

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2014
7:00 P.M.

On Tuesday, February 4, 2014, the Commission of the City of Waycross met in Regular Session in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Clarence E. Billups at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins, Commissioners Alvin Nelson, Marian Solomon-Gaines, Norman Davis and Larry Ethridge.

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins introduced Reverend Doug Walker, Pastor, Trinity United Methodist Church who offered the opening invocation. The invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Master Jasiah Davis, a 9 year-old fourth grade student at Ruskin Elementary School.

Mayor Billups introduced Ms. Allison Herrin, HR Department, who presented Officer Matthew Chisholm of the Waycross Police Department as the Employee of the Month for February, 2014.

Mayor Clarence Billups surrounded by the family of Mrs. Betty Copeland read a moving Proclamation in Memoriam to Mrs. Betty Copeland.

Proclamation in Memoriam
Betty Sue Copeland
March 26, 1939 – December 23, 2013

WHEREAS, *The City of Waycross is deeply saddened by the death of one of its greatest caregivers and loving ambassadors who, on December 23, 2013, transitioned from her earthly home to the glorious kingdom of God; and*

WHEREAS, BETTY SUE COPELAND, *the daughter of the late Tom and Mary Davis was born in Waycross on March 26, 1939, and later became the beloved wife of Edward Copeland, Jr., for 56 wonderful years. She was a devoted daughter, wife, a mother to four children, a grandmother to seven children and a great grandmother to another seven children, sister, aunt and friend who deeply loved the Lord and His church, her family, the community, and Greater St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church where she served through the years in various capacities; and*

WHEREAS, BETTY SUE COPELAND, *was the true embodiment of honor, loyalty and service to humanity. She lived an exemplary life and will always be fondly remember as a dedicated, kind and loving individual who touch countless lives. She was a faithful minister to the young, the young at-heart, and the sick and was always ever present with her energized caring spirit, her zeal for life, and her genuine love for people. Know as the "Easter Bunny" for the past 20 years, Betty Sue Copeland served the Waycross community's children. Each year,*

*with the assistance of local sponsors, an Easter Parade complete with Easter treats was enjoyed by children of our community. Upon the opening of Bailey Street Park public swimming pool nearly three years ago, **Betty Sue Copeland** lead the campaign to provide numerous swimming pool outings for those disadvantaged children who could not afford to pay entrance fees to the beautiful new pool. She met the challenge head-on and with the aid of contributions donated by a concerned community, free days of swimming at Bailey Street Park Pool were enjoyed by a host of children.*

NOW THEREFORE, In Honor and in recognition of the life of service of Betty Sue Copeland and on half of the citizens of this City, I, Clarence E. Billups, Mayor of the City of Waycross, do hereby extend the Waycross community's condolences to the dear family of Mrs. Copeland. We pray God's love and the love of family and friends will comfort and strengthen them in the days ahead until we are all joined again in that kingdom that shall have no end.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Waycross to be affixed this 21st day of January, 2014.

CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, MAYOR

Commissioner Norman Davis read the following into the record, "Betty Sue Copeland and her services has been read into the record of this City of Waycross, Georgia, Rest in Peace Betty, we all love you".

During the City Manager's Report, Mr. King offered condolences on behalf of the City employees to the family of Mrs. Betty Copeland. He also congratulated Officer Matthew Chisholm. Mr. King congratulated Ms. Lisa Curry of the Police Department, who was named co-citizens of the year by Pierce County during their Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration. Mr. King congratulated Ms. Avis Staten who received her Bachelor's of Science degree in Business with a concentration in Human Resources with a 3.4 GPA. The Open House for the City Auditorium will be held Tuesday, February 11, 2014 from 3 until 7 with the ceremony for welcoming address at 5:00 p.m. Please come by and check out the new City Auditorium.

Mayor Clarence Billups opened the Mayor's report by inviting everyone to come out for the Open House for the City Auditorium. He said the City Auditorium holds a lot of memories and history of the City of Waycross. On Sunday, February 16, 2014, George Wallace will be at the City Auditorium.

There were no public remarks on official action.

Mayor Billups presented the Consent Calendar as read by City Clerk, Julie Dinkins for consideration of official action as follows:

Approval of Minutes: Waycross City Commission Planning & Information Session, Monday, January 20, 2014 and Waycross City Commission Meeting, Tuesday, January 21, 2014.

