

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2014
7:00 P.M.

The Commission of the City of Waycross met in Regular Session on Tuesday, September 2, 2014 in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Clarence Billups at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance with Mayor Billups were Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins, Commissioners, Marian Solomon-Gaines, Larry Ethridge, Norman Davis and Alvin Nelson.

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins introduced Minister Susan Price, Associate Minister, Family Worship Center of Waycross, Georgia who offered the opening invocation and Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines introduced Cody Gay, a second grade Student at Wacona Elementary School who led the Pledge of Allegiance

Under Executive Duties, Mayor Clarence Billups scheduled a Zoning Public Hearing to rezone 942 Pendleton Street from C-1 Neighborhood Commercial to C-2 Highway Commercial for Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

A Joint Proclamation declaring the Month of September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month was presented to Mrs. Barbara Goble by Mayor Billups.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection report cancer is the leading cause of death of disease among US children between infancy and age 15. This tragic disease is detected in more than 15,000 of our country's young people each year; and

WHEREAS, one in five of our national's children loses his or her battle with cancer. Many infants, children and teens will suffer from long-term effects of comprehensive treatment, including secondary cancers; and

WHEREAS, founded over twenty years ago by Steven Firestein, a member of the philanthropic Max Factor family, the American Cancer Fund for Children, Inc. and Kids Cancer Connection, Inc., are dedicated to helping these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kid Cancer Connection provide a variety of vital patient psychosocial services to children undergoing cancer treatment at numerous hospitals across the country, thereby enhancing the quality of life for these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, The American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection also sponsor Courageous Kid Recognition Award ceremonies and hospital celebrations in honor of a child's determination and bravery to fight the battle against childhood cancer.

NOW THEREFORE IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION of these precious young warriors, I, Clarence E. Billups, Mayor of the City of Waycross and I, Jimmy Brown, Chairman of the Ware County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim September 2014 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in Waycross and Ware County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto, set our hands and have caused the Seal of the City of Waycross and the Seal of Ware County to be affixed this 2nd day of September and this 8th day of September, 2014.

CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor
City of Waycross

JIMMY BROWN, Chairman
Ware Co. Board of Commission

HR employee, Allison Herrin introduced Sgt. Debbie Carter of the Waycross Police Department as the September Employee of the Month.

During the Interim City Manager's Report, Raphel Maddox congratulated Sgt. Debbie Carter for her Employee of the Month honor. Mr. Maddox reminded the Commission and public that coming up in September are the Homecoming Parade and game, the Rumble in the Swamp and the J Fly Concert.

Mayor Billups urged the citizens of Waycross and Ware County to support all of the activities coming up in September saying Waycross is the place to be for good, wholesome fun.

Mayor Billups reported that he met with Mr. Guy Karle regarding a proposed Train Viewing Platform. A meeting is being scheduled with Mr. Karle, CSX and the City to move forward with plans.

Mayor Billups informed the public that the infrastructure is crumbling and needs repairs. The General Assembly is considering proposing an increase in the gas tax of up to 10c per gallon. The City plans to meet with legislators to address this issue.

Waycross Police Department is sponsoring Kid's Fun Day on Saturday, September 13, 2014 at Bit Tanner Field.

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 Affidavit, Monday, August 18, 2014; Waycross Commission Meeting, Tuesday, August 19, 2014.

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 31 of the Code of the City of Waycross Pertaining to Pawn Shops was presented for the first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-17

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 31 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 31 PERTAINING TO SECONDHAND DEALERS TO INCLUDE PAWN SHOPS AND DEALERS IN PRECIOUS METALS AND GEMS; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO PROVIDE FOR RENUMBERING OR RELETTERING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

There were no Consent Resolutions or Privilege License Renewals.

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins. All Commissioners voted yes and the motion was approved with a 5 – 0 vote.

A Resolution Approving the Modification of Loan under the City's Revolving Loan Fund for Mod Chic Fitness was presented for approval.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-65

A RESOLUTION OF THE WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION TO APPROVE MODIFICATION OF LOAN UNDER THE CITY'S REVOLVING LOAN FUND FOR MOD CHIC FITNESS, LLC; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross maintains a Local Revolving Loan Fund (hereinafter "RLF") through the Department of Community Affairs (hereinafter "DCA") Community Development Block Grant Employment Incentive Program; and;

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross extended a Loan to Mod Chic Fitness, LLC in the amount of \$10,000.00, on October 4, 2013, repayable after a one year deferment period, and amortized for five (5) years at an interest rate of ten (10) percent; and

WHEREAS, Mod Chic Fitness, LLC has received to date a total of \$7,500.00 of Loan proceeds, and has elected not to receive the balance of said Loan proceeds, resulting in a need to execute a Modified EIP Loan Agreement and Modified Promissory Note for the total sum to be repaid by Mod Chic Fitness, LLC in the amount of \$7,500.00, upon the same terms and conditions as set forth in the original Loan documents; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the Modified EIP Loan Agreement and Modified Promissory Note for Mod Chic Fitness, LLC, be approved in the form of the Loan documents attached hereto, providing for a modified Loan amount of \$7,500.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the said modified Loan documents on behalf of the City of Waycross, hereby ratifying and confirming all the acts and things done and to be done to give effect to this Resolution.

