

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020
5:00 PM

The Commission of the City of Waycross held their Regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Michael-Angelo James. Members in attendance were: Mayor Michael-Angelo James, Commissioners Norman Davis, John Threat, Diane Hopkins, and Marian Solomon-Gaines.

City Manager Tonya Miller asked Rod Swinson, Pastor of Family Worship Center, to offer the opening Invocation. The Invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor James.

Human Resources Director Ed Lastinger introduced Jamie Herrin, Traffic Department, as the March Employee of the Month.

During the City Manager's & Mayor's Report, City Manager Tonya Miller and Mayor James discussed monitoring COVID 19.

There were no public remarks on official action.

Mayor James presented the Consent Calendar as read by City Clerk Michelle Love for consideration of official action as follows:

Approval of Minutes: Planning and Information Session & Executive Session Monday, March 2, 2020; Waycross City Commission Meeting, March 3, 2020, 5:00 pm.

There were no consent Resolutions or second Ordinance readings.

The following Privilege Licenses was presented to the Commission for renewal for 2020.

1. Pizza Hut, Shari Chatman, 1110 Plant Avenue, Waycross, GA 31501

The Consent Calendar was approved by motion from Commissioner Norman Davis, seconded by Commissioner Diane Hopkins. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

One Privilege License was presented for approval; My Place Lounge, Christi Williams/Luella Robinson, 1007 Albany Avenue, Waycross, GA; Consumption on Premises Beer, Wine and Liquor. The Privilege License was approved by motion from Commissioner Diane Hopkins, seconded by Commissioner Marion Solomon-Gaines, and unanimously approved.

Ms. Linda Jones, Purchasing Director, presented Bid #FY20-21 Garage Equipment to the Commissioners. The Waycross Public Works Department has approved to use FY20 SPLOST Funds to purchase Garage Equipment. Purchasing received 3 bids from contractors. After staff review it is the recommendation to award the bid to Lewis Tools and Equipment, Baxley,

Georgia for a total bid of \$292,606.05. This is the lowest and best bid meeting all specifications. Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve award bid to Lewis Tools and Equipment; Commissioner Diane Hopkins second the motion. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

Ms. Jones presented Bid #FY20-22 Sale of Real Property- Ossie Davis and Effie Street to the Commissioners. Purchasing sent 9 packets to adjoining property owners. After staff review, it is the recommendation to award the (2) bids to the highest bidders Alvin Nelson for Parcel 1 & E, and Anita Harris Parcel 2 & 3 on Effie Street. These are the highest and best bids. Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve award bid to Alvin Nelson and Anita Harris; seconded by Commissioner Diane Hopkins; and approved with a unanimous vote.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Extend the Moratorium on Applications for Permit to Erect, Enlarge, Convert or Replace Any Off-Premises Sign in the City for Two Additional Months.

RESOLUTION NO. R20-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION TO EXTEND THE MORATORIUM ON APPLICATIONS FOR PERMIT TO ERECT, ENLARGE, CONVERT OR REPLACE ANY OFF- PREMISES SIGN IN THE CITY FOR TWO ADDITIONAL MONTHS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross has a Zoning Ordinance, adopted on April 19, 1984, as amended thereafter; and

WHEREAS, said Waycross Zoning Ordinance regulates the location, size, placement and certain features of off-premises signs in the City of Waycross in Article VIII, Section 801, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the City of Waycross to restrict off-premises signs and lights which increase visual clutter, or increase the probability of traffic accidents by obstructing vision or creating undue visual distraction; and

WHEREAS, there is concern that the safety of our citizens and motorists may be compromised or stressed if too many off-premises electronic signs are allowed at traffic intersections or on the streets; and

WHEREAS, city officials need additional time to review the above-referenced Zoning Ordinance to determine if any changes need to be made as to off-premises signs and to properly give notice to the public before action by the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the matter having been duly considered;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross extends the six (6) month moratorium imposed by this City Commission on October 22, 2019, on accepting, receiving and considering any petitions or applications to erect, enlarge, move, convert, or replace any off-premise sign in the City of Waycross pursuant to Article VIII, Section 801 et seq. of the Waycross Zoning Ordinance for an additional two (2) months or until June 21, 2020.