There were no Ordinance Second Readings, Consent Resolutions or Privilege License Renewals.

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Commissioner Alvin Nelson seconded the motion; all Commissioners voted favorably and the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Purchasing Director Linda Jones presented an Emergency Purchase for a Stage Curtain for the City Auditorium. Purchasing received 3 quotes on the stage curtain to be installed on 2/13/14. This curtain can be used as the backdrop curtain if the City decides to purchase a different color for the front of the stage. Purchasing is requesting the emergency purchase of a stage curtain from Georgia Stage for \$6,900.00 installed. This is the lowest and best bid meeting the City's specifications.

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Emergency Purchase of a Stage Curtain for the City Auditorium from Georgia Stage for \$6,900.00. Commissioner Norman Davis seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

Purchasing Director Linda Jones presented a State Contract Police Car Purchase FY14 for Chevy Impalas. The Police Department has requested the purchase of 8 police vehicles off this contract. Five – black and white patrol units, 1 black administrative unit and 2 silver administrative units. The total purchase price for the 8 units is \$176,095.66 and will be paid with SPLOST funds. This includes the price of painting the 5 black and white patrol units, delivery and a 2% early pay discount. Statewide Contract #999-SPD-ES40199409-0002.

The purchase of 8 police cars off the state contract for a total of \$176,095.66 from Hardy Chevrolet was approved by motion from Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins, seconded by Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines. All Commissioners voted positively and the motion carried.

A Resolution Approving the State Contract Purchase of Eight Police Cars for the WPD was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-09

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO APPROVE STATE CONTRACT PURCHASE OF EIGHT POLICE CARS FOR THE
WAYCROSS POLICE DEPARTMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Police Department has requested the purchase of eight (8) police vehicles from the Statewide Contract; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department has identified and negotiated the purchase of eight (8) Chevy Impalas through the Statewide Contract with Hardy Chevrolet, Inc. of Dallas, Georgia, for a total price of \$176,096.56, to be paid for from SPLOST funds; and

~~**WHEREAS**, said matter having been considered.~~

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that a contract be awarded to Hardy Chevrolet, Inc. of Dallas, Georgia for the purchase of eight (8) Police cars for the Waycross Police Department through the Statewide Contract, for the sum of \$176,096.56, to be paid for from SPLOST funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Contract on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes and intent of this Resolution.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of February, 2014.

CITY OFWAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

The motion to approve the Resolution Approving the State Contract Purchase of Eight Police Cars for the WPD from SPLOST funds was approved by motion by Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines. Commissioner Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted yes and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

A Resolution Approving the Emergency Purchase and Installation of the Stage Curtain for the City Auditorium was presented for approval:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-08

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AWARD BID TO GEORGIA STAGE, LLC FOR PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF
STAGE CURTAIN FOR THE CITY AUDITORIUM;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department solicited bids for purchase and installation of a Stage Curtain for the City Auditorium, as an emergency project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department offered the project through competitive bidding and received and opened bids tendered for the project; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Stage, LLC of Duluth, Georgia, submitted the lowest and best bid for the project at a cost of \$6,900.00; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that a contract be awarded to Georgia Stage, LLC of Duluth, Georgia for the purchase and installation of a Stage Curtain for the City Auditorium, to be paid for from SPLOST funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Contract on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes and intent of this Resolution.

SO RESOLVED, this 4TH day of February, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLIPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

The motion to approve the Resolution Approving the Emergency Purchase and Installation of the Stage Curtain for the City Auditorium was made by Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A Resolution Amending the FY2014 Budget by Approving the transfer of Excess Funds from the General Fund to Establish the City Auditorium Fund to pay for Operations expenses was presented for approval:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-10

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET BY APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF
EXCESS FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO ESTABLISH THE CITY AUDITORIUM
FUND TO PAY FOR OPERATIONAL EXPENSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. Section 36-81-3(d) allows a local government to amend its budget so as to adapt to changing governmental needs during a budget period; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Waycross adopted a balanced Budget of \$25,313,854 for Fiscal Year 2014 on June 18, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission deems it necessary to amend the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget by:

1. Increasing the General Fund Budget from \$13,470,134 to \$13,484,534, which will allow the General Fund to help establish the City Auditorium Fund, and increasing the revenue for the Title Ad Valorem Tax ("TAVT") with a reimbursement to the City Auditorium Fund for \$14,400.00.
2. In addition to the above changes, using anticipated rental income to help fund a part time Building Coordinator position to oversee events at the City Auditorium, and to create a budget of \$17,400.00 for the City Auditorium.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the above said adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget be made and a copy of the amended Budget be attached hereto and made a part hereof for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2014.

