

# ***CITY REPORT***



**MARCH 2024**  
**Week 11<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>**

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## **Executive Summary**

The City of Waycross is integrating and training staff to enhance customer service and increase capability, while collecting and utilizing data driven analytics to drive future decision making. Additionally, the city is reassessing all procedures, processes, and programs to ensure proficiency & compliance and is adequately postured to better serve the community.

The City of Waycross is reevaluating the Capital Improvement plan to ensure it better aligns with the Operating budget to meet future requirements and deliverables as outlined in the Strategic Business Plan (working). Additionally, the Commission's priorities are to ensure safety, create a prosperous business climate, and to govern with transparency and effective communication.

Honorable Mayor



Mr. Michael-Angelo James

District 1  
Commissioner



Mr. Norman Davis

District 2  
Commissioner



Ms. Sheinita Bennett

District 3  
Commissioner



Ms.. Katrena Felder

District 4  
Commissioner



Mrs. Diane Hopkins

District 5  
Commissioner



Mr. Alvin Nelson

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# ***CITY REPORT***



## **Table of Contents**

PG. 2. Executive Summary

PG. 3. Table of Content

PG. 4. City Priorities

PG. 6. Community Development

PG 10. Business Integration & Information Systems

PG. 13. Protective Services (Fire)

PG. 15. Protective Services (Police)

PG. 18. Human Resources

PG. 19. Finance

PG. 26. Public Works

PG. 30. Engineering

PG. 33. Water &Waste-water

PG. 35. Community Calendar

# ***CITY REPORT***



## **Priorities**

The City's priorities remain connected to enhancing customer service and communication, community engagement & development, and economic growth.



<https://www.facebook.com/p/City-of-Waycross-Government-100069328174806/>

## **Week's Priorities:**

1. Continuous evaluation of city processes and systems that lead to better efficiency and customer service.
2. Community Clean up.
3. Budget review execution.
4. Infrastructure Revalidation execution.
5. Community interaction/engagement (2).

**Funding Updates:** None.

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**Mayor, Commission, City Manager Travel & Training:** None.

**Projects:**

Community Volunteer Program execution.

Community Clean-up program execution.

Citizens in-need data collection execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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### **Marc Hawkins Community Improvement Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/community-development.php>

#### **Week's Priorities:**

Systems and procedures modernization execution.

Blighted properties execution.

June Court cases execution.

Waycross/Ware County Planning Commission on March 14.

Planning Commission meeting execution.

March 14 unsafe structures execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

**Projects:** None.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:**

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**Week of – 03/01/2024 – 3/07/2024**

## **Building Permit (turned in / pending approval)**

N/A

## **Building Permit (approved)**

Residential

Location: 803 Eads Street

Contractor: Brownstone Builders

Job Valuation: \$ 8,000.00

Permit Fee: \$ 65.00

Commercial

Location: 2456 Memorial Drive

Contractor: Cayman Builders

Job Valuation: \$ 14,550.00

Permit Fee: \$ 300.00

Residential (renewal)

Location: 1200 Pruitt Drive

Contractor: Alpha Foundations

Job Valuation: \$ 17,163.00 Permit Fee: \$ 135.00

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### **Commercial**

Location: 505 Elizabeth Street

Contractor: Cobblestone Builders Inc

Job Valuation: \$ 500.00

Permit Fee: \$ 35.00

### **Residential**

Location: 1502 Vernon Street

Contractor: Ramz Construction

Job Valuation: \$ 40,000.00

Permit Fee: \$ 225.00

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## **Patrick Simmons Business Integration & Information Director**



**Systems**<https://www.waycrossga.gov/business-integration-information-systems.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Chamber Rise & Shine execution.  
Codes Information Sharing execution.  
OATH Board Meeting execution.  
Tyler Technologies – Kick off Meeting execution.  
DFACS Region 11 Meeting execution.  
Swamp-fest Committee Meeting execution.  
MyCivic (Tyler Tech App) Meeting execution.  
Ware Children's Initiative Board Meeting execution.  
Mayor's Youth Council execution.  
Run & Chase Fashion Show execution.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

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**Travel & Training:** None.

**Projects:**

Partnership with AKAs - Entrepreneur Training Series: Build  
Community Archiving Day.

District Dashboard.

**Decision Required:**

ATC Wi-Fi Update Decision execution.

