

CITY OF KEYSVILLE, GA

A City Where Everybody Is Somebody

City Council
LINDA WILKES, MAYOR
Sharon Neely
Kathy Couch
Maggie Terrell
Harold Kight
Freddie Harden



City Administration
Sherell Russ, Administrator
LaTora Lewis, Water Clerk

120 Old Waynesboro Road
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MINUTES
KEYSVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Today's Date: JUNE10, 2024
Meeting date: May 13, 2024
TIME: 7:00 PM
LOCATION: KEYSVILLE CITY HALL

Meeting called to order by: Mayor Linda Wilkes.

Councilmembers Present: Linda Wilkes-Davis, Kathy Couch, Maggie Terrell, Harold Kight, Freddie Harden, Sharon Neely

Employee: LaTora Lewis

Others Present: Maefield Streetman, Kathy Brown, James Neely, William Campbell Jr., Angila Williams, Vanessa Washington, Sheila Jackson, Tammy Lambert, Patrice Burke, Cora Burke, Marvin Scott, Jerry Couch

Mayor Wilkes: Welcomed all and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Prayer: Maggie Terrell

Absent: Marvin Scott

Agenda:

Mayor Linda Wilkes asked to make a motion to approve the agenda as order of the day.

Council Woman Kathy Couch motioned to approve the agenda as order of the day.

Council Woman Sharon Neely seconded the motion.

Minutes approved:

Mayor Linda Wilkes

- Asked for a motion to approve the minutes with necessary corrections if there are any.
- **Council Woman Kathy Couch** motioned to approve the minutes with necessary corrections if there be any.
- **Councilman Harold Kight** seconded the motion.

Correction:

Kathy Couch

- Said on the last line, where it says there are in the paragraph it supposed to say there were.

Correction Approved.

- Mayor Linda Wilkes asked to have the minutes approved with the necessary correction as noted.
- Council Woman Kathy Couch motioned to approve the minutes with necessary corrections.
- Council Woman Maggie Terrell seconded the motion to approve the minutes with necessary corrections.

Committee Reports

Environmental Water:

Councilman Harold Kight

- A few water leaks occurred in the city.
- Said that the water leaks were repaired.
- Water clerk LaTora Lewis said that the city was waiting on Mr. Snipes to fix the tractor to get to some of the other leaks.
- Councilman Harold Kight said that with all the leaks occurring that it is wearing and tearing on the city pumps and things like that.
- Councilman Harold Kight said that he spoke with Mr. Jeremy and Mr. John about one of the residents that thought they were not hooked to the city sewer, but they are connected from the information that was received by Mr. Jeremy and Mr. John.
- Was con concerned about the city water inspection that will be occurring soon.
- Mentioned that there are still some issues that still needs to be fixed that may cause the city to go into violation.
- Asked why anything is not getting done? and said that he does not have a problem with Mr. Johns his problem is with maintenance.
- Say's that he knows the city does not have money and does not have any money and if the city cannot do what it takes to maintain the water system, they should have turn it over to the county.
- Mayor Linda Wilkes stated that there is nothing wrong with the city water.

Emergency/Personnel:

Sharon Neely

- Said that we are still having problems with the lights, and she is going to contact Georgia Power herself to try and get the light fixed.
- Said that she does have in her notes that they were going to ask about the reading of the budget, but she did receive a text from Sherell stating when the reading of the budget was going to be Friday May 17,2024.

- Said that she thinks the text said that the meeting would be the final reading for the budget, but they had not approved the second reading for the budget and that they needed to go back to the second budget reading because it was not a final reading.
- Councilman Freddie Harden mentioned they never did the first reading they looked over it to prepare for the budget and they asked for a suspension so that they could approve it. Said that the 2nd and the third budget was rejected as well. they made a vote for another meeting and both the meetings were cancelled. So, we never read anything. We nothing to go by it was a budget given to us and pretty much everything on the budget was from 2023-2024 I know things goes up and somethings you may not use as much and some things you might use more, so I know it can be the something from 2023-2024.
- Said that Ms. Lewis said we asked a question, but we don't even know the amount the employee's salary, and she said out of her mouth you the one makes the budget up you should know what I make. What just happened you give us a budget and it gets signed by the council. This year it wasn't that way he looked at it I don't have anything to go by, so we rejected the budget.
- Said a text went out today saying that City Attorney Douglas Kidd said that her budget looked good, its not the council budget the council didn't have a input on the budget.
- Mayor Linda Wilkes stated the administrator is the one who makes the budget, and the council looks over the budget.
- Council and Mayor Linda Wilkes held a conversation about the budget needing to be corrected.
- Council Woman Sharon Neely said the total on the budget was wrong.
- Mayor Linda Wilkes said that she will get the situation resolved.
- Council Woman Maggie Terrell read text message from city attorney Doug Kidd about the City budget.
- The update with the park I did have some citizens to come ask me if the restrooms were fixed and if there were any running water did maintenance fix it?
- Mayor Linda Wilkes responded one of the restrooms were fixed and the other needed to tended to.
- Asked Mr. Harden did he have a report on martin Luther King jr road.
- Said that a young lady from a school wanted to be a part of the coming home to Keysville day.
- Said that there was a letter sent out to the concerned citizens about the usage of the Charles walker building and the city council thought they could use the building for free. Mayor Linda Wilkes stated that the letter came from Lawyer Doug Kidd.
- Councilman Freddie Harden motioned that the concerned citizens use the Charles Walker building free of charge for monthly meeting and exercise class free of charge long as it is concerned citizens. Councilman Harold Kight seconded the motion.

