the Police Department and asked who was in charge of the Street Department. He also stated that he was upset about the budget.

Kathy Steelman, who lives outside the city limits of Flowery Branch, stated that she had a petition signed by several citizens regarding the City Manager. Ms. Steelman began reading the petition but Larry Pritchett and Jim Herold objected. Ms. Steelman then presented the petitions to Ron Bennett.

Ed Lezaj stated that he first learned of the delicate situation between the Mayor and the City Manager in the current newspaper. Ed Lezaj made a motion to postpone the Council Meeting until the matter between the Mayor and City Manager is resolved. Jan Smith seconded the motion. Bryan Puckette stated that he shared the sentiment with Ed Lezaj. Jan Smith stated that the situation is very distressing and the first she learned of the action was in the paper also. Ms. Smith stated that the environment is very hostile and the city government is not functioning and is becoming something like the Soviet Union. Jim Worl asked about the legal requirement to have a budget in place by July 1, 2005. Ron Bennett concurred that it is law that a budget be in place by July 1st. Bryan Puckette stated that it would not be the first time the City did not have a budget adopted by July 1st and there never were any repercussions from it. Ed Lezaj stated that we cannot function without an agenda and when he came into the meeting, he was given another agenda. Mr. Lezaj stated that he deals with the issues and feels that the City needed a cooling off period. Jim Worl stated that he does not agree with all statements made by Jan Smith or Ed Lezaj but did agree that we are dealing with a volatile issue and no cooperation. Mr. Worl stated that he concurred that the meeting should be postponed. The motion passed with a vote of three (3) affirmative and two (2) opposed – Larry Pritchett and Jim Herold.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

City Clerk

Date Approved

Mayor