

**MINUTES**  
**WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2019**  
**5:00 PM**

The Honorable John Knox, Mayor of the City of Waycross called the Regular City Commission Meeting to order on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at the Commission Chambers of City Hall. Members in attendance with Mayor John Knox were: Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins, Commissioners Marian Solomon-Gaines, John Threat, and Jon Tindall. Commissioner Norman Davis was not present. City Manager Tonya Miller and City Attorney Rick Currie were also in attendance.

City Manager Tonya Miller introduced Reverend Don Patterson, Associational Missionary, Piedmont Okefenokee Baptist Association, who offered the opening invocation. The Invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor John Knox.

There was no Mayor's Report or 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: Approval of Minutes: 1.) Waycross City Commission Planning & Information Session and Executive Session, Monday, July 1, 2019, 5:00 p.m.; 2.) Waycross City Commission Meeting, Tuesday, July 02, 2019, 5:00 p.m.

One Ordinance Second Reading was presented:

**ORDINANCE NO. 019-10**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 38 – TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, ARTICLE III. – STOPPING, STANDING, AND PARKING, BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 38-70 PERTAINING TO PROHIBITION OF PARKING IN FIRE LANES; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO PROVIDE FOR RENUMBERING OR RELETTERING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

No Privilege License Renewals, or consent resolutions were presented.

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar; seconded by Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines; and approved with a 4-0 vote.

One New Privilege License was presented: Stop N Save, Urmilaben Patel, 1333 S. Georgia Parkway W., Waycross, Georgia, Package Sales Beer and Wine. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Privilege License; seconded by Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines; and approved with a 4-0 vote.

Ms. Linda Jones, Purchasing Director, presented Surplus Property WAYX 20-01 Surplus Property requesting that the listed items be declared surplus property and sold on GovDeals.com. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to declare the items surplus and sell on GoveDeals.com. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines. The Commissioners approved the motion with a 4-0 vote.

Ms. Linda Jones, Purchasing Director presented Bid # FY20-01 Abandon Well. An abandoned well was located at the new Public Works construction site. This well needs to be filled and closed before construction continues. Purchasing received 2 bids on the closure of this well. Staff recommends awarding this bid to Woodrow Sapp Water Well Contractors of Brunswick, Ga. for a total cost of \$7,500.00, this being the lowest and best bid meeting all specifications. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to award the contract; seconded by Commissioner Jon Tindall and approved.

Ms. Linda Jones, Purchasing Director, presented Bid # WAYX 20-02 Sanitary Sewer Repair – Littleton Street. There is a section of sanitary sewer that needs repair on Littleton Street near Washington Avenue. Purchasing received 2 bids on this project. After staff review it is their recommendation to award the bid to Thrift Brothers of Waycross, GA for a total price of \$15,351, this being the lowest and best bid meeting specifications. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to award the bid contract to Thrift Brothers. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jon Tindall and approved with a yes vote from all commissioners.

Ms. Linda Jones, Purchasing Director, presented The Knight Avenue Street Repair and Resurfacing 2019 T-SPLOST. Knight is used frequently by local motorists traveling to and from commercial districts, schools and Memorial Stadium. Knight Avenue was designated as one of the top priorities for resurfacing needs under the local T-SPLOST program. Staff worked with Coastal Engineering Consultants to identify scope of work and prepare plan drawing and bid documents. The project was advertised and bids were received from three area contractors. The contract was awarded to Georgia Asphalt Producers, Inc. from Odum, Ga. with lowest and best bid at \$595,251.00. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to award the project to Georgia Asphalt Producers. Commissioner Jon Tindall seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins declared a possible conflict and abstained from voting. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

City Manager Tonya Miller requested confirmation of Mr. William E. Thomas to the position of Director of Engineering. Commissioner Jon Tindall made the motion to confirm William E. Thomas as the Director of Engineering; seconded by Commissioner John Threat. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines voiced her opposition to the appointment by stating that Mr. Thomas did not meet the qualifications. She also questioned why qualified candidates were not interviewed. Ms. Millers stated that Mr. Thomas was the only qualified person we have for this job who applied. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins also voiced her opposition to Mr. Thomas, stating that he is not qualified. Mayor John Knox called for the vote; Commissioner Jon Tindall voted yes; Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines voted no; Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins voted No; Commissioner John Threat voted Yes. Mayor John Knox voted yes, breaking the tie.