**Miscellaneous:**

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### **David Eddins Protective Service (Fire) Chief**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/fire-department.php>

#### **Week's Priorities:**

FY25 budget execution.

Fire Department Record keeping process execution.

New Hire execution.

Business Pre-plan review execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

#### **Projects:**

Spring Clean-up execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:**

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### **Tommy Cox Protective Services (Police) Chief**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/police-department.php>

#### **Week's Priorities:**

Major Case review execution.

Citizen's Police Academy assignments execution.

Swamp-fest Security Event planning execution.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

#### **Projects:**

Special Operations Renovation execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

#### **Miscellaneous:**

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## Court Cases

### Current month/Year to Date

Driving under the Influence	6	15
Traffic Warning	13	31
All other Traffic Citations	228	391

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## CITIZENS' POLICE ACADEMY



April 4-May 9

Thursday evenings beginning at 6:00 PM

*Get Involved, Stay Informed: Attend the WPD Citizens' Police Academy and Invest in Your Community.*

### TOPICS:



Traffic safety



Accident Investigations



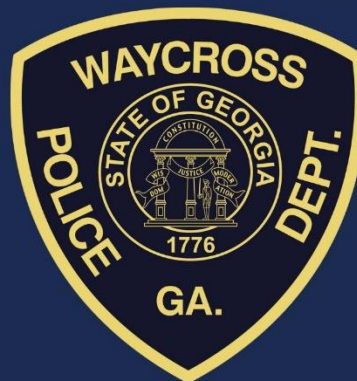
K-9 Operations



Firearms Training



Requirements for arrest



For more information call the office of Chief Tommy Cox at (912) 287-2927 or email Officer Jason McQuaig at [jmcquaig@waycrossga.gov](mailto:jmcquaig@waycrossga.gov)

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### **Marissa Hendrix Human Resources Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/human-resources.php>

#### **Week's Priorities:**

Workforce Onboarding execution.

Georgia Cities Week execution.

Job Description execution.

Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act

Implementation Projects Grant execution.

Early Detection of Certain Medical Conditions Related to  
Environmental Health execution.

**Funding updates:** None.

**Traveling and Training:** None.

#### **Projects:**

Georgia Cities week April 22-26.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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### **Greg Smith Finance Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/finance.php>

#### **Week's Priorities:**

Future Projects cost estimate execution.

FY23 Audit execution.

FEMA update execution.

Water rate study execution.

**Funding updates:** None.

**Traveling and Training:** None.

#### **Projects:**

Meter replacement software execution.

Water Rate Study execution.

