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**CITY OF MORROW, GEORGIA**  
**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Mayor Jeffrey A. DeTar**  
**Mayor Pro Tem Jeanell Bridges**  
**Councilwoman Hang Tran**  
**Councilman Larry Ferguson**  
**Councilman Christopher Mills**

**March 14, 2017**

**Work Session Minutes**

**6:34 pm**

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**Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** called the Work Session to order at 6:34pm on March 14, 2017. The meeting took place in the Council Chambers of the Morrow Municipal Complex located at: 1500 Morrow Road, Morrow, GA, 30260.

Those present were **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar, Mayor Pro Tem Jeanell Bridges, Councilman Christopher Mills, Councilman Larry Ferguson and Councilwoman Hang Tran.**

**General Discussions of Items**

**1. Lodging Ordinance 2017-04**

- **Zoning Administrator Marti Tracy advised Council that this would be a regulation to disallow hotels to become Extended Stays, providing for a safe and comfortable environment. Marti advised that this ordinance will go before the Planning & Zoning board on March 21 and will be in front of the Council for the first reading on March 28 and a 2nd reading/public hearing on April 11.**

**2. Monthly Financial Reports**

- **City Manager Sylvia Redic mentioned that the Georgia Power franchise fee payment was \$38k less than last year however Comcast's fee payment was \$11k more.**

**3. Proposed GVACC Contract**

- **Councilman Larry Ferguson stated that he would like to see a few changes and listed them as follows;**
  - 1. That we do not use Hotel/ Motel Tax on Fireworks for Freedomfest since he believed that DCA advised it was not allowed**
  - 2. The business plan provided by November 1 to have negotiating leverage to cancel contract by Dec. 31**
  - 3. To pay the mortgage in advance**
  - 4. On page 3 of the contract to state that WiFi will be free of charge and list the hi speed designation**

5. Website development, to have a mobile website required in contract
6. In regards to Summerfest on page 47-48 of the contract give DMO more of a picture such as number of food vendors, kids rides, etc to have understanding of what we would like to see in contract
7. On page 5 of the contract for the Morrow Tourist Center to remain free for community groups such as the Community Garden.
8. Notice of change required from GVACC to be 7 days prior to Council meeting instead of just 15 days.
9. A change in contract from all businesses must pay to be on the website to allow Hotels and Restaurants free and give the City Manager lead way.
10. On page 48 of the agenda packet in regards to billboards would rather see language to approve or disapprove location and message
11. On page 49 of the agenda packet pertaining to the hospitality task force, allow them to contribute marketing ideas and human resources expertise.
12. On page 51 after the second full paragraph would like to see a period after general fund.
13. Would also like to see a transition period after expiration of contract either two weeks or 30 days prior.

Councilwoman Hang Tran joined the meeting during discussion of the GVACC contract.

#### 4. Sign Code Kick Off Meeting

Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 6:30pm

- Zoning Administrator Marti Tracy advised that she was excited to have these meetings begin since there have been many technological advanced pertaining to signs. She would appreciate feedback from Councilmember's, and citizens alike about what signs they would like to see or not see in the City.

#### 5. CCWA Program Reevaluation

- Public Works Director Anou Sothsavath stated that this re-evaluation occurs every 5 years and our participation allows citizens located within the floodplain to get better flood insurance rates. Anou was anticipating getting the total number of houses this will affect from Shayla Nealy of Clayton County and would notify Council when the information became available. He also mentioned that the recertification included a meeting between CCWA and Paul Hardy from Safebuilt who is our building inspector.

### Discussion of Agenda Items

1. Approval to authorize Mayor DeTar to execute IGA with City of Jonesboro for Weather Siren Software.


*(Presented by Roger Swint, Fire Chief)*

2. Approval to authorize Mayor Jeffrey DeTar to execute Georgia Vietnamese American Chamber of Commerce (GVACC) specialized DMO contract.  
*(Presented by Jeffrey DeTar, Mayor)*
  
3. Approval to authorize Mayor Jeffrey DeTar to execute quit claim deed for the Brookwood estates property.  
*(Presented by Steve Fincher, City Attorney)*

The Work Session ended at 7:25pm.

Approved this 28th day of March, 2017.

Attest

  
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Yasmin Julio, City Clerk

**CITY OF MORROW, GEORGIA**

  
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Jeffrey A. DeTar, Mayor