SO RESOLVED, this 17th day of March, 2020.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:
MICHELLE LOVE, City Clerk

Commissioner Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve to Extend the Moratorium. Commissioner Marion Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. All voted in approval, and the motion passed.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Submit an Application to the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority for the Construction of New Groundwater Withdrawal Well Project.

RESOLUTION NO. R20-27

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW GROUNDWATER WITHDRAWAL WELL PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross desires to make certain improvements to its water system and which includes the construction of a new groundwater well to serve as an ancillary backup supply of drinking water for the City of Waycross; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross's current water supply consists of two (2) functional wells located on the same site on Alice Street where they share a common power supply; and

WHEREAS, the new withdrawal well will be constructed as a redundant supply for those primary wells in case of power failure and/or security threats at the Alice Street site; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross is also desirous of pursuing all appropriate means of funding for the aforementioned project; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Commission of the City of Waycross hereby approves the submission of an application to the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (hereinafter referred to as "GEFA") for a 20 year loan to finance the construction of new groundwater withdrawal well project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Manager, City Clerk and City Finance Director be and are hereby authorized, directed and empowered to execute the documents necessary to submit such application and all other documents required therewith.

SO RESOLVED, this 17TH day of March 2, 2020, *nunc pro tunc* to 03/04/2020.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:
MICHELLE LOVE, City Clerk

Commissioner Marion Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve to Submit an Application to the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority for the Construction of New Groundwater Withdrawal Well Project. Commissioner Diane Hopkins seconded the motion. All voted in approval, and the motion passed.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Approve a to Cancel Deed to Secure Debt for Real Property Located at 1416 Carswell Avenue was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION NO. R20-28

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION
TO CANCEL DEED TO SECURE DEBT FOR REAL PROPERTY LOCATED
AT 1416 CARSWELL AVENUE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross received Georgia Department of Community Affairs Community HOME Investment Program (hereinafter “C.H.I.P.”) funds to provide grants for city residents who make less than 80% AMI (Area Median Income) for home rehabilitation assistance; and

WHEREAS, a citizen, Bertha Richardson, of 1416 Carswell Avenue, was approved for such a rehabilitation assistance grant on or about November 24, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the deed to secure debt was, as part of C.H.I.P. grant number 06m-x-148-2-2943, filed to secured the loan for the costs of rehabilitating her residence at 1416 Carswell Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the loan required no regular monthly or annual payments, and if no payment event occurred prior to the expiration of the Affordability Period of ten (10) years from the date of the loan, (being a transfer of the real property; or she or her family fail to occupy the property; or the City declares a default under the deed), she “shall not be obligated to pay [the City of Waycross] any part of the Loan amount”; and

WHEREAS, said ten (10) years Affordability Period has matured and expired on November 24, 2019; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been duly considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross hereby authorizes the execution of a Cancellation of the Deed to Secure Debt, in the form which is attached hereto and is incorporated herein as if fully set forth, for the real property of Bertha Richardson located at 1416 Carswell Avenue.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Clerk, City Attorney be and are hereby authorized, directed, and empowered to execute the documents needed and necessary to submit and file the Cancellation of Deed to Secure Debt set forth herein.

