

City of White Georgia  
City Council Meeting  
Special Called Meeting  
February 16, 2024

Present at the meeting were Mayor Curtis Powell, Councilmembers, Stephanie Nicholson, Gary Crisp, Jean Swank, Karissa Noland, City Clerk, Robin Cochran, and City Attorney, Brandon Bowen via conference call.

Mayor Powell started with the pledge of allegiance and Councilmember Nicholson followed with a prayer.

Mayor Powell asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the Special Called Meeting. Councilmember Jean Swank made a motion to approve, and Councilmember Gary Crisp seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

Mayor Powell opened the floor for public comments. None were given. He closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Mayor Powell moves to new business. John Sweitzer, City Engineer, gave information to the council on sewer availability as it pertains to the Foxfield Property. He stated that the 8" line that runs from the property to the trunk does have the capacity. Sweitzer stated that the two properties (Foxfield and Talmar) will put the capacity at 86% for that line. He stated that the line can be easily upgraded from the Foxfield property to the trunk line. Sweitzer reported that there will be capacity issues in the future. Sweitzer continued by encouraging the council to approve. Councilmember Nicholson asked if the city was in the same position with Foxfield as they are with Talmar in regard to being responsible for upgrades that may need to take place. Mayor Powell assured her that Talmar stated that they would invest in what is economically feasible. Mayor Powell continued by stating the Foxfield property is in our service area, and we need to issue the will serve letter so that the project can continue as that is their hold up and they are having developers pull out because he is unable to provide them with one. City Attorney, Brandon Bowen, restated that the property is in our service area, impose costs to service the project and the GA Impact fee is how we get the improvements accomplished. Bowen Continues by saying if the sewer line currently has the capacity, the city cannot ask them to contribute to the cost of the line. Sweitzer asked if the developers who agreed to upgrade were aware we are considering an impact fee. Mayor Powell said that after speaking with Mr. Sweitzer, they can collect capacity fees from both developers, and he was under the impression that the revenue would pay for the upgraded lines needed to improve the section. Mr. Sweitzer ended by saying it was possible.

Citizen William Watkins asked about capacity vs. filtration. Mr. Sweitzer stated that filtration at 15% is already included in the 86% capacity number. Councilmember Crisp

stated we might need another pump at Aubrey Station. Sweitzer added that the station was set up to accommodate an additional pump.

Councilmember Nicholson voiced her concern over the legal ramifications if we did not provide the letter. City Attorney Bowen stated that we open the city to litigation as they could allege the denial improper and list legitimate reasons the city would be justified in denying the service. With no more comments, Powell asked for a motion to send Foxfield Property a will serve letter for their sewer service. Councilmember Crisp made a motion to send Foxfield Property a will serve letter and Councilmember Swank seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

City Attorney Bowen suggested we look at the utility ordinance impact fee at our next meeting. There was chatter amongst the council, Mr. Sweitzer, and Mr. Watkins. Councilmember Swank had questions about capacity on other lines in our service area.

Mayor Powell asked for motion for adjournment. Councilmember Crisp made a motion and Councilmember Nicholson seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cochran  
City Clerk

Attest:

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Curtis Powell, Mayor