

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012
7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Commission of the City of Waycross was held in the Commission Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, February 7, 2012. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Clarence E. Billups at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Pro Tem Marian Solomon-Gaines, Commissioners Diane Hopkins, Norman Davis, William Simmons and Alvin Nelson present for the meeting.

Mayor Clarence Billups introduced Reverend William Simmons, Commissioner and Pastor of Light of the World Ministries who offered the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Under Executive Duties, Mayor Billups made the following appointments:

Waycross-Ware County Development Authority –
Unexpired Four-Year Term beginning January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2013 –
Frank Bannamon.

Housing Authority of the City of Waycross –
Unexpired five-year term expiring March 20, 2016 – Martin Eaves
Unexpired five-year term expiring March 20, 2013 – Marion Blount.

HR Director, Raphel Maddox, presented the Employee of the Month for February 2012 to Melissa Thrift, Criminal Investigation Unit, WPD.

Deron W. King, City Manager, presented the City Manager's Report. Mr. King reported that work on the 2011 Street Rehabilitation Project is continuing. Resurfacing on Goodwin, Howe, Bunche, Bethune, and Carter Streets is almost complete. Road marking should be finished by the end of February. Citizens are urged to exercise caution when traveling in construction areas. The Suwannee Drive Sanitary Sewer project is underway. Suwannee Drive from Seminole Trail to Cherokee Circle has been closed for the last several months due to a sewer main failure. This project should be complete by the end of March. Charli Giving back to the Community food drive will be held February 18, 2012, 11:00 a.m. at EE Moore Park. Mr. King congratulated Pastor Lewis and her associates who have assisted her in these endeavors.

Mayor Clarence Billups began the Mayor's Report by thanking Pastor Charli Lewis for her Charli Giving Back to the Community program. Mayor Billups said this is a great volunteer program which has been active for over a year. Mayor Billups send his condolences to the Bannamon family and the Edgerton family. Mayor Billups thanked all the City employees, the Police Department, Fire Department, and Public Works Department who do an excellent job. He also noted that discussion is underway to improve the traffic flow on Harrison Street.

Mayor Billups presented the Consent Calendar as read by Finance Director, Larry Gattis, for consideration of official action as follows:

Approval of Minutes: Waycross City Commission Planning & Information Session Executive Session and the Waycross City Commission Meeting, Tuesday, January 17, 2012. .

There were no consent resolutions, no ordinance second readings or privilege license renewals.

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

Purchasing Director, Linda Jones stated that request for proposals for banking services were sent out to nine banks and three proposals were received. The selection committee of Linda Jones, Larry Gattis and Dana Chancey reviewed the proposals and recommended that the City continue with SunTrust for a period of five years with an optional renewal period of five years, with Commission approval every January. Sun Trust offered no charges or fees on any provided service for the entire length of the agreement and will pay the City an interest rate of .15% on City monies. Commissioner Diane Hopkins made the motion to award the proposal for banking services to Sun Trust for a period of five years with an optional renewal period of five years with Commission approval every January. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines. The Commissioners all voted affirmatively and the motion was approved.

A Resolution Celebrating the Life of Mr. Ossie Davis, Jr. and Dedicating a Street in his Memory was presented.

Resolution 12-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MR. OSSIE DAVIS JR. AND DEDICATING A STREET IN HIS MEMORY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Raiford Chatman Davis Jr., better known as Ossie Davis Jr., was a native of south Georgia, born in Clinch County on December 18, 1917; and

WHEREAS, Davis attended the public schools of Waycross, Ware County, Georgia, and graduated from Center High in 1934; and

WHEREAS, Davis attended Howard University, where after three years he left to pursue a writing career and joined the Rose McClendon Players, an acting group in Harlem; and

WHEREAS, soon afterwards Davis enlisted in the army at Fort Benning, Georgia during World War II, where he wrote and put on shows for his fellow troops; and

