



**CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT
City Council
Called Meeting
MINUTES
111 W. Grand
June 25, 2018
1:30 p.m.**

The City of Whitewright met for a Called Meeting, Monday, June 25, 2018 at 1:40 p.m. in the Whitewright Visitors Center, the same being open to the public with the following members present:

Councilmember Sarah Beth Owen
Councilmember Bart Bodine
Councilmember Rick Magers
Councilmember Randy Glover
Councilmember George Fenner

Others present: Mayor Jamie Lawrence, City Secretary Tona Shiplot, Chris Ely, Chris Douglas, Rick Webber, Charles Brady, and Ruthie Allison.

1. Call meeting to Order and Establish a Quorum:

Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. and established a quorum. Councilmembers Owen, Magers, Bodine, Glover, and Fenner were present.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

Bart Bodine gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Open Workshop: For planning purposes for upcoming budget and priorities of work for Whitewright.

- 3a. EMS
- 3b. Police
- 3c. Library
- 3d. Court

Director Chris Ely presented the library budget. Compared to last year, line items for income from a local history book, general fundraiser, and fines were decreased. For expenses, salaries were not included yet due to changes in benefits that would affect those line items, and the line item for audiobooks was zeroed out due to donations and the use of the digital library.

Director Chris Douglas presented the EMS budget. Prior to last year's budget, all fuel costs were billed to Public Works, but is now being tracked by department to provide a cost analysis for future budgets. Coverage of unincorporated parts of Grayson County provide a source of income, and Douglas would like to take back portions of the county that were let go in the past, as well as seek to serve a portion of Fannin County.

Chief Rick Webber presented the Police budget. A primary concern is overtime due to understaffing, and finding and retaining personnel is an issue. He requested an executive session of the council in the future to discuss salaries.

Health insurance costs will increase across the board for all departments. Upkeep of line items in the accounting program was discussed, and will be reviewed to collapse unnecessary items.

4. **Charles Brady with Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP will present to the council the tax lien process.**
Brady discussed working on blighted properties. He expects the nursing home to go up for sale in September, and the City will be able to recoup costs incurred for a temporary fence and mowing. Various scenarios for the site's future were considered.

The American Legion Park is not under a tax lien, but the group is disbanding and the property will revert back to the City. The firm will be able to handle the necessary paperwork.

Councilmember Owen asked about annexation of property that was begun under Mayor Goodson, but not finalized or reflected on City maps. Brady recommended talking to TML for specifics about annexation.

The process for handling delinquent property taxes was discussed.

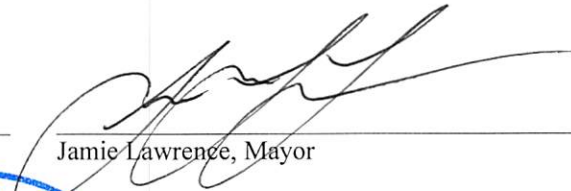
5. **Adjourn:**

Councilmember Owen made the motion to adjourn Councilmember Glover seconded. Motion carried 4-0, with Councilmember Bodine having left prior to adjournment.

ATTEST BY:



Tona Shiplet, City Secretary



Jamie Lawrence, Mayor