SO RESOLVED, this 2nd day of September, 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 Approving the Modification of Loan under the City's Revolving Loan Fund for Mod Chic Fitness as presented Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the motion carried.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross To Approve the Award of a contract for Emergency Pipe Replacement Project on Folks Street between Elizabeth and Mary Street was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-67

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA,
TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR EMERGENCY PIPE REPLACEMENT
PROJECT ON FOLKS STREET BETWEEN ELIZABETH AND MARY
STREETS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross has made multiple repairs to a twenty-four inch (24") terra cotta storm drain pipe on Folks Street between Elizabeth and Mary Streets; and

WHEREAS, First Baptist Church has requested a connection to the storm drain pipe, to collect and carry storm water from a proposed new paved parking area on First Baptist Church property; and

WHEREAS, said pipe is in poor condition and deterioration will accelerate with additional storm water flow, and it appears that two (2) more holes appear to be developing along this section of pipe, and connection to the pipe will be difficult due to broken pipe sections and joints; and

WHEREAS, First Baptist Church has agreed to contribute eleven thousand, two hundred and twenty dollars (\$11,220.00) to the cost of said pipe replacement in support of the proposed parking area project; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the Mayor, City Clerk and City Manager be and are hereby authorized, directed and empowered to execute the documents necessary to award the contract for Folks Street Emergency Storm Pipe Replacement Project, as described above, to Allen Owens Construction in the amount of twenty eight thousand and three hundred and seventy five dollars (\$28,375.00) to be paid from SPLOST Water and Sewer Expansion Funds; and

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER that the Mayor, City Clerk and City Manager are authorized, directed and empowered to collect and retrieve said contribution mentioned above of eleven thousand, two hundred and twenty dollars (\$11,220.00) from First Baptist Church.

SO RESOLVED, this 2ND day of September, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

A Resolution of the City of Waycross To Approve the Award of a contract for Emergency Pipe Replacement Project on Folks Street between Elizabeth and Mary Street as presented was approved by motion from Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins. All Commissioners voted yes and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Frank Banamon, 100 Black Men of Southeast Georgia addressed the Commission regarding the Rumble in the Swamp. Mr. Banamon invited all Commissioners and citizens to participate in the events leading up to the Rumble in the Swamp on September 27, 2014.

Mr. Maurice Mungin, 1516 Myers Avenue addressed the Commission stating that the Feed the Homeless Program never got launched but will be reoccurring in the near future. Mr. Mungin

also thanked the Commissioners for their support of his singing career, stating that he has a big opportunity in the near future.

Mrs. Donna F. Jordan, 1102 Elizabeth Street defended her husband, Chris Jordan's character to the Commission and the public, stating that he is a good man who did not deserve to be treated like he was by the Police Department.

Reverend Fer-Rell Malone Sr., 709 Jones Street stated that a City of Waycross Police Officer arrested Mr. Chris Jordan and put him in the county Jail. Rev. Malone stated that the culture in Waycross needs to change so that black men are respected. He said a Citizens Review Board is needed. He asked that the City of Waycross do a thorough investigation.

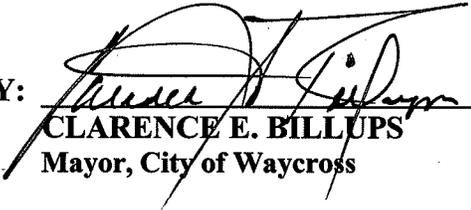
Rev. Malone also stated that the City Manager hiring process should be handled by an outside firm as it has in the past. It is being handled by the HR Department.

Pastor William Simmons, 305 Plumer Street, stated that "Blessed is the Peacemaker." He asked that the public slow down and get the whole truth before they stir up a big mess.

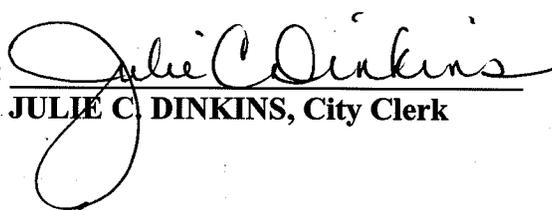
After last call, Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Alvin Nelson seconded the motion. All voted in favor and Mayor Billups adjourned the meeting.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:


CLARENCE E. BILLUPS
Mayor, City of Waycross

ATTEST:


JULIE C. DINKINS, City Clerk