WHEREAS, after the war was over, he made his Broadway debut in "Jeb" in the year 1946, and met the love of his life, Ruby Dee, whom he married two years later and had three children, Nora Davis Day, Dr. Hasna Davis Muhammad, and Guy Davis; and

WHEREAS, Davis wrote or starred in many Broadway plays including, but not limited to “Raisin in the Sun”, “Cotton Comes to Harlem”, “Escape to Freedom: A Play about Young Frederick Douglass”, “Langston, a Play”, “Just Like Martin”, and “Pearlie Victorious”. Many of his movie roles included “No Way Out”, “The Cardinal”, “The Shock Treatment”, “Slaves”, and “Gone Are the Days”; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work as an actor, director, producer, screenwriter, and playwright, Davis along with his wife Ruby Dee, were well respected and very influential African American performers as well as civil rights activists, as they were masters of ceremonies for the 1963 March on Washington, where they also announced the death of W.E.B. Du Bois, and thereafter became loyal followers of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., raised money for Freedom Riders who were arrested in the South for violating segregation laws, and Davis also tried to ensure voting rights for African Americans by suing in federal court; and

WHEREAS, Davis and his wife won many awards in the entertainment business like the 2000 Screen Actors Guild Life Achievement Award as well as political awards such as the NAACP Image Award Hall of Fame in 1996, and they were honored by the Kennedy Center in recognition of their “lifetime contributions to the American culture through performing arts” in 2004; and

WHEREAS, in Miami Beach, Florida, on February 4, 2005, he died while working on the film, “With Ossie and Ruby”, an audio album that was recorded by the two before his death and released after his death, which won a Grammy Award for Best Spoken Word Album; and

WHEREAS, said matter having being considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross honor Mr. Ossie Davis Jr. for his great influence as an American actor and service as a civil rights activist, by dedicating U.S. Highway No.1, currently known as “State Street”, and changing the name to “**OSSIE DAVIS, JR. WAY.**”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the name State Street be changed to “**Ossie Davis, Jr. Way**” from the City limits proceeding South to the point where State Street ends in the City of Waycross.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, City Manager, and City Clerk are hereby authorized, directed and empowered to transmit a copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Ossie Davis Jr., the legislative delegation in the Georgia General Assembly, and the Georgia Department of Transportation.

SO RESOLVED, this 7th day of February, 2012.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

**BY: CLARENCE E BILLUPS
MAYOR**

ATTEST: JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve A Resolution Celebrating the Life of Mr. Ossie Davis, Jr. and Dedicating a Street in his Memory as presented. Commissioner Norman Davis seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Accept a Corrective Limited Warranty Deed from BC Waycross Associates in Connections with Regional Storm Water Retention Pond Agreement was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-07

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO ACCEPT CORRECTIVE LIMITED WARRANTY DEED FROM BC WAYCROSS
ASSOCIATES, LLP IN CONNECTION WITH REGIONAL STORM WATER RETENTION
POND AGREEMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross, Georgia, entered into an Agreement with BC Waycross Associates, LLP on July 18, 2006, whereby BC Waycross Associates, LLP agreed to finance construction of a Regional Storm Water Retention Pond for the City to permit development of a large tract of property located on US 1 North; and

WHEREAS, said project rendered the subject property suitable for development, and provided adequate retention capacity for surrounding and upstream development, and effected progressive improvement to the City storm drainage infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the City agreed to pay the costs for construction of the pond for the value of the land, which appraised value far exceeded the agreed finance amount;

WHEREAS, the City received title to the retention pond upon completion by a Limited Warranty Deed dated March 2, 2010, and an easement from the owners to go upon surrounding land in order to maintain the City's retention pond; and

WHEREAS, it now appears that the original Limited Warranty Deed accepted by the City did not contain a comprehensive list of permitted exceptions including certain Easements and Right-of-Way Deeds, thus creating the need for a Corrective Limited Warranty Deed to be accepted by the City, including Exhibit B attached thereto; and

WHEREAS, the said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross hereby accepts the Corrective Limited Warranty Deed from BC Waycross Associates, LLP re-conveying and transferring title to the Regional Storm Water Retention Pond located on US 1 North to the City of Waycross, containing a comprehensive list of permitted exceptions including certain Easements and Right-of-Way Deeds as shown on Exhibit B attached thereto, in the form of the Limited Warranty Deed attached hereto and approved hereby.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor, City Manager and City Clerk are hereby authorized, directed and empowered to execute any documents needful or necessary in connection with re-conveying title to the City's Retention Pond to the City of Waycross Georgia.