An Ordinance Amending the Code of the City of Waycross, Public Conduct was presented for the first reading:

**ORDINANCE NO. O19-13**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 28 – OFFENSES, ARTICLE II. – OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH, DIVISION 2. – PUBLIC CONDUCT, BY AMENDING SECTION 28-111, SUBSECTION (A) (5) PERTAINING TO APPLICATION; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO PROVIDE FOR RENUMBERING OR RELETTERING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

An Ordinance Amending the Code of the City of Waycross, Public Conduct was presented for the first reading and was approved by motion from Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins. Commissioner Jon Tindall seconded the motion; all voted yes and the motion passed.

The Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to authorize the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with South Georgia State College and to provide for Mutual Aid was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. R19-39**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, TO AUTHORIZE THE SIGNING OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SOUTH GEORGIA STATE COLLEGE; TO PROVIDE FOR MUTUAL AID IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AS DEFINED BY O.C.G.A. SECTION 36-69-2; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, responses to emergencies or special circumstances, as defined by O.C.G.A. § 36-69-2, may exceed the immediate resources, skills or equipment capacities of the South Georgia State College (Waycross Campus) Police Department and the Waycross Police Department; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-69-1 et seq., South Georgia State College is authorized to furnish assistance extraterritorially to the City of Waycross upon the approval of the President of South Georgia State College and the Board of Regents for the University System of Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Waycross is authorized to furnish assistance to South Georgia State College (Waycross Campus) because it is in the territorial limits of the City of Waycross, and with the approval of the President of South Georgia State College as well as the approval of

the governing body for the local political subdivision, to wit: the City Commission of the City of Waycross; and

**WHEREAS**, in that regard, the Waycross Police Department and the South Georgia State College (Waycross Campus) Police Department desire to execute a Memorandum of Understanding, in the form attached hereto and incorporated herein as if fully set forth, so that both can furnish assistance to the other in response to an emergency or special circumstances as defined by O.C.G.A. § 36-69-2; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the Memorandum of Understanding, in the form attached to this Resolution and incorporated herein as if fully set forth, be ratified and executed by the Commission of the City of Waycross.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor, City Clerk and Acting Chief of Police be empowered, authorized and directed to execute the Memorandum of Understanding 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 16th day of July, 2019.

**CITY OF WAYCROSS**  
**BY: JOHN KNOX, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**  
**JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk**

Commissioner Jon Tindall made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to authorize the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with South Georgia State College to Provide for Mutual Aid as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted favorably and the motion was approved.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Award Bid Contract to Woodrow Sapp Water Well Contractors to Close and Fill abandoned well at 629 Satilla Lane was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. R19-40**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA,  
TO AWARD BID CONTRACT TO WOODROW SAPP WATER WELL  
CONTRACTORS TO CLOSE AND FILL ABANDONED WELL AT 629 SATILLA  
LANE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, an abandoned well has been located at the new Public Works construction site and it needs to be closed and filled before construction can proceed; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department offered the project through competitive bidding, and received and opened two (2) bids tendered for the project; and

**WHEREAS**, Woodrow Sapp Water Well Contractors of Brunswick, Georgia, submitted the lowest and best bid of seven thousand, five hundred dollars (\$7,500.00), and meeting all specifications and requirements; and

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

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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the Bid Contract for the project of closing and filling an abandoned well at 629 Satilla Lane be awarded to Woodrow Sapp Water Well Contractors of Brunswick, Georgia, and said contract not to exceed seven thousand, five hundred dollars (\$7,500.00), and to be paid from SPLOST funds.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor, City Clerk and City Attorney be authorized and directed to execute the 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 16th day of July, 2019.

**CITY OF WAYCROSS**  
**BY: JOHN KNOX, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**  
**JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk**

Commissioner Jon Tindall made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Award Bid Contract to Woodrow Sapp Water Well Contractors to Close and Fill abandoned well at 629 Satilla Lane as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins, and approved with a 4-0 vote.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to award bid contract to Georgia Asphalt Producers, Inc. for Knight Avenue Paving Project was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. R19-42**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, TO AWARD BID CONTRACT TO GEORGIA ASPHALT PRODUCERS, INC. FOR KNIGHT AVENUE PAVING PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, Knight Avenue is used frequently by local motorists traveling to and from commercial districts, schools and Memorial Stadium; and

**WHEREAS**, Knight Avenue was designated as one of the top priorities for resurfacing needs under the Local Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (hereinafter “T-SPLOST”); and

**WHEREAS**, City Staff worked with Coastal Engineering Consultants to identify scope of work and prepare plan drawings and bid documents; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Georgia Asphalt Producers, Inc. of Odom, Georgia, submitted the lowest and best bid for the project of \$595,251.00, and meeting all specifications and requirements; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Waycross City Commission that the Bid Contract for the above-described Knight Avenue paving project be awarded to Georgia Asphalt Producers of Odum, Georgia, in an amount not to exceed \$595,251.00, and to be paid from T-SPLOST funds.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor, City Clerk and City Attorney be authorized and directed to execute the 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 AND ADOPTED**, this 16th day of July, 2019.

