

**MINUTES**  
**WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2014**  
**7:00 P.M.**

The Commission of the City of Waycross met in Regular Session on Tuesday, October 7, 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, and Alvin Nelson. Commissioner Norman Davis was absent.

Reverend Roy Williams, Pastor, First African Baptist Church of Hoboken offered the opening invocation. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins introduced Lyla Smith and Chase Smith, students at Daffodil who led the Pledge of Allegiance

Under Executive Duties, Mayor Clarence Billups invited Police Chief Tony Tanner to the podium for the Waycross Police Department Certification Presentation. Chief Tanner introduced Chief David Lyons, Garden City Police Department and immediate past president of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police. Chief Lyons briefed the Commission on the Certification process, stating that it is a big accomplishment. Chief Lyons presented a plaque to Chief Tanner stating that the City of Waycross Police Department has complied with all of the requirements and has received their National Certification. Chief Lyons also presented a plaque to Captain Danny Hampton, as the Certification Accreditation Manager. Captain Hampton was responsible for assembling the necessary paperwork for the Certification. Chief Tanner thanked his department, stating that the Certification was a team effort.

Mayor Clarence E. Billups presented a Proclamation to Fire Chief David Eddins declaring October 5 – 11, 2014 as Fire Prevention Week.

**PROCLAMATION**  
**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Waycross is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our city; and

**WHEREAS**, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire. Home fires killed more than 2,700 people in the United States in 2013, according to the latest research from the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association, and fire departments in the United States responded to more than 369,500 home fires; and

**WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms cut in half the risk of dying in reported home fires. In one-fifth of all homes with smoke alarms, none were working. Smoke alarms should have operated but did not do so because batteries were missing, disconnected, or dead; and

**WHEREAS**, Waycross residents should install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Smoke alarms and alert devices should meet the needs of people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

**WHEREAS**, Waycross first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education. Residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2014 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours every Month!" effectively serves to remind us that we need working smoke alarms to give us the time to get out safely.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Clarence E. Billups, Mayor of the City of Waycross, do hereby proclaim October 5 - 11, 2014 as Fire Prevention Week throughout the City of Waycross. I urge our citizens to test their smoke alarms at least every month by pushing the test button. Also to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Waycross' fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2014. And to support the many public safety activities and efforts of the Waycross Fire Department and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2014.

***CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, MAYOR***

Fire Chief David Eddins reminded citizens of the Lt. Jeff Little Scholarship Fund Boot Drive, Friday, October 10, 17, and 24. Other ways to donate are through the Fire Department, the City of Waycross and Sun Trust Bank. The Fire Department gave five \$500.00 scholarships to deserving students last year and hopes to do at least the same this year. Commissioner Solomon Gaines will be assisting with choosing the candidates.

Allison Herrin, Acting Human Resources Director, introduced Detective Larry Hill as the Employee of the Month for October, 2014.

Police Chief Tony Tanner presented Captain Tommy Cox with his diploma from the FBI National Academy. Chief Tanner thanked Captain Cox and his family for the sacrifices made enabling Captain Cox to attend the Academy. He also thanked the members of the Police Department who covered for Captain Cox while he was out of town.

City Manager Raphael Maddox presented the City Manager Report, offering the City's condolences to the Mercer family. Mr. Maddox also thanked the citizens for the support shown by attending the Welcome Reception for City Attorney Rick Currie and the City Manager. He also thanked the City Staff for making the event so successful. Mr. Maddox reminded the citizens that Early Voting begins on October 13, 2014 and will run through October 31 at the County Courthouse. Saturday, October 25 will be the only Saturday for Early Voting.

Acting Community Improvement Director, Sloan Fountain, reminded the citizens that Pumpkinfest will be October 23, 2014 from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Phoenix Park. Ms. Fountain urged citizens to bring their kids for an evening of free entertainment.

Mayor Billups thanked the City Manager for a successful J Fly Festival. The Mayor commented that on Sunday morning you couldn't tell that the event had even taken place the town was so clean. Thanks to the Police Department, Fire Department and Public Works.

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, September 15, 2014 and Waycross City Commission Meeting, Tuesday, September 16, 2014.

Four Ordinances were submitted for approval on the second 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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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, BUILDINGS 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.**

There were no Consent Resolutions or Privilege License Renewals.

Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins 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 4 – 0 vote.

Purchasing Director Linda Jones presented WAYX 15-04 Surplus Property for approval. A list of items no longer needed in any City Department were submitted so that they may be declared surplus and sold on GovDeals.Com. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve the Surplus Property. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the motion carried.

An Ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Waycross, Chapter 27, Article II, Section 27-17 pertaining to the Oath of Office for Police Officers was presented for the first reading.