SO RESOLVED, this 7th day of February, 2012.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

**BY: CLARENCE E BILLUPS
MAYOR**

ATTEST: JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Accept a Corrective Limited Warranty Deed from BC Waycross Associates in Connections with Regional Storm Water Retention Pond Agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner William Simmons. All voted favorably and the motion carried with a 5 – 0 vote.

A Resolution By the Commission of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Approve the Meyers Avenue Sewer Main Extension Project was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-08

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO APPROVE MYERS AVENUE SEWER MAIN EXTENSION PROJECT; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, Residents at 1405 Myers Avenue, 603 Crawford Street, and 1416 Carswell Avenue share a common 4-inch terracotta service line previously approved by the City, approximately 100 feet long that taps the City sewage system at Carswell Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Root infiltration and recurring blockages have occurred on this line over the years resulting in inhabitable living conditions; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to extend a line from an existing 12” sewer main at Carswell Avenue that would terminate at a manhole from which property owners could tape separately via a dedicated service line, thereby eliminating the recurring blockages on the sewer line; and

WHEREAS, City staff seeks permission for preliminary design, bidding and construction services for said project to be funded through the City’s W&S Enterprise Fund; and

WHEREAS, said matter being considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross hereby authorizes City staff to seek preliminary design, bidding and construction services for Myers Avenue Sewer Main Extension Project to be funded through the City’s W&S Enterprise Fund, and to bring responsive proposals before the City Commission for further review and approval.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be and are hereby authorized, directed and empowered to execute any documents necessary to carry out the purposes and intent of this Resolution. .

SO RESOLVED, this 7th day of February, 2012.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve A Resolution By the Commission of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Approve the Meyers Avenue Sewer Main Extension Project as presented. Commissioner Williams Simmons seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the motion was approved.

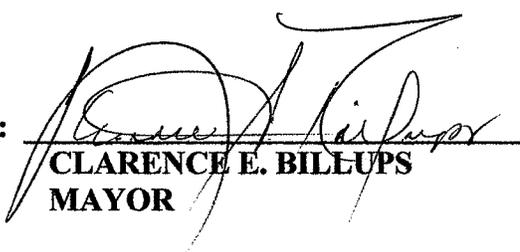
Dan and Terri Keller addressed the Commission concerning the Georgia Power Smart Meters. They expressed their concern for the safety of the Georgia Power Smart Meters and urged citizens to be informed.

Mr. Willie Character questioned the Commission regarding the Prison Work Detail. Mr. Character is concerned about the Prison Work Details working too close to schools and day cares and asked what he regulations were concerning distance to schools. City Manager King was instructed to resolve this matter to insure the safety of our children.

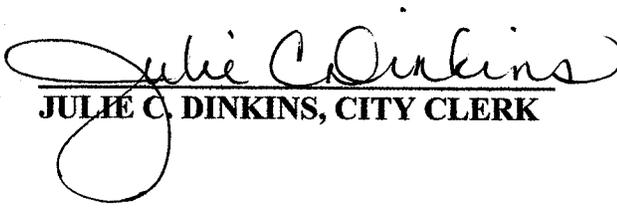
Following the Mayor's and Commissioners' closing remarks, Commissioner Diane Hopkins made the motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner William Simmons; all voted in favor and Mayor Billups adjourned the meeting.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:


CLARENCE E. BILLUPS
MAYOR

ATTEST:


JULIE C. DINKINS, CITY CLERK