

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2014
7:00 P.M.

The Commission of the City of Waycross met in Regular Session on Tuesday, September 16, 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 Reverend Doug Walker, Pastor, Trinity United Methodist Church of Waycross, Georgia who offered the opening invocation. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines introduced Desiree Laniya Foster, a second grade Student at Wacona Elementary School who led the Pledge of Allegiance

Under Executive Duties, Mayor Clarence Billups introduced City Attorney Richard Currie who administered the Oath of Office to City Manager Raphel D. Maddox. Mr. Maddox was joined by his wife, Yolanda Maddox and assorted family and church family.

Mayor Clarence E. Billups made two appointments to the Waycross Historic Preservation Commission. Mr. Chris Jordan was re-appointed to a two-year term beginning August 7, 2014 and ending August 6, 2016. Mayor Billups appointed Pete Eason to fill Rick Scott's post and Mr. Eason's term begins August 7, 2014 and ends August 6, 2014.

City Manager Raphel Maddox thanked his family for their support and encouragement. Mr. Maddox thanked Chief Tanner for a great Kid's Day and noted that Captain Tommy Cox will be graduating from FBI Training on Friday. Mr. Maddox reminded the Commission and public of the events coming up in September such as the Homecoming Parade and Homecoming game, Gram Parsons event, the Rumble in the Swamp and the J Fly Concert.

Mayor Billups congratulated the Ware County Gators and encouraged 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.

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, Executive Session, and Waycross City Commission Meeting, Tuesday, September 2, 2014; Special Called Meeting To Set the 2014 Tax Millage Rate and to Consider the Appointment of the Waycross City Manager and Executive Session, Wednesday, September 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 Commissioner Alvin Nelson. All Commissioners voted yes and the motion was approved with a 5 – 0 vote.

A Privilege License for Rupesh Patel d/b/a The Dome Event Center, 215 Knight Avenue, Consumption on Premises, Beer Wine and Liquor was presented for approval. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve the Privilege License for Mr. Patel. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

An Ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Waycross, Chapter 23, Article IV, Section 23-86 (i) pertaining to the City Auditorium was presented for the first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-19

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 23, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 23-86 (i), PERTAINING TO THE CITY AUDITORIUM; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EXTENDED CESSATION TIME OF THE SERVING OR SALE OF ALCOHOL; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO PROVIDE FOR RENUMBERING OR RELETTERING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve the Ordinance amending the Code of the City of Waycross amending Chapter 23, Article IV, Section 23-86 (i) pertaining to the City Auditorium as presented for the first reading. Commissioner Alvin Nelson seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the motion carried.

The first reading of the second ordinance presented was An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 15, Article V, Section 15-71 of the Code Pertaining to Complaints against Unfit Buildings and Structures and the method for service of said complaints.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-20

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 15, ARTICLE V, SECTION 15-71 PERTAINING TO COMPLAINTS AGAINST UNFIT BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES; TO AMEND THE METHOD AND PROCEDURE FOR SERVICE OF SAID COMPLAINTS UPON

PARTIES IN INTEREST; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO PROVIDE FOR RENUMBERING OR RELETTERING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The first reading of the Ordinance was approved by motion from Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines. The Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the motion with a 5-0 vote.

Ordinance No. 14-21 Amending Chapter 15, Article III, Section 15-30 (d), pertaining to Real Property; Amending the time a landowner has to abate or appeal a complaint was presented for the first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-21

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 15, ARTICLE III, SECTION 15-30, SUBSECTION (d) PERTAINING TO REAL PROPERTY; TO AMEND THE TIME A LANDOWNER HAS TO ABATE ACCUMULATION OF TRASH, WEEDS, ETC. ON PROPERTY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO PROVIDE FOR RENUMBERING OR RELETTERING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 14-21. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the motion carried.