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**Building
& Housing:**
Councilwoman Kathy Couch

- Happy to see the trailers being torn down on old Waynesboro Road and Martin Luther King Jr Road.
- Asked what company was tearing the mobile homes down and was it posted in the newspaper to get bids on the two mobile homes if it's over five hundred dollars?
- Mayor Linda Wilkes said that two guys from the community are tearing down the mobile homes.
- Council man Harold Kight asked was the two people a construction company are they licensed bonded or insured.
- Council Woman Kathy Couch stated so if something happens the city is liable for the workers.

- Councilman Harold Kight mentioned that he the person was not licensed and bonded cause they came to his house and asked to borrow his sludge hammers.
- Council Woman Kathy Couch stated that she would like the tiny house ordinance passed however for future reference if somebody wants to build a house.
- Mayor Linda Wilkes asked was she sure the ordinance was not passed before because she had a copy of it on her desk.
- Council woman Kathy Couch stated no it was not passed said she gave all the councils a copy to read and to see if they wanted to make any changes in it. Everybody she has talked to that read the ordinance said that it was alright.
- Council Woman Maggie Terrell mentioned the names on the ordinance needed to come off.
- Councilman Freddie Harden asked was there a size mentioned in the ordinance? Council Woman Kathy Couch answered yes there was a size mentioned in the ordinance. Mentioned the size that was on the ordinance was the size for a utility shed.
- Mayor Linda Wilkes said that what they were reading was just a draft. Mentioned that the size of the tiny house has to be changed. Stated that they would wait until Burke County pass their ordinance and then work on the city tiny house ordinance.

Roads & Recreation:

Councilman Freddie Harden

Roads

- On 199 old Waynesboro Road had major leak in January they put a chain on the right side of the road and on the left side and that area was a dangerous area and there was already one incident to happen on the road we don't need two so that situation needs to be taken care of.
- Said there was a leak at 150 old Waynesboro Road and water was running all across the road.
- On Rhodes lee street there is a hole in the middle of the street that needs to be repaired.
- Tyrone Brooks and MLK old Waynesboro rd. where they just made a repair at. There were some cones out there and someone removed the barricade now the hole is about 8 inches deep its going to tear someone's frontend up. Said that area needs to be corrected either put some cones in the hole or put some asphalt in it so that no one will run in it.

Recreation

- When they cut the grass at the park for whatever reason (ex: when he cut it back in October, he didn't cut the grass near the equipment he cut away from the equipment.) Reason for the statement is there is more grass all over the equipment so when the kids come down to the park and play, they are playing in the grass too and the chips has grass all over them.
- Said that when maintenance is cutting grass, they cut the grass in the road when they need to cut grass in the ditch.
- Said that when he went to the park the bathroom doors are locked and there is no running water outside so he can't say if it's any water down at the park or not.
- The light down at the basketball court somebody put a lock on the breaker, so the light is out, so who is responsible for opening up the basketball court?
- Said that he had a citizen come and ask who was responsible for opening and locking the basketball court back up.
- Mayor Linda Wilkes answered right now maintenance opens and closes the gates.
- Councilman Freddie Harden asked who maintenance is.
- Mayor Linda Wilkes answered Fredrick.
- Councilman Freddie Harden asked several questions about maintenance job duties.

Finance:

Council Woman Maggie Terrell:

- Queensboro Bank Statement April2024
- Wellsfargo Bank Statement April 2024

- Charles Walker Building Statement April 2024

Complaint/Concerns:

Finished Business:

Announcements/comments:

Mayor Linda Wilkes

Agenda:

James Neely

- Issue with the elections said that they requested a layout of when the elections would take place.
- Spoke about Juneteenth.

William Campbell

- Said that he will be out supporting the city more and mentioned how gifts bags were given out.
- Said that a golf tournament will be held June29,2024.
- Said that the Augusta Shriners are looking for a place for their meetings to be held.

Meeting Adjourned

Mayor Linda Wilkes:

Asked for a motion to have the meeting adjourned.

Councilwoman Kathy Couch

Made the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Council Woman Sharon Neely

Seconded the motion.

Mayor Linda Wilkes Meeting adjourned.