

**MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

The Commission of the City of Waycross met in Regular Session in the Commission Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, October 15, 2013. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Clarence E. Billups at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance with Mayor Billups were Commissioners Marian Solomon-Gaines, Norman Davis, and Alvin Nelson. Mayor Pro Tem William Simmons and Commissioner Diane Hopkins were absent.

Elder Margie Fay Thomas offered the opening invocation. The invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Master Caleb Golden, a fifth grade student at Wacona Elementary School.

Under Executive Duties, Mayor Clarence Billups scheduled a special called meeting for Wednesday, October 16, 2013, 4:15 p.m. to consider the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) distribution.

Mayor Billups also scheduled a Zoning Public Hearing for Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. to review a Text Amendment to the City of Waycross Zoning Ordinance Section 701.3 (a) Lot and Yard Requirements for Single Family Uses. A second Zoning Public Hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. to review a Text Amendment to the City of Waycross Zoning Ordinance Article VIII Table C Maximum Sign Area by Type and Zoning District Commercial / Office Centers.

A Proclamation Declaring the Third Friday of October as Pink Day in Waycross in Recognition of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month was presented to Allison Herrin of the HR Department as follows:

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

Office of the Mayor



Proclamation

***Declaring the Third Friday of October "Pink Day" in Waycross in
Recognition of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month***

Whereas, established in 1985, October has been declared National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. One in every eight women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer over the course of their lifetime; and

Whereas, the efforts of various organizations have made a major contribution to spreading breast cancer awareness to both women and men in all communities in the Waycross and Ware County area through outreach, education, and screening programs, and have empowered women with the life-saving message of early detection and the importance of having annual mammograms; and

Whereas, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women, except for nonmelanoma skin cancer. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women; and

Whereas, the 2.5 million breast cancer survivors living in the United States today are a testament to courage, as well as to the importance of promoting awareness about breast cancer, providing information, funding research, following recommended screening guidelines, and offering treatment to those who are affected.

Now, therefore, I, Clarence E. Billups, Mayor of the City of Waycross, do hereby proclaim the Third Friday of October to be "PINK DAY" in Waycross in Recognition of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and urge all citizens of Waycross area to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

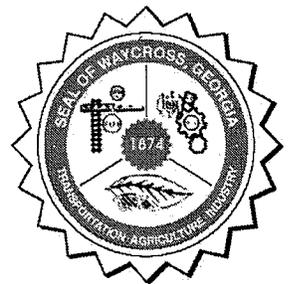
In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Waycross to be affixed this 15th day of October, 2013.

Clarence E. Billups

A Proclamation declaring Sunday, November 3 as Retired Educators Day in Waycross was read as follows:

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

Office of the Mayor



Proclamation

Whereas, the Governor of the State of Georgia has proclaimed the day of Sunday, November 3, 2013 as Retired Educators Day in Georgia; and

Whereas, there are more than 103,000 retired educators in Georgia, 23,000 of whom are members of the Georgia Retired Educators Association; and

Whereas, the retired educators of Georgia donate thousands of hours of volunteer service and make invaluable contributions to the welfare of their respective communities across the state; and

Whereas, it is appropriate that a day be designated for citizens to express their appreciation for the contributions that retired educators have made and continue to make for the betterment of human lives and for society; and

Whereas, local churches will recognize those lasting contributions made by retired educators in this community.

Now, therefore, I, Clarence E. Billups, Mayor of the City of Waycross, do hereby proclaim the day of November 3, 2013 as Retired Educators Day in Waycross and I call upon the citizens of our community to observe that day in an appropriate manner honoring retired educators.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Waycross to be affixed this 15th day of October, 2013.

Clarence E. Billups

Deron W. King, City Manager, announced the First Annual Homecoming Parade and Bonfire / Pep Rally at Trembling Earth Complex scheduled for Friday, October 17, 2013. The Parade will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the Bonfire will begin at 6:45 p.m. Mr. King commended the HR Staff for their part in this event.

