

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2014
7:00 P.M.

The Commission of the City of Waycross met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 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.

Commissioner Alvin Nelson introduced Pastor Tommy Kemp, Hebron Temple in Blackshear, Georgia who offered the opening invocation. Mr. Nelson also introduced his niece, Quiara Jenkins, a second grade student at Williams Heights Elementary School who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Manager Deron King invited Ms. Avis Staten, Hr Department, to come to the podium to introduce the winners of the "If I Were Mayor I Would" Contest. Miss Sara Wheeler of Waycross Middle School and Miss Jaylin Bennett of Ware County Middle School each read their winning essay. These essays along with all of the others will be sent to GMA for state judging.

Ms. Allison Herrin, HR Department introduced Mr. Jerry Sikes, Public Works Department as the March 2014 Employee of the Month.

City Manager Deron King thanked all of the essay contact participants. Mr. King asked Police Chief Tony Tanner to update the Commission on Senior Safety Day. Chief Tanner stated that even though the crowd was down a bit, a good time was had by all attending. The City Manager congratulated the three retiring Battalion Chiefs from the Fire Department Archie Crawford, Ernest Smith and Morris Clark and thanked them for their years of service.

Mayor Clarence Billups thanked Miss Sara Wheeler and Miss Jaylin Bennett, the "If I were Mayor I Would" local contest winners and said he is looking forward to one of these essays winning at the state level. Mayor Billups stated that he enjoyed Senior Safety Day immensely and thanked Mr. Willie Character for providing the music.

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 and Executive Session, Monday, March 3, 2014; Waycross City Commission Meeting, Tuesday, March 4, 2014 and Called Meetings and Executive Sessions to Discuss Personnel Issues, Wednesday, March 5, 2014 and Monday, March 10, 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. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins and approved with a unanimous vote.

Purchasing Director Linda Jones submitted bids for the purchase of a new tractor with side arm mower and rear mower. Purchasing received 4 bids and it is the staff's recommendation to award the bid to Dixon New Holland Tractor, Blackshear, GA for \$118,900.00. This is the best value for the City with the vendor offering an additional 1 year warranty and it is only 10 miles from Waycross for service.

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the purchase of a new tractor with side arm mower and rear mower from Dixon New Holland Tractor, Blackshear, GA for \$118,900.00. Commissioner Norman Davis seconded the motion and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

Ms. Jones submitted bids for the purchase of four F150 Ford trucks for the Police Department and 1 F150 Ford truck for the Fire Department. Purchasing received 8 bids. Staff recommends that the bid be awarded to Wade Ford, Smyrna, GA for a total price of \$101,564 for the purchase of 5 each Ford F150's.

The purchase was approved by motion from Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins to purchase a total of five F150 Ford trucks. All Commissioners voted positively and the motion carried.

Purchasing Director Linda Jones presented WAYX 14-08 Surplus Property. A list of items that are no longer needed in any City Department or have been confiscated and court awarded to the Waycross Police Department was presented for review. Ms. Jones requested that these items be declared surplus so that they may be sold on GovDeals.com.

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to declare the listed property surplus so that it may be sold on GovDeals.com. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

A Resolution Awarding the Purchase of a New Tractor with Side Arm Mower and Rear Mower for the Public Works Department was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-17

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF A NEW TRACTOR WITH MOWERS FOR THE PUBLIC
WORKS DEPARTMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Public Works Department has an approved budgeted line item to purchase a new tractor with side arm mower and rear mower; 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, Dixon New Holland Tractor of Blackshear, Georgia, submitted the best value bid for the project at a cost of \$118,900.00; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the Contract for purchase of a new tractor with side arm mower and rear mower be awarded to Dixon New Holland Tractor of Blackshear, Georgia, at a cost of \$118,900.00 to be paid for from the Public Works Departments' budgeted line item for said equipment.

