



TOWN OF BETWEEN GEORGIA

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Town of Between Council Minutes

May 10, 2022

Commencement

- **Call to Order** - Mayor Post called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- **Roll Call Present** - Robert Post, Wanda Satterwhite, Bill Boswell, and MaryAnn Rivers.
- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** - Motion was made by Councilmember Boswell to approve the minutes for April 12, 2022, and Councilmember Rivers seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved and recorded.
- **Approval of Financial Reports** - Motion was made by Councilmember Rivers to approve the April 2022 financial reports, and Councilmember Boswell seconded the motion. The financial reports were unanimously approved and recorded.

Town Updates

- **New Town Hall/Architect Proposal** - Mayor Post met with Ken Thrasher (Sy Richards Architects) on Friday, May 6th to discuss his proposal for the Town Hall project. Each item was reviewed, and questions were asked about specific areas of the proposal. He was able to confirm that the fee of \$34,200.00 included the consulting engineers fee of \$12,700.00. Other fees outside of the proposal that will be required include: 1) topographical/site survey 2) level 3 perk test for the new septic system, and 3) construction materials testing as required by the International Building Code. The total additional costs for these services will not be determined until a contract is in place and bids have been received from qualified contractors. It is estimated that the project will take approximately 13 months to complete with minimal delays.
 - **Motion to Approve**
 - In order to move forward, a motion is needed to approve the hiring of Sy Richards, Architect Inc. at a cost of \$34,200.00.
 - Motion was made by Councilmember Boswell to approve the hiring of Sy Richards, Architect Inc. Councilmember Rivers seconded the motion.
 - Mayor Post will work with Mike Malcom, City Attorney, to review the contract.
 - Sy Richards will put together a bid package as a part of the process.
- **Fence Repairs** - The required fence repairs were completed on April 21st by Academy Fence Brokers of Winder, and the total cost of this work was \$1,850.
- **Highway 78** - The developers of the property (20 acres) on Highway 78 east of New Hope Church Road decided not to move forward with the project at this time.
- **T-SPLOST** - The Walton County Chairman has scheduled a meeting with the city/town mayors for May 17th at 9 AM at the Court House to discuss the 2022 T- SPLOST proposal. More information will be forthcoming.

- **New Business** - A new business has moved into the Town of Between. American – Structures II, LLC is now located at 2002 Highway 78. This company sells and rents-to-own garages, barns, carports, and more. They will have a sales office and a display yard at the location. A business license package has been sent for completion and return.
- **American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)** - The Federal Government through the ARPA has awarded the Town of Between a total of \$90,787.50, which will be divided into two (2) installments. The funds do not need to be expensed until 2026. We have been waiting on a final decision from the government on how these funds can be used, and we have received a general outline. It is proposed that the funds be broken down into three (3) project areas: 1) information technology; 2) business lost revenue replacement grants; 3) and Town Hall recreation.
 - **Information Technology**
 - The Information Technology project would include the purchase of laptop computers, printers, software, routers, and accessories for the mayor and each councilmember. This equipment would be utilized to conduct business including meeting agendas, minutes, financial documents, spreadsheets, forms, permits, and town related correspondence. This equipment would also be available to conduct virtual meetings in the event of another pandemic lockdown. Currently the mayor and councilmembers utilize their personal computers and accessories to conduct business for the Town of Between.
 - **Business Lost Revenue Replacement Grants**
 - The second project, Business Lost Revenue Replacement Grants, would provide qualified Town of Between business license holders a grant of \$500 to \$1000 (TBD) for business losses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. Businesses would be required to complete a detailed application requesting a grant. Based on specific criteria (TBD) a grant could be awarded. We are still waiting on answers regarding several questions that we have before we will be able to proceed.
 - **Small Park at Town Hall**
 - The third project would be to add a small park with pavilions that could be rented in the rear of the new Town Hall. We feel that this would be a benefit to our citizens and provide a place to hold outdoor events.
- **Motion to Approve**
 - In order to move forward, a motion is needed to approve the use of the ARPA funds for beneficial projects, as determined by the Council.
 - Motion was made by Councilmember Satterwhite to approve the use of the ARPA funds of the aforementioned projects, and Councilmember Boswell seconded the motion.

Public Comments

- **Comment 1** - Mr. Pitts (Town of Between resident) expressed concerns about the traffic light on Highway 78 and New Hope Church Road. He requested that the lights be coordinated so that Westbound will function like Eastbound, specifying that the turn lane should have a green light.

Meeting Adjournment

- **Meeting Closure** - Motion was made by Councilmember Satterwhite to adjourn the meeting, and Councilmember Boswell seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 pm.