Audit FY23 execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

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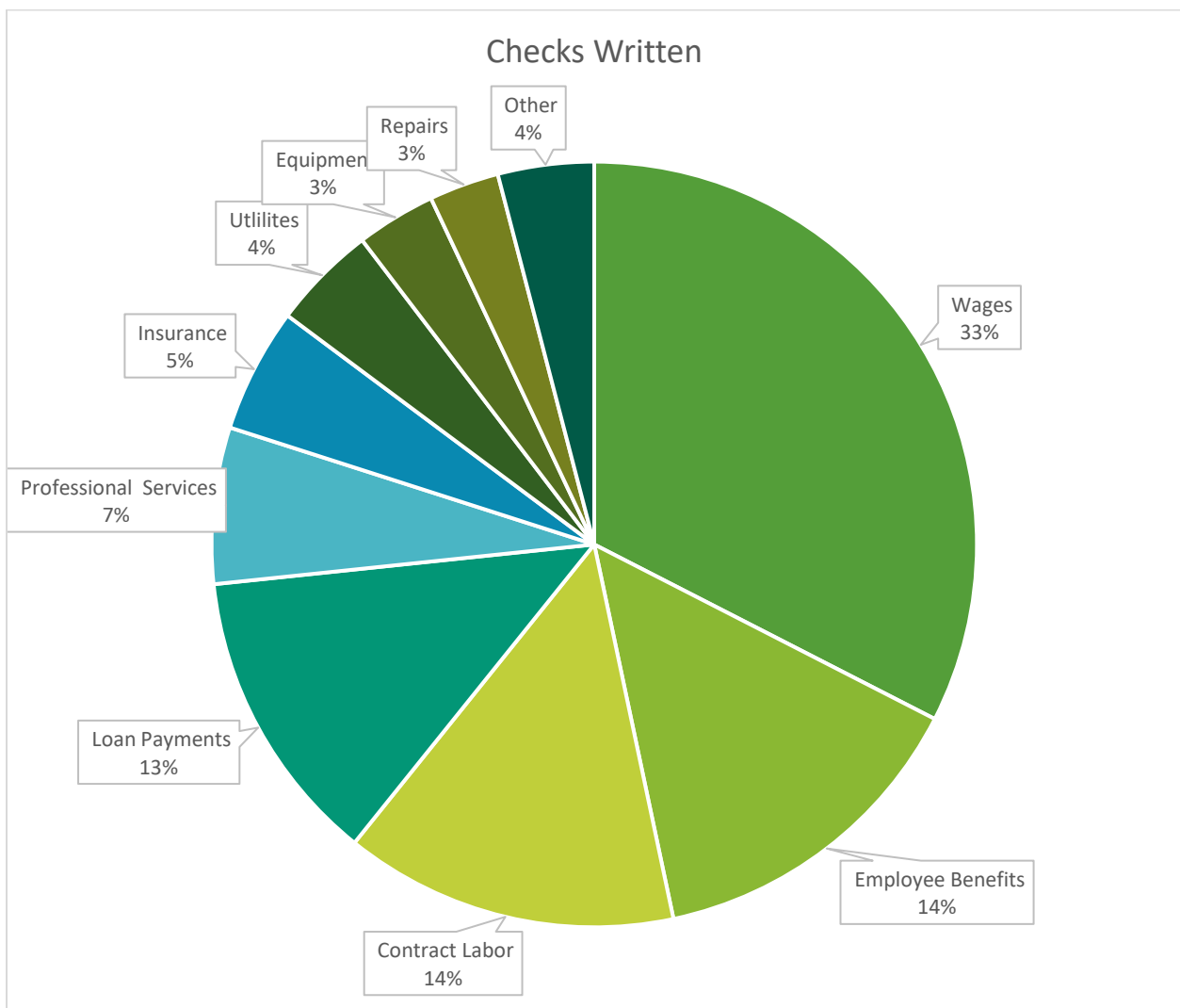
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## Budget Charts

### City Year mid-point funding expenses



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General Fund	Budget	Actual	%	Health Ins.	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 16,078,617	\$ 8,434,704	52.5%	Revenue	\$ 2,027,029	\$ 1,098,599	54.2%
Expenditures	\$ 16,078,617	\$ 8,055,957	50.1%	Expenditures	\$ 2,027,029	\$ 956,905	47.2%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 378,747		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 141,694	
Water/Sewer	Budget	Actual	%	Workers Comp.	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 7,211,000	\$ 4,625,173	64.1%	Revenue	\$ 485,000	\$ 223,000	46.0%
Expenditures	\$ 7,211,000	\$ 4,272,043	59.2%	Expenditures	\$ 485,000	\$ 781,727	161%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 353,130		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ (558,727)	
Storm Water	Budget	Actual	%	Retirement	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 750,000	\$ 381,727	50.9%	Revenue	\$ 1,345,797	\$ 666,363	49.5%
Expenditures	\$ 750,000	\$ 266,116	35.5%	Expenditures	\$ 1,345,797	\$ 567,236	42.1%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 115,611		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 99,127	
Waste Mngt.	Budget	Actual	%	Sp.LOST 2014	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 2,672,225	\$ 1,299,305	48.6%	Revenue	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 10,869	0.8%
Expenditures	\$ 2,672,225	\$ 1,253,286	46.9%	Expenditures	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 201,967	14.4%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 46,019		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ (191,098)	
Garage Fund	Budget	Actual	%	T. SPLOST 2018	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 432,594	\$ 216,297	50.0%	Revenue	\$ 6,915,462	\$ 737,789	10.7%
Expenditures	\$ 432,594	\$ 193,426	44.7%	Expenditures	\$ 6,915,462	\$ 570,772	8.3%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 22,871		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 167,017	