City Manager Deron King announced that a Public Forum was held by Georgia Department of Transportation on Monday, October 7, 2013 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Trembling Earth Complex to discuss the East Waycross By-Pass project.

In the Mayor's Report, Mayor Billups reminded citizens that early voting began on October 14, 2013. On the ballot are the SPLOST referendum (countywide) and one race in the City. Mayor Billups encouraged everyone to go to the polls and vote.

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 30, 2013, and Waycross City Commission Meeting and Executive Session, Tuesday, October 2, 2013.

There were no ordinance second readings, resolutions or privilege license renewals.

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Commissioner Norman Davis seconded the motion; all Commissioners voted favorably and the motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

Purchasing Director, Ms. Linda Jones, presented WAYX 14-05: Surplus Property Donation (Canine Cage for Police Vehicle) to Brantley County Sheriff. Ms. Jones stated that the Waycross Police Department has three K-9 cages that were built specifically for the Crown Victoria Police Cars. The Brantley County Sheriff's Department can utilize one of the surplus cages and will pay \$200.00 for the Canine cage. Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to declare the property surplus and allow Purchasing to sell the canine cage to Brantley County. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. All voted yes and the motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

Ms. Linda Jones, Purchasing Director, addressed the Commission regarding bids for the DWDA Roof and Gutter Replacement on the REA and Depot Buildings. Purchasing received 2 bids from contractors for FY14-11 for the Roof and Gutter Replacement. After review, the Purchasing Department recommended awarding the bid to Brantley Roofing of Hoboken, Georgia for \$162,390.00. Commissioner Norman Davis made a motion to award the bid to Brantley Roofing of Hoboken, Georgia for DWDA Roof and Gutter Replacement on the REA and Depot Buildings in the amount of \$162,390.00. The motion was seconded by Commission Alvin Nelson and was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Purchasing Director, Ms. Linda Jones presented FY14-12 for Exterior Door / Window Wood Replacement and Painting on the REA and Depot Buildings. Purchasing received 2 bids from contractors for the DWDA Exterior Door/Window Wood Replacement and Painting on the REA and Depot Buildings. Staff recommends awarding the Wood Replacement and Painting to R H Tyson Construction of Blackshear, Georgia for \$86,000.00. Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to award the bid to R. H. Tyson Construction of Blackshear, Georgia for \$86,000.00. The motion was seconded by Commission Alvin Nelson; all voted positively and the motion carried.

An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the City of Waycross to regulate the parking of Recreational Vehicles (RVs) in residential neighborhoods, including size, number of RVs per lot, setback requirements, and location, which includes prohibiting RVs from being parked in a front or side yard was presented for the first reading as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 13-04

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 20 PERTAINING TO MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, AND SPECIFICALLY ARTICLE III, SECTION 20-54 PERTAINING TO PARKING OF TRUCKS, TRACTOR TRAILERS, AND SIMILAR VEHICLES IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; 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 to regulate the parking of Recreational Vehicles (RVs) in residential neighborhoods. Commissioner Alvin Nelson seconded the motion; all voted in favor and the ordinance passed with a 3-0 vote.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross Georgia to Approve the Award of the Contract to Brantley Roofing for the DWDA Roofs and Gutter Replacement on the REA and Depot Buildings was presented for review.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-55

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AWARD CONTRACT 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 Purchasing Department offered the project through competitive bidding and received and opened bids tendered for the project; and

WHEREAS, Brantley Roofing of Hoboken, Georgia submitted the lowest and best bid for the project at a cost of \$162,390.00; 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 Brantley Roofing of Hoboken, Georgia for the DWDA Roofs and Gutter Replacement for the contract price of \$162,390.00. 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 of this Resolution, hereby ratifying and confirming all actions taken and to be taken .