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 18th day of March, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

The motion to approve the Resolution Awarding the Purchase of a New Tractor with Side Arm Mower and Rear Mower for the Public Works Department was approved by motion from Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted yes and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

A Resolution to Award the Contract for Street Widening on George Street at the intersection of Corridor Z was presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-18

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF ONE FULL SIZE TRUCK FOR THE WAYCROSS FIRE
DEPARTMENT AND FOUR FULL SIZE TRUCKS FOR THE WAYCROSS POLICE
DEPARTMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Fire Department and Police Department have designated SPLOST funds to purchase full size trucks for their departments, Fire Department – 1, and Police Department – 4, for a total of 5 trucks; 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, Wade Ford of Smyrna, Georgia, submitted the lowest and best bid for the project at a cost of \$101,564.00; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the Contract for purchase of one full size truck for the Waycross Fire Department, and four full size trucks for the Waycross Police Department, be awarded to Wade Ford of Smyrna, Georgia, at a cost of \$101,564.00, 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 18th day of March, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution to Award the Contract for Street Widening on George Street at the intersection of Corridor Z as presented. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous and the resolution was approved with a 5-0 vote.

A Resolution to Award a Contract to Holmes & Brakel International for Purchase of Additional Chairs for the City Auditorium was presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-19

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AWARD CONTRACT TO HOLMES & BRAKEL INTERNATIONAL FOR PURCHASE OF
ADDITIONAL CHAIRS FOR THE CITY AUDITORIUM;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department solicited bids for purchase of additional chairs for the City Auditorium; 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, Holmes & Brakel International of Jacksonville, Florida, submitted the lowest and best bid for the project at a cost of \$2,525.00 for 100 chairs; 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 Holmes & Brakel International of Jacksonville, Florida for the purchase of 100 chairs for the City Auditorium, at a cost of \$2,525.00, 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 18th day of March, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Alvin Nelson made the motion to approve A Resolution to Award a Contract to Holmes & Brakel International for Purchase of Additional Chairs for the City Auditorium as presented.

A Resolution to approve the final payment to Brantley Roofing for the DWDA Roofs and Gutter Replacement on the REA and Depot buildings was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-20

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO APPROVE FINAL PAYMENT TO BRANTLEY ROOFING FOR THE DWDA ROOFS AND
GUTTER REPLACEMENT ON THE REA AND DEPOT BUILDINGS;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department, on behalf of the Downtown Waycross Development Authority ("DWDA"), solicited bids for roof and gutter replacement for the REA and Depot Buildings in downtown Waycross; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross awarded a Contract to Brantley Roofing for the DWDA roof and gutter project on October 15, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the DWDA project is now completed and has been inspected and approved by the Building and Codes Department, and final payment has been requested by Brantley Roofing, in the amount of \$101,390.00; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the final payment of \$101,390.00, be made to Brantley Roofing for completion of the DWDA roof and gutter project, to be paid for from SPLOST funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Manager, and City Clerk be authorized and directed to make the final payment to Brantley Roofing, 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 18th day of March, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

The Resolution to approve the final payment to Brantley Roofing for the DWDA Roofs and Gutter Replacement on the REA and Depot buildings was approved by motion from Commissioner Norman Davis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Alvin Nelson. All Commissioners voted yes and the vote was unanimous.

A Resolution to Amend Resolution #14-03 adopted on January 7, 2014 by approving removal of newly retired employees from the City's Health Insurance Plan Effective July 1, 2015 was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-22

**AMENDED RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO APPROVE REMOVAL OF NEWLY RETIRED EMPLOYEES FROM THE CITY'S
HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the Commission of the City of Waycross adopted Resolution #14-03 on January 7, 2014, providing for removal of newly retired employees from the City's Health Insurance Plan coverage, effective July 1, 2014, and was expressly made contingent upon the Human Resources Department staff, through further investigation and negotiation with third party insurance carriers, determining that implementation of the policy is in the best interest of the City and affected retirees and is cost effective; and

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department and the Employees on Insurance Committee have studied and are continuing to monitor coverage available to retired employees under the Health Exchange options, and are now recommending an extension of coverage for retired employees until July 1, 2015, while continuing to monitor the Health Exchange coverage, and will bring forth their recommendation to the Commission at a later time; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the proposed removal of new retirees from the City's health insurance plan in 2015, the City remains committed to subsidizing such retirees health insurance costs up to a maximum contribution of \$5,000.00, or the actual cost of their private health insurance, whichever is less; 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 request of the Human Resources Department and the Employee on Insurance Committee to delay implementation of the proposed removal of newly retired employees from the City's Health Insurance Plan coverage until July 1, 2015, subject to any new recommendations that will be made before July 1, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of the Department of Human Resources and his staff are authorized and directed to take the necessary steps to implement this new proposed policy, hereby ratifying and confirming all the acts and things done by said City Officials, in order to give effect to the purposes and intent of this Resolution.