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-23**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 27, ARTICLE II, SECTION 27-17; TO ESTABLISH THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR POLICE OFFICERS; TO PROVIDE WHO SHALL ADMINISTER THE OATH; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; 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 to amend the Code of the City of Waycross, Chapter 27, Article II, Section 27-17 pertaining to the Oath of Office for Police Officers as presented for the first reading. Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins 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 12, Article II Section 12-18 of the Code Pertaining to the Oath of Office for Members of the Fire Department.

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-24**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE II, SECTION 12-18; TO ESTABLISH THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR MEMBERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT; TO PROVIDE WHO SHALL ADMINISTER THE OATH; 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 An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 12, Article II Section 12-18 of the Code Pertaining to the Oath of Office for Members of the Fire Department 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 4-0 vote.

A Resolution approving a Payment to DWDA on behalf of Craft Development was submitted for approval.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-69**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA,  
TO PAY DWDA ON BEHALF OF CRAFT DEVELOPMENT, INC.,  
FOR FIRST DRAW ON REPAIRS TO THE RAIL DEPOT  
AND THE REA BUILDINGS PROJECT;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Waycross, on behalf of the Downtown Waycross Development Authority (hereinafter "DWDA"), awarded the project for repairs to the Rail Depot and the REA Freight Depot buildings to Craft Development of Waycross, Georgia, by Resolution dated August 5, 2014, in the amount of \$106,887.00; and

**WHEREAS**, Craft Development, Inc. has submitted an invoice, dated September 25, 2014, for work completed to date; and

**WHEREAS**, DWDA has submitted a request in the amount of \$14,508.12 to pay Craft Development, Inc. for first draw on work completed in said project; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Commission of the City of Waycross that, based on the contract awarded to Craft Development of Waycross, Georgia, as set out above, payment of \$14,508.12 be made to DWDA for Craft Development, Inc., for first draw on Rail Depot and REA Freight building project, to be paid for from SPLOST funds.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to make payment to DWDA on behalf of the City of Waycross, 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014.

**CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA**

**BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

**JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk**

Mayor Pro Tem Hopkins made the motion to approve a Payment from SPLOST funds to DWDA on behalf of Craft Development for the work completed on the Rail Depot and Freight Depot Project. Commissioner Larry Ethridge seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the motion carried.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross To Award a Contract to Georgia Power Company for lighting at the walking trail was presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-70**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA,  
TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO GEORGIA POWER COMPANY  
FOR LIGHTING AT THE CITY OF WAYCROSS WALKING  
TRAIL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Waycross has received a proposal from Georgia Power Company for sixteen (16) 150 watt high pressure sodium Acorn Post Top fixtures and sixteen (16) 20 foot black fiberglass poles to be installed at the City of Waycross Walking Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, proper lighting is essential for the City of Waycross Walking Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, Georgia Power Company is willing to offer lighting services for an upfront construction cost of \$29,146.00 for the purchase and installation of said lights described above; and

**WHEREAS**, the total monthly rate is \$268.32 which will include energy and full maintenance by Georgia Power Company; 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 Georgia Power Company for installation, electricity and maintenance of lights, as set forth above, at the City of Waycross Walking Trail for an initial cost of \$29,146.00 and thereafter, \$268.32 a month.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Clerk be, and are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to ratify and confirm the execution of said Contract, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes and intent of this Resolution.

**SO RESOLVED**, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014.

**CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA**

**BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

**JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk**

The Resolution of the City of Waycross to Award a Contract to Georgia Power Company for lighting the walking trail was approved by motion from Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hopkins. All Commissioners voted yes and the motion was approved with a 4-0 vote.

Ms. Marilyn Conley, New Life Assembly Church, addressed the Commission sharing her testimony of how she was delivered from drug addiction. Ms. Conley invited citizens to participate in Recovery Classes.

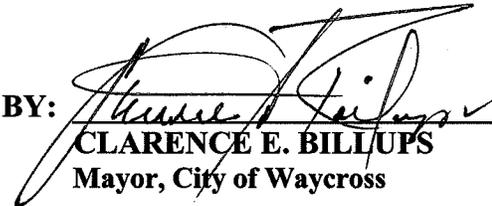
Ms. Carolyn Hayes, 1516 Myers Avenue, addressed the Commission regarding her concerns over the need for the citizens to work together, pray together and support the public officials.

Mr. Maurice Mungin, 1516 Myers Avenue, addressed the Commission concerning the negativity rampant in the City of Waycross.

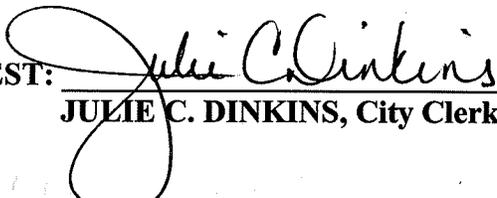
After last call, Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Alvin Nelson seconded the motion. All voted in favor and Mayor Billups adjourned the meeting.

**CITY OF WAYCROSS**

BY:

  
CLARENCE E. BILLUPS  
Mayor, City of Waycross

ATTEST:

  
JULIE C. DINKINS, City Clerk