SO RESOLVED, this 15th day of October, 2013.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross Georgia to Approve the Award of the Contract to Brantley Roofing for the DWDA Roofs and Gutter Replacement on the REA and Depot Buildings as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Alvin Nelson; all voted positively and the motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross Georgia to Approve the Award of the Contract to R. L. Tyson Construction for the DWDA Wood Replacement and Painting on the REA and Depot Buildings was presented for review.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-56

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AWARD CONTRACT TO R.H. TYSON CONSTRUCTION FOR THE DWDA WOOD
REPLACEMENT AND PAINTING OF 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 wood replacement and painting for the REA and Depot Buildings in downtown Waycross, which included exterior Door/window Replacement; 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, R.H. Tyson Construction of Blackshear, Georgia submitted the lowest and best bid for the project at a cost of \$86,000.00; 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 R.H. Tyson Construction of Blackshear, Georgia, Georgia for the DWDA wood replacement and painting for the REA and Depot Buildings in downtown Waycross, which includes exterior Door/window Replacement for the contract price of \$86,000.00 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 of this Resolution, hereby ratifying and confirming all actions taken and to be taken .

SO RESOLVED, this 15th day of October, 2013.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:

JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

The motion for approval of the Resolution of the City of Waycross Georgia to Approve the Award of the Contract to R. L. Tyson Construction for the DWDA Wood Replacement and Painting on the REA and Depot Buildings was made by Commissioner Norman Davis. Commissioner Alvin Nelson seconded the motion; all voted yes and the motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross Georgia to Approve the Award of the Contract to for Elevator Repair for the DWDA Elevator to R. L. Tyson Construction was presented for review.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-57

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR DWDA ELEVATOR REPAIRS TO
OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the Downtown Waycross Development Authority ("DWDA"), solicited a Statement of Qualifications for Elevator repairs, to assist clients with disabilities who are unable to climb the stairs in order to get to the 2nd floor of their building; and

WHEREAS, Otis Elevator Company of Jacksonville, Florida submitted a proposal to repair the Elevator at a cost of \$3,550.00; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that Otis Elevator Company of Jacksonville, Florida, be awarded a contract for Elevator repairs to the DWDA building for the contract price of \$3,550.00. 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 of this Resolution, hereby ratifying and confirming all actions taken and to be taken .

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to deny the Resolution of the City of Waycross Georgia to Approve the Award of the Contract to for Elevator Repair for the DWDA Elevator to R. L. Tyson Construction. Commissioner Alvin Nelson seconded the motion; Commissioners Nelson and Solomon-Gaines voted yes; Commissioner Davis voted no; The motion was approved to deny with a 2 – 1 vote.

A Resolution of the City of Waycross Georgia Opposing the Georgia Department of Transportation Plan for the “Waycross East Bypass” Highway System was presented for review.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-58

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA OPPOSING THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR THE “WAYCROSS EAST BYPASS” HIGHWAY SYSTEM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Transportation conducted a multi-modal transportation study for the City of Waycross and Ware County, Georgia in 2001, resulting in recommendations for improved transportation system improvements in the City of Waycross and Ware County; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Transportation developed a Highway/Street Plan for the City of Waycross known as the “Waycross East Bypass”, which would construct a new four-lane roadway starting in Pierce County, Georgia at US Hwy. 84 and ending at US Hwy. 1/23 in Ware County; and

WHEREAS, the East Bypass Corridor would divert traffic away from the central business district of the City of Waycross, which is currently centrally located in Southeast Georgia, and serves as a shopping hub for Waycross and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, in the present economy existing businesses and industry in the corporate limits of the City of Waycross are struggling to attract and maintain a sufficient customer base in order to continue to operate successfully, while meeting their financial obligations to their employees, suppliers, families, and the local municipality for continued municipal services; and

WHEREAS, the East Bypass Corridor would inevitably divert people, traffic and revenues from the City of Waycross, thereby exacerbating the plight of local businesses and industry to remain solvent, and making it virtually impossible to continue to provide goods and services to the citizens of Waycross, as well as contribute to the tax base of the local municipality to help defray the costs of providing local municipal services; and