SO RESOLVED, this 18th day of March, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution to Amend Resolution #14-03 adopted on January 7, 2014 by approving removal of newly retired employees from the City's Health Insurance Plan Effective July 1, 2015 as presented. Commissioner Alvin Nelson seconded the motion; all voted yes and the motion carried.

A Resolution to Authorize Execution of Access and Indemnification Agreement for LMI Consulting along City of Waycross Canal Rights-of-Way was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-21

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF ACCESS AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT
FOR LMI CONSULTING ALONG CITY OF WAYCROSS CANAL RIGHTS-OF WAY;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, LMI Consulting ("LMI") is conducting an investigation including inspecting property, collecting water, soil and air samples along the City of Waycross Canals, for the Atlanta Gas Light Company, as part of an environmental study; and

WHEREAS, the said LMI desires to acquire access to the City of Waycross Canal Rights-of-Way in order to conduct said studies; and

WHEREAS, LMI is seeking consent from the City of Waycross for access and use involving the affected property until the site investigation is complete or until canceled by either party in writing; 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 hereby approves the request of LMI Consulting to execute the Access and Indemnification Agreement in the form attached hereto, for the purpose of taking such soil, water and air samples as may be determined necessary in connection with its ongoing investigation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor of the City of Waycross and City Clerk be authorized to execute the Access and Indemnification Agreement, hereby ratifying and confirming all the acts and things done in order to give effect to the purposes of this Resolution.

SO RESOLVED this 18th day of March, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve the Resolution to Authorize Execution of Access and Indemnification Agreement for LMI Consulting along City of Waycross Canal Rights-of-Way. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion. The Commissioners all voted affirmatively and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Alvin Nelson made the motion to accelerate the City Manager's departure date to March 19, 2014 at 12:00 noon to include 90 days pay plus benefits. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. Commissioners Nelson, Solomon-Gaines and Hopkins voted yes; Commissioners Davis and Ethridge voted no. Motion carried.

Mr. John Summerlin addressed the Commission regarding 1307 Jane Street. Mr. Summerlin requested that the water and lights be turned on at 1307 Jane Street. He has a homeless man who needs a place to stay. Mr. Summerlin requested a letter setting forth the reasons why he cannot have the water connected at this house.

Mr. John Summerlin also asked if City employees are required to take drug tests. And are City Commissioners required to take drug tests?

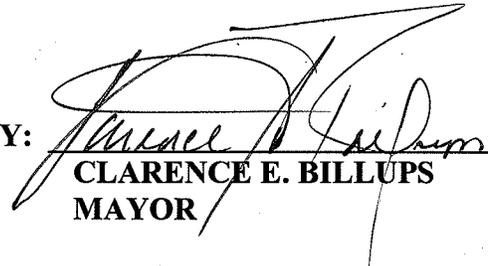
Mr. Clayton Nelson addressed the Commission stating that he was there to discuss the City Manager situation. Mr. Nelson said that it was not professional to not allow Mr. King to answer his accuser or to work out his 90 day resignation.

During last call, Commissioner Nelson asked Public Works Director Wilton Deloach to update the Commission and the public on the Bazemore Park. Mr. Deloach informed the Commission that the fitness equipment has been installed at Bazemore Park around the walking track. Bazemore Park is located on Riverside beside Fire Station 2.

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. All voted in favor and Mayor Billups adjourned the meeting.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:



CLARENCE E. BILLUPS
MAYOR

ATTEST:



JULIE C. DINKINS, CITY CLERK