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15, Article III, Section 15-31 (d) pertaining to Blight and amending the time the landowner has to abate or appeal accumulation or abandoned materials, etc. was presented for the first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-22

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 15, ARTICLE III, SECTION 15-31, SUBSECTION (d) PERTAINING TO BLIGHT; TO AMEND THE TIME A LANDOWNER HAS TO ABATE ACCUMULATION OF ABANDONED, DECAYED MOTOR VEHICLES, STOVES, REFRIGERATORS, BUILDING MATERIALS, ETC.; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO PROVIDE FOR RENUMBERING OR RELETTERING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Ordinance No. 14-22 was approved by motion from Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines and seconded by Commissioner Alvin Nelson; all voted yes and the motion was approved.

A Resolution approving a Borrow Pit Agreement between the City of Waycross and Tommy Lee Jones and Jessie T. Jones was submitted for approval.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-68

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA,
TO APPROVE BORROW PIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY
OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, AND TOMMY LEE JONES AND
JESSIE T. JONES; TO PROVIDE THE CITY OF WAYCROSS
WITH USUABLE MATERIALS FOR PUBLIC WORKS
PROJECTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross is in need of soil, sand, dirt, chert, stone, gravel, aggregate, etc., (hereinafter referred to as "materials") customarily used for City public works projects; and

WHEREAS, it is beneficial to both the City and Tommy Lee Jones and Jessie T. Jones to partner together in this project of excavating materials from the Jones' property to provide the City with usable materials for public works projects and to provide the owners with a pond site; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered and determined to be just and adequate compensation for the premises and for the use of said materials.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross hereby enter into a Borrow Pit Agreement for the City to excavate needed materials from the owners' property, and to provide the owners with a pond site, and for the owners to grant to the City of Waycross a temporary access easement as may be required for the City to enter the owners' property for the period of time necessary to complete the terms of the agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor of the City of Waycross and City Clerk be and are hereby authorized, directed and empowered to execute the Borrow Pit Agreement with Tommy Lee Jones and Jessie T. Jones.

SO RESOLVED this 16th 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 Borrow Pit Agreement between the City of Waycross and Tommy Lee Jones and Jessie T. Jones 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 Hire a City Manager and Approve the Entry of a Contract was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-66

**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 September 16, 2014, to September 16, 2015, 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 \$92,000.00 per annum, and consideration shall be given thereafter on an annual basis to increase actual compensation as conditions permit; 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 **RAPHEL D. MADDOX** to serve as City Manager upon the terms and conditions as fully set forth in the Employment Agreement 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 16th day of September, 2014.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

The Resolution of the City of Waycross To Hire a City Manager and Approve the Entry of a Contract was approved by motion from Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Alvin Nelson. All Commissioners voted yes and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Maurice Mungin, 1516 Myers Avenue requested the Commission repair a street light which is out on Myers Avenue between Garlington and Columbus. Mr. Mungin also thanked the Commissioners for their support of his singing career, stating that he won a competition in Orlando, acquired a sponsor and will be moving forward with his singing career.

Mr. David Kirby, 600 Summit, stated that he would like to see development in the downtown area.

Reverend Fer-Rell Malone Sr., 709 Jones Street stated that he supports Mr. Raphel Maddox as the new City Manager, but that the process in which he was selected was not transparent. Rev. Malone stated that the Charter states that the City Managers is the run the City Affairs and that the Commissioners should not be directly involved with Department Heads.

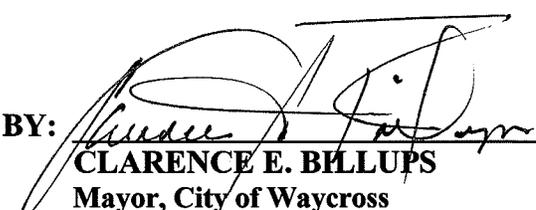
Rev. Malone also stated that the Police Chief should be terminated and again called for a Citizens Review Board.

Pastor Rochelle McCrae urged the Commission and citizens to work together.

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

