

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HULL MAYOR AND COUNCIL

November 21, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Paul Walton. Those in attendance in addition to the Mayor were the Clerk, and council members Brian Koepnick Yvonne Davenport, John Barber and, Marilyn Walton. Attorney Graham was also present.

A moment of silent prayer followed the pledge of allegiance.

Prior to beginning the meeting Mayor Walton welcomed special guests, Donarell and Frederell Green from the Green Law Firm and Pam Helton from GMA to the meeting.

The November Agenda and October Minutes which had been provided prior to the meeting were approved with a minor correction after a motion by Yvonne Davenport and a second by Marilyn Walton.

The Clerk then read the General and SPLOST account financial reports which were approved after a motion by Brian Koepnick and a second by John Barber. Mayor Walton gave an explanation about the purchase of the stylus and indicated this amount will be credited back to our Verizon account.

At this time the Mayor recognized the Greens who were here to talk to Mayor and Council about the possibility of serving as City Attorney upon the retirement of long time City Attorney, Pat Graham. Mayor Walton also recognized Pam Helton from GMA who was present to speak to the importance of training for Mayor and Council.

The Greens advised that they had been in practice together since 2001. They are long time residents of Athens and although they have only limited experience in government law have a wide variety of experience in other areas of law and have tried cases and represented clients in a number of courts for a multitude of issues. they were confident that if their firm was selected to represent City of Hull that they would be able to provide all services that would be required. They were unable to provide a fee structure at this time not knowing exactly what all would be involved but suggested that they might want to work on a retainer fee basis with the city paying a retainer up front and being billed hourly for any time spent. Attorney Graham indicated that he did not personally know the Greens but based on what he had heard from them he felt like they were well qualified.

Pam Helton spoke to all the training that was available through GMA and the availability of scholarship for small cities recognizing that some of the training is cost prohibitive. She suggested that Mayor and Council consider "taking turns" attending some of the training. She also spoke about all the different areas that GMA is available to help cities and also suggested that everyone visit their web site to further explore on-line training opportunities and other ways that GMA is available. She also suggested that other cities of similar size are sometimes the best resources for other cities.

Both the Greens and Ms. Helton were thanked for taking their time to attend the meeting and for the valuable information they provided.

Mayor Walton advised that he had been meeting and talking with Chief Austin of the Fire Department and the Madison 911 and gathered some information concerning the number of calls