SO RESOLVED this 17th day of March, 2020.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:

MICHELLE LOVE, City Clerk

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve a Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Cancel Deed to Secure Debt for Real Property Located at 1416 Carswell Avenue. Commissioner Diane Hopkins seconded the motion; all voted to approve the motion as presented.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Award Bid Contract to Lewis Tool and Equipment of Baxley, Georgia, for Purchase and Installation of New Garage and Fleet Maintenance Equipment for the New Public Works Complex as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. R20-29

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA,
TO AWARD BID CONTRACT TO LEWIS TOOL AND EQUIPMENT FOR**

PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF NEW GARAGE AND FLEET MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT FOR THE NEW PUBLIC WORKS COMPLEX; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Public Works Department has the need for new garage and fleet maintenance equipment to be installed in the new Public Works Complex; and

WHEREAS, an allowance of \$330,000.00 for garage equipment was included in the estimated construction costs of the Public Works Complex; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross has designated SPLOST funds to purchase and install equipment in the Public Works Complex; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department offered the project through competitive bidding, and received and opened three (3) bids tendered; and

WHEREAS, Lewis Tool and Equipment of Baxley, Georgia, submitted the lowest and best bid for the purchase and installation of garage and fleet maintenance equipment of \$292,606.05 and meeting all specifications and requirements; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the Bid Contract for new garage and fleet maintenance equipment, and including installation, for the new Public Works Complex be awarded to Lewis Tool and Equipment of Baxley, Georgia, in the amount not to exceed \$292,606.05, and to be paid from SPLOST funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Clerk, City Manager and City Attorney be authorized and directed to execute said Bid 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 17th day of March, 2020.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MICHELLE LOVE, City Clerk

The Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Award Bid Contract to Lewis Tool and Equipment of Baxley, Georgia, for Purchase and Installation of New Garage and Fleet Maintenance Equipment for the New Public Works Complex was approved as presented by motion from Commissioner Marion Solomon-Gaines. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Diane Hopkins. All voted favorably, and the motion was approved.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Approve the Sale and Transfer of Certain Surplused Real Property Located Between Ossie Davis Parkway and Jones Street was presented for approval.

RESOLUTION NO. R20-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, TO APPROVE THE SALE AND TRANSFER OF CERTAIN SURPLUSED REAL PROPERTY LOCATED BETWEEN OSSIE DAVIS PARKWAY AND JONES STREET; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross is the owner of certain real estate property located between Ossie Davis Parkway (formerly known as State Street), Effie Street and Jones Street; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross has no useable purpose for said real property and declared said real property as surplus property in Resolution No. R20-9, incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. § 36-30-2 provides that the city commission has the discretion in the disposition of its property, where exercised in good faith; and

WHEREAS, bids packets were mailed to nine (9) adjoining or neighboring property owners by the purchasing department and subsequently received two (2) bids on said properties;

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of purchasing department to accept the bid from Alvin Nelson for Parcel E on Ossie Davis Parkway and Parcel 1 on Effie Street for the bid of \$10,895.00; and to accept the bid from Anita Harris for Parcel 2 and Parcel 3 on Effie Street for the bid of \$4000.00; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the Commission hereby approves the sale and transfer of surplus real property, as previously described in Resolution No. R20-9 and located between Ossie Davis Parkway, Effie Street and Jones Street to Alvin Nelson (Parcel E and Parcel 1) and to Anita Harris (Parcel 2 and Parcel 3).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Clerk, City Manager, City Finance Director and City Attorney are authorized, empowered and directed to execute and sign the appropriate quitclaim deeds on behalf of the City of Waycross (once the amounts of the bid offers have been paid to the City), and to ratify and confirm the execution of said quitclaim deed, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to ratify, confirm and carry out the purposes and intent of this Resolution.

SO RESOLVED, this 17th day of March, 2020.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MICHELLE LOVE, City Clerk

Commissioner Marion Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Approve the Sale and Transfer of Certain Surplused Real Property Located Between Ossie Davis Parkway and Jones Street. Commissioner Diane Hopkins seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Mr. Carlos Nelson, Waycross, GA, addressed the Commission regarding the Election.

After last call, Commissioner Henry Strickland made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Marion Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. All voted in favor and Mayor James adjourned the meeting.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:

MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:

MICHELLE LOVE, City Clerk