**CITY OF WAYCROSS**

**BY: JOHN KNOX, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

**JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk**

Commissioner Jon Tindall made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to award bid contract to Georgia Asphalt Producers, Inc. for Knight Avenue Paving Project as presented. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins declared a possible conflict of interest and abstained from voting. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to award bid contract to Thrift Brothers, LLC for Sanitary Sewer Repair on Littleton Street Project was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. R19-41**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, TO AWARD BID CONTRACT TO THRIFT BROTHERS, LLC FOR SANITARY SEWER REPAIR ON LITTLETON STREET PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, a street cave-in on Littleton Street near Washington Avenue has revealed damage to the sanitary sewer main; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Waycross Purchasing Department offered the project through competitive bidding, and received and opened two (2) bids tendered for the project; and

**WHEREAS**, Thrift Brothers LLC of Waycross, Georgia, submitted the lowest and best bid of fifteen thousand, three hundred and fifty-one dollars (\$15,351.00), 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 the Littleton Street project for sanitary sewer repair, in an amount not to exceed fifteen thousand, three hundred and fifty-one dollars (\$15,351.00), is awarded to Thrift Brothers, LLC, and to be paid from Water and Sewer SPLOST funds.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor, City Clerk and City Attorney be, and are, authorized and directed to execute any required Bid Contracts 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 AND ADOPTED**, this 16th day of July, 2019.

**CITY OF WAYCROSS**  
**BY: JOHN KNOX, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**  
**JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk**

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to award bid contract to Thrift Brothers, LLC for Sanitary Sewer Repair on Littleton Street Project as presented. Commissioner Jon Tindall seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the motion passed.

The Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Amend a Memorandum of Understanding with Ware County Board of Commissioners on the Hatcher Point Mall Road Project as presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. R19-43**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, TO AMEND A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH WARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE HATCHER POINT MALL ROAD PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Ware County Board of Commissioners has undertaken a project to widen and reconstruct Hatcher Point Mall Road through competitive bidding, a proposal and project originally to be undertaken by the Georgia Department of Transportation (hereinafter “GDOT”) in 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the City, as part of a Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter “MOU”) with Ware County, agreed to pay one-half of the costs remaining after Georgia Department of Transportation paid its share for the costs of utility pole relocation by Georgia Power; and

**WHEREAS**, an invoice has now been received from Georgia Power for the City of Waycross to pay its share of the costs of utility pole relocation pursuant to the MOU; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the MOU, the City, to pay its share, shall obtain \$157,964.91 from 2013 LMIG City and the remaining amount shall be obtained from T-SPLOST; and

**WHEREAS**, since funds are not available from T-SPLOST funds for this project, the remaining amount will have to be paid from SPLOST funds; and

**WHEREAS**, said matter having been read and considered.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross hereby amends the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ware County Board of Commissioners for the costs of utility pole relocation on the Hatcher Point Mall Road project to provide that the amount remaining to be paid by the City (the amount not paid by LMIG funds) shall come from SPLOST funds.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Clerk be, and the same are, hereby authorized, directed and empowered to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes and intent of this Resolution.

**SO RESOLVED**, this 16th day of July, 2019.

**CITY OF WAYCROSS**  
**BY: JOHN KNOX, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**  
**JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk**

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Amend a Memorandum of Understanding with Ware County Board of Commissioners on the Hatcher Point Mall Road Project as presented. Commissioner Jon Tindall seconded the motion and the motion was approved with a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Larry Rood addressed the Commissioner stating that the City should take care in its hiring process. The most qualified should be pursued and the best fit for our community should be considered.

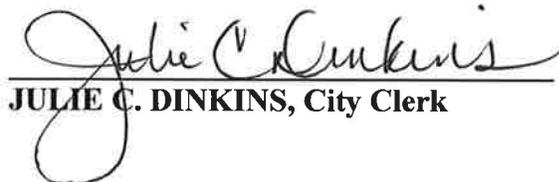
Following last call, Commissioner Jon Tindall made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner John Threat and Mayor Knox adjourned the meeting.

**CITY OF WAYCROSS**

**ATTEST:**

**BY:**

  
**JOHN KNOX, Mayor**

  
**JULIE C. DINKINS, City Clerk**