SO RESOLVED this 4th day of February, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLIPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution Amending the FY2014 Budget by Approving the Transfer of Excess Funds from the General Fund to Establish the City Auditorium Fund as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Alvin Nelson. Commissioner Nelson rescinded his second. Mayor Pro Tem Hopkins amended her motion to Approve the Resolution Amending the FY2014 Budget by Approving the Transfer of Excess Funds from the General Fund to Establish the City Auditorium Fund and striking "of \$3,000.00" to read anticipated rental income. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion; all Commissioners voted yes and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

A Resolution to Amend the FY2014 Budget by Approving the Transfer of Excess Funds from One Account to Another to Sponsor the Annual WayFest City Event was presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-11

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET BY APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF
EXCESS FUNDS FROM ONE ACCOUNT TO ANOTHER TO SPONSOR THE ANNUAL WAY-
FEST CITY EVENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. Section 36-81-3(d) allows a local government to amend its budget so as to adapt to changing governmental needs during a budget period; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Waycross adopted a balanced Budget of \$25,313,854 for Fiscal Year 2014 on June 18, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission deems it necessary to amend the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget by:

1. Transferring excess funds from the Elections and Production/IT Budgets in the amount of \$12,500.00, in order to help sponsor the 2nd Annual WayFest City Event in July, 2014.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the above said adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget be made and a copy of the amended Budget be attached hereto and made a part hereof for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2014.

SO RESOLVED this 4th day of February, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLIPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution to Amend the FY2014 Budget by Approving the Transfer of Excess Funds from One Account to Another to Sponsor the Annual WayFest City Event as presented. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the motion.

A Resolution to Award the Contract to Needham's Traffic Signal for Replacement and Improvements to the Signaled Intersection at Carswell Avenue and Tebeau Street was presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-12

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AWARD CONTRACT TO NEEDHAM'S TRAFFIC SIGNAL FOR REPLACEMENT AND
IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SIGNALLED INTERSECTION AT CARSWELL AVENUE AND
TEBEAU STREET; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, all four mass arms at the intersection of Carswell Avenue and Tebeau Street have been repeatedly struck over the years due to the close proximity to the turn radius; and

WHEREAS, the signal heads no longer meet the minimum requirements for vertical clearance putting the City at risk for fault if a tall load vehicle clips the heads resulting in a fall, thus creating an emergency repair project; and

WHEREAS, City engineering staff solicited a Statement of Qualifications from several vendors, and received three competitive bids to completely rehabilitate the said intersection using 2 mass arm design and placing poles out of the turning radius of the intersection; and

WHEREAS, Needham's Traffic Signal from Jesup, Georgia submitted the lowest and best bid for the project at a cost of \$85,395.00, to be paid out of SPLOST, with a time frame of 10-12 weeks; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that a contract be awarded to Needham's Traffic Signal from Jesup, Georgia, for the contract price of \$85,395.00, to completely rehabilitate the said intersection using 2 mass arm design and placing poles out of the turning radius of the intersection, to be paid out of SPLOST, with a time frame of 10-12 weeks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Contract on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, hereby ratifying and confirming all actions taken and to be taken.

SO RESOLVED this 4th day of February, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLIPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

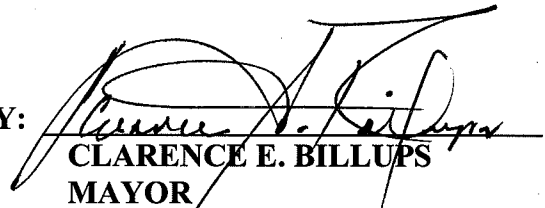
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve the Resolution to Award the Contract to Needham's Traffic Signal for Replacement and Improvements to the Signaled Intersection at Carswell Avenue and Tebeau Street as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion; all voted positively and the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

After closing remarks, Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Alvin Nelson seconded the motion. All voted in favor and Mayor Billups adjourned the meeting.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:


CLARENCE E. BILLIPS
MAYOR

ATTEST:


JULIE C. DINKINS, CITY CLERK