WHEREAS, representatives from the Georgia Department of Transportation recently appeared before the Waycross City Commission in open public meetings, and advised the Commission that there is very little public support for the Waycross East Bypass project, based upon comments received at previous public hearings conducted by the Georgia Department of Transportation regarding this proposed East Bypass Corridor; and

WHEREAS, representatives from the Georgia Department of Transportation held an information session and public hearing at the Trembling Earth Recreation Complex on October 7, 2013, at the request of the City of Waycross, and a majority of those citizens in attendance expressed their objection to the proposed East Bypass Corridor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross, acting through its elected Mayor and City Commissioners, strongly oppose implementation of the Waycross East Bypass project, and desire to make known to all necessary parties and decision makers their strong opposition, by adopting and publishing this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and the Commissioners of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross, hereby strongly opposes the Georgia Department of Transportation Highway/Street Plan for the City of Waycross known as the "Waycross East Bypass", which would construct a new four-lane roadway starting in Pierce County, Georgia at US Hwy. 84 and ending at US Hwy. 1/23 in Ware County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Commission hereby call on the City's elected delegation to the Georgia General Assembly, as well as the City's elected delegation to the United States Congress, to oppose any legislation and/or appropriations for the Waycross East Bypass project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to said elected officials, media outlets, and other appropriate persons or entities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager and Mayor are hereby authorized, directed and empowered to implement this Resolution in the most effective manner possible.

SO RESOLVED, this 15th day of October, 2013.

CITY OF WAYCROSS
BY: CLARENCE E. BILLUPS, Mayor

ATTEST:
JULIE DINKINS, City Clerk

The motion for approval of the Resolution of the City of Waycross Georgia Opposing the Georgia Department of Transportation Plan for the "Waycross East Bypass" Highway System was made by Commissioner Alvin Nelson. Commissioner Norman Davis seconded the motion; all voted yes and the motion carried with a 3-0 vote.

Mr. Christopher Jordan, 1102 Elizabeth Street, appeared before the Commission to urge the Commission to provide citizens with an explanation of the shooting incident when the investigation is complete.

Ms. Tawanna Boyd, 2315 Sage Street, appeared before the Commission to share her concern over the increasing use of excessive force in law enforcement. She urged the Commission to form a citizens review board to enhance our current system of checks and balances.

Ms. Petres M. Calhoun, 607 Folks Street, addressed the Commission to request consideration of forming a citizens review board.

Ms. Lakisha Kitchen, 154 E. Waring Street, addressed the Commission to request consideration of forming a citizens review board.

Rev. Wilbert King, 602 Magnolia Drive, appeared before the Commission to discuss the WPD incident. Rev. King suggested the Commission consider a citizens review board, with representative people in the community with no personal interest in the situation.

Ms. Beverly Mallory, 180 Toomer Street, requested the Commission consider the formation of a Citizens Review Board.

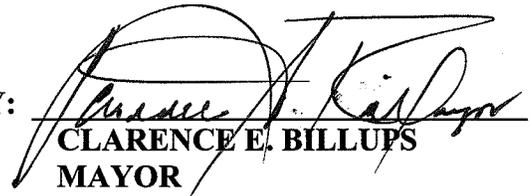
Mr. Fer-Rell Malone, Jr., 707 Jones Street, yielded his 5 minutes to his father, the Rev. Fer-Rell Malone, Sr.

Reverend Fer-Rell Malone, 709 Jones Street, appeared before the Commission representing the Concerned Clergy of Southeast Georgia, Inc. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference concerning the recent shooting of Jack Lamar Roberson, Jr. by two Waycross police officers. The Rev. Fer-Rell Malone called it evidence that a culture exists where the lives of black men are devalued where violence against them is affirmed. Rev. Malone called for a vigorous investigation of the shooting and prosecution of the officers if they are found in the wrong. He also urged the City to establish a citizen's review board as a check and balance so that trust in law enforcement may be restored.

After closing remarks, 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

ATTEST:


JULIE C. DINKINS, CITY CLERK