

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019
5:00 PM

The Commission of the City of Waycross held their Regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor John Knox at 5:00 p.m. Members in attendance were: Mayor John Knox, Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins, Commissioners Marian Solomon-Gaines, Norman Davis, and John Threat. Commissioner Jon Tindall was absent due to a death in the family.

Commissioner Norman Davis introduced Rev. Roy Williams who offered the opening invocation. The Invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor John Knox.

Mayor John Knox presented a Proclamation to Bertha Dixon, Patricia McCarthy, and Denise Lee, representatives of Southern Forest World as follows:

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

Office of the Mayor



Proclamation

Whereas, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products; and

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

Whereas, trees wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

Whereas, the Okefenokee Heritage Center wishes to plant a **CENTURY TREE** to symbolize the long-term importance of trees to the citizens of Waycross.

Now, therefore, I, John Knox, Mayor of the City of Waycross, do hereby proclaim this tree planted here on February 16, 2019, at the Okefenokee Heritage Center's Southern Forest World be recognized, protected, and cared for as a **CENTURY TREE** for the next 100 years, and I urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and to support our city's urban forestry programs; and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Waycross to be affixed this 16th day of February, 2019.



Mayor, City of Waycross, Georgia

Mayor Knox announced that the City of Waycross will hold its Annual Retreat in the Commission Chambers of City Hall on February 22 at 5:00 p.m. and on February 23 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Chief Tony Tanner thanked the Commissioners for their support of Sr. Safety Day. Approximately 168 people attended the festivities at Waycross Middle School.

Chief Tanner called the Commissioners attention to the new law requiring all drivers on both sides of the road to stop for school buses. If there is no median or physical barrier between the lanes, everyone is required to stop.

Interim City Manager Davis Eddins announced that this will be his last meeting as Interim City Manager and thanked the Commissioners for their help and assistance. Mr. Eddins also thanked the staff and division directors and especially Robin Brookins.

There were no public remarks on official action.

Mayor Knox 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 and Executive Session, Monday, February 4, 2019 and Waycross City Commission Meeting, Tuesday, February 5, 2019.

One Ordinance Second Reading:

ORDINANCE NO. O19-05

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO REZONE THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN LOCATED AT 414 HICKS STREET FROM C – 2 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL TO R – 50HD RESIDENTIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT; TO SET AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

There were no consent resolutions or privilege License renewals.

The Consent Calendar was approved by motion from Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins; seconded by Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines; all voted in favor and the motion was approved.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Hire a City Manager for the City of Waycross; to Approve the Entry of a Contract setting forth Salary and All other Terms of Employment was presented for approval.

RESOLUTION NO. R19-04

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA,
TO HIRE A CITY MANAGER FOR THE CITY OF WAYCROSS;
TO APPROVE THE ENTRY OF A CONTRACT UPON THE TERMS AND
CONDITIONS ATTACHED HERETO, THE SAME SETTING SALARY AND ALL
OTHER TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the Commission of the City of Waycross, Georgia, is charged with the duty of appointing a City Manager pursuant to Section 25 of the Charter of the City of Waycross; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission desires to appoint a City Manager to perform functions and duties specified in said Sections 25 and 26 of the Charter of the City of Waycross, other Charter

provisions established as set forth in the Code of the City of Waycross and to perform other legally permissible and proper duties and functions as the Commission shall from time to time assign; and.

WHEREAS, the contract term is for an initial period of one year from February 22, 2019, to February 21, 2020, and shall automatically be renewed on its anniversary date for a one year term unless notice of termination is given at least ninety (90) days before the expiration date; and

WHEREAS, the salary shall be fixed at \$115,000.00 per annum, and consideration shall be given thereafter on an annual basis to increase actual compensation as conditions permit and in the City's sole discretion; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross, by and through its Commission, hereby appoints Tonya D. Miller to serve as City Manager upon the terms and conditions as fully set forth in the Employment Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto and hereby made part of the public records of the City of Waycross, Georgia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Employment Agreement containing the terms and conditions of service and compensation as heretofore set forth and described.

SO RESOLVED, this 19th day of February, 2019.

CITY OF WAYCROSS
BY: JOHN KNOX, Mayor

ATTEST:
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve the Hire a City Manager for the City of Waycross; to approve the Entry of a Contract setting forth Salary and all other Terms of Employment was presented for approval. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the motion carried.

Shawn Taylor, South Georgia Regional Commission addressed the Commission regarding the Regional Senior Hunger Coalition.

Following last call, Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner John Threat; all voted positively and Mayor Knox adjourned the meeting.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

ATTEST:


JULIE C. DINKINS, City Clerk

BY: 
JOHN KNOX, Mayor