

**MINUTES
CITY OF BREMEN, GEORGIA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
May 20, 2013**

Meeting Location: Public Safety Complex, 516 Tallapoosa Street

Officials Present: Mayor Sharon Sewell
Council Member W.O. (Sonny) Parrish
Council Member Terry Crawford
Council Member Kyle Shepherd
Council Member Jane Wilson

**6:00 P.M.
Work Session
Mayor & Council Members
Department Heads**

City Council Informal Session

Informal discussion among Mayor Sewell, City Council Members, Department Heads and City Attorney. No action taken during work session. The discussed items are listed below.

§ Department Head Updates
§ FY 2014 Budget Proposal
§ Agenda Items

Mayor Sewell adjourned the work session at 6:55 p.m. to begin the regular council meeting.

**7:00 P.M.
City Council Meeting
Mayor & Council Members**

Regularly Scheduled Monthly Session

- Agenda:*
1. *Call to Order*
 2. *Pledge of Allegiance*
 3. *Invocation*
 4. *Review and Modification of the Agenda*
 5. *Approval of Minutes from the April 15, 2013 Regular Session*
 6. *Request for Refund of Property Tax Penalty & Interest Charges*
 - (a.) *Cynthia J & WL McCurley – 324 Lakeview Drive*
 - (b.) *Clinton Eugene Merritt, Jr. & Lynn G Fant – 241 Price Street*
 7. *Library Board Appointments*
 - (a.) *Appoint Karen Tarpley for a 3 Year Term Ending 06/30/2016*
 - (b.) *Re-Appoint Beth Brown to a 3 Year Term Ending 06/30/2016*
 8. *Haralson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update*
 9. *Open to the Public*
 10. *Adjourn*

Call to Order

Mayor Sewell called the council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance and invocation.

Agenda Changes

There were no changes made to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting that was held on April 15, 2013.

A motion was made by Council Member Crawford seconded by Council Member Shepherd to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting held on April 15, 2013. Motion carried.

Request for Refund of Property Tax Penalty & Interest Charges

Cynthia McCurley addressed the Mayor and Council Members and stated that she had purchased the property located at 324 Lakeview Drive in August 2012. She stated that she did not receive any tax bill from the city for the 2012 taxes due. The letter from GTS dated April 19, 2013 was the first notice that she received concerning the city property taxes. Once she received that letter on Saturday May 20, 2013, she paid the taxes the following Monday at City Hall. She stated that she is requesting a refund for the interest portion of the bill that she has paid due to the fact that she never received notification.

Mayor Sewell and Council Members discussed the issue and agreed that it does put the taxpayer in a bad situation.

There was discussion about future cases with the same issue and what can be done to help resolve this problem since the county receives new ownership changes throughout the year but they only notify the city when the new digest comes out. The digest is released in July or August each year and is based on ownerships as of January 1 of that same year.

Mayor Sewell stated that the interest portion is \$110.44 of the total paid by Mrs. McCurley for the 2012 city taxes. She asked for a motion to refund the interest portion only to Cynthia McCurley due to reasonable cause and excusable neglect.

A motion was made by Council Member Crawford seconded by Council Member Wilson to refund Cynthia McCurley for the interest portion (\$110.44) only of the 2012 city taxes that she paid for her property located at 324 Lakeview Drive. Motion carried.

Neither Clinton Eugene Merritt, Jr. nor Lynn G. Fant, were available to plea their case for penalty & interest refunds so therefore, Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to deny the request for penalty and interest refund.

Motion by Council Member Wilson seconded by Council Member Crawford to deny the request by Clinton Eugene Merritt, Jr. and Lynn G. Fant for a refund of property tax penalty and interest. Motion carried.

Library Board Appointments

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to appoint Karen Tarpley to the Library Board for a three year term ending June 30, 2016. This replaces Janis Parrish who rotates off after serving three terms.

Motion by Council Member Parrish seconded by Council Member Crawford to appoint Karen Tarpley to the Library Board for a three year term ending June 30, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to reappoint Beth Brown to the Library Board for a three year term ending June 30, 2016.

Motion by Council Member Parrish seconded by Council Member Crawford to reappoint Beth Brown to the Library Board for a three year term ending June 30, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

Open to the Public

Perry Hicks stated that the proposed fiscal year 2014 budget will be available at city hall to anyone who wishes to review it.

Adjourn

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to adjourn the regular council meeting.

Motion made by Council Member Crawford to adjourn the regular council meeting at 7:30 p.m.