

**CITY OF DRUID HILLS
COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES
For
MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020**

A. The monthly meeting of City Commissioners was called to order by Mayor Bruce Barbour at 7:00 PM in the Broadway Baptist Family Life Center, 4000 Brownsboro Road.

B. **Present:** All Commissioners present.

Guests: Peggy Wooley, 3921 Druid Hills Rd.

C. Minutes for the meeting held December 13, 2019 were reviewed. No corrections were requested.

Motion to accept the Commission meeting minutes as read.

Motion made by: Arnold Seconded: Gipe

D. **Treasurer's Report:**

See attached spreadsheets for detailed account balances.

1. Monthly financial reports:

The City has a total of \$ 284,833.46 in available funds---
\$ 170,119.89 in the General Fund, \$ 12,837.20 in the Road Fund and
\$101,876.37 in the Investment Account. See expenditure/revenue details in
the attached report.

2. Key transactions in December.

Mr. Strebel reported that the City paid all elected and City staff member salaries in December for a total of \$ 5,437.00. The City also paid the first installment for the 2019/2020 audit (\$ 2,700.00) and the Treasurer's bond (\$ 766.65).

3. Status report on 2019 property tax receipts.

Mr. Strebel reported that 169 of 178 tax bills have been paid to-date. Nine bills remain outstanding--- total due is \$ 2,491.84 (with penalties).

Eddie Welch (3933 Elfin Ave.) said that he never received his bill and asked

that the late fee penalty of \$ 35.00 be waived. The Commissioners voted to waive the penalty one time--- four voted yes; one voted no.

4. Late payment on Telecommunications tax.

Mr. Strebel advised that he received a payment of \$176.00 on 1/06/20.

5. Quarterly tax revenue information provided to the Census Bureau.

Mr. Strebel made this required quarterly report.

6. FY 2018/2019 Audit report.

Mr. Strebel distributed copies of the audit to Mayor Barbour and the Commissioners. He reviewed the cover letter and brought the following points to the Commissioners attention:

- a. The auditor recommends that the City have a separate budget for the General Fund and the Road Fund. Druid Hills currently uses a consolidated budget for both funds. Mr. Strebel advises that this is not necessary for a City as small as Druid Hills.
- b. City Ordinance No. 16-2019 corrected the officer pay issue.
- c. On page 18, note #7, the auditor again brought to the Commission's attention that the City Clerk and a Commissioner are related.
- d. Page 27 notes that the City has collateralized deposits greater than \$ 250,000.00.

7. CD maturing 12/26/19.

Mr. Strebel renewed the CD for seven (7) months to get a higher interest rate of 1.6% vs. .05% if he let the CD roll-over for another nine (9) months.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as given:

Motion made by: Westfall Seconded: Gipe

E. City Attorney Report:

Mayor Barbour introduced Mr. Finn Cato who he has selected to serve as the new City Attorney. Mr. Cato has thirty years of municipal law experience. He currently serves as the City attorney for the City of Shively and as “Special Counsel” for the cities of Bellewoode and Indian Hills. He will technically be “Special Counsel” for Druid Hills also. His many years of municipal experience will help Druid Hills to stay/be in compliance with all state statutes. He will draft a “Municipal Order” for approval at the next meeting.

The Commissioners asked that Mr. Cato respond to the request to vacate the Vail lien.

F. OLD BUISNESS:

1. Speed humps.

The Commissioners gave a brief history of this project to Mr. Cato. Commissioner Westfall volunteered to lead the project and will begin the developing bid specifications. He will also contact a civil engineer to take a look at current drainage issues and prevent future issues after the installation of the speed humps.

2. Crosswalk signage @ Chenoweth Lane/Druid Hills Road.

Commissioner Arnold had no new information on this item.

3. New Ethics Officer search .

Commissioner Gipe will ask Tyler Sattich if he might be interested in serving as the Ethics Officer.

4. Snow removal.

Commissioner Westfall has not been able to get a response from the City’s previous contractor for this service. He will search for another contractor.

5. City records.

Mayor Barbour has retrieved some of the City records that were stored at Mr. Jobson's office. He and the City Clerk will go through them and retain items as required by statute.

6. Holiday dinner held Thursday, 12/12/19 @ 7:30 @ Mesh Restaurant.

Mayor Barbour and the Commissioners and City staff enjoyed this event.

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Tree removal approvals.

There were no approvals requested this month but three of the four trees identified by the City arborist as hazardous have been removed.

2. Request for plan approvals.

No requests this month.

3. Community events:

The League of Cities meeting will be on 3/19/20.

4. MSD issue.

Mayor Barbour has spoken with Jennifer Bells (315 Chenoweth Ln.) who had an issue with concrete in a drainage ditch by her house. Tomika Davis @ MSD advised her that Elfin was not in their district??? Discussion followed with Commissioner Gipe referring Mayor Barbour to his contact @ MSD--- Eric Toller, 396-1933. Mayor Barbour will contact him for clarification.

5. PVA reassessment.

Mayor Barbour advised that the PVA will be reassessing Druid Hills properties in 2020. The preliminary package will be available in April. The last assessment was done in 2016???

Minutes from City Commissioner Meeting
January 13, 2020
Page 5

H. Next Meeting: Monday, February 10, 2020 at Broadway Baptist Church,
4000 Brownsboro Road.

I. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.