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Hotel/Motel	Budget	Actual	%	R.T. SPLOST	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 511,674	\$ 274,952	53.7%	Revenue	\$ 306,238	\$ 175,897	57.4%
Expenditures	\$ 511,674	\$ 320,239	62.6%	Expenditures	\$ 306,238	\$ 14,470	4.7%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ (45,287)		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 161,427	
Auditorium	Budget	Actual	%	SPLOST 2023	Budget	Actual	%
Revenue	\$ 43,000	\$ 15,800	36.7%	Revenue	\$ 3,200,000	\$ 1,872,050	58.5%
Expenditures	\$ 43,000	\$ 32,145	74.8%	Expenditures	\$ 3,200,000	\$ -	0.0%
Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ (16,345)		Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 1,872,050	
				ARPA-3 Years	Budget	Actual	%
				Revenue	\$ 5,033,363	\$ 5,083,379	101%
				Expenditures	\$ 5,033,363	\$ 2,402,290	48%
				Rev. Over Exp.	\$ -	\$ 2,681,089	

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## **T-SPLOST & SPLOST**

### **Waycross & Ware County 2024 T-SPLOST Proposal**

#### **What is a Single County T-SPLOST?**

- A Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) is a sale tax used to fund capital projects proposed by the county and city governments. The Transportation Investment Act (TIA) or T-SPLOST is a regional sales tax for transportation purposes **ONLY**.
- 100% of the funds that are collected by this initiative will be spent on transportation projects in THIS COMMUNITY.



#### **How much money will be raised with a Single County**

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## T-SPLOST?

- Assuming the max rate of 1.0% is leveraged for 5 years, it is projected that Waycross and Ware County will generate approximately \$45 Million from April 2024 to March 2029.
- These funds will be shared equally (50/50) between Ware County and the City of Waycross.



## How can the money be spent?

Funds can only be spent on transportation purposes, which is defined in O.C.G.A. Section 48-8-260(5) as:

*“...the tax are to be used in whole or part for capital outlay projects consisting of road, street, and bridge purposes, then authorized uses of the tax proceeds shall include: (A) Acquisition of rights of way for roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; (B) Construction of roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; (C) Renovation*

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*and improvement of roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths, including resurfacing; (D) Relocation of utilities for roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; (E) Improvement of surface water drainage from roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths; and (F) Patching, leveling, milling, widening, shoulder preparation, culvert repair, and other repairs necessary for the preservation of roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths..."*

**Note:** A minimum of 30% of revenue generated must be consistent with the Statewide Strategic Transportation Plan.

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## **James Smart Public Works Director**



<https://www.waycrossga.gov/public-works.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Elizabeth Park, Memorial Drive, City Blvd., Baptist Village  
mower crew/tractor execution.

Cleaning Canals.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel & Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

Storm Drain cleaning execution.

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

# ***CITY REPORT***



## **Public Works City Services**

### **Sanitation Services**

**Garbage:** Only the rollout may be used for disposal of residential garbage. If one container is not sufficient, the city will provide an additional container for residential, \$6.99, and commercial, \$11.13. Your container must be curbside the evening before your collection day. After the collection, the emptied container must then be removed from the curbside and returned to your storage area. Call City Hall at 912-287-2900.

**Yard Trash:** Yard trash should be placed on the curb or city right of way in one large pile (not on the street). Your yard trash must be ready for collection by 7:00 AM on your collection day.

**Limbs should be cut in 8-foot lengths and be no larger than 8 inches in diameter.** Tree removal will not be collected; this includes limbs, tree trunks, stumps, or stump grindings. Do not place yard trash next to any immobile objects such as light poles, mailboxes, cars, etc. For further information, call the Public Works office at 912-287-2955.

## ***CITY REPORT***



**Household Special Pickups:** This refers to the removal of large bulky items such as appliances, mattresses, furniture, carpet, and other household items. Customers may call weekly by Thursday at noon to schedule a pickup of five items or fewer. Collections are Friday of each week. Call the Public Works office at 912-287- 2955 to schedule your pickup.

**More than 5 Item Household Collections:** Customers having larger loads may call and request a special pickup. A special pickup fee of: ¼ load \$36.23, ½ load \$77.63, and full load \$155.25 must be paid in advance to City Hall. You will then be issued a pickup date on Tuesday or Friday. Call the Public Works office at 287-2955 to schedule a pickup.

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## **Engineering**

<https://www.waycrossga.gov/engineering.php>

### **Week's Priorities:**

Six LDA site inspections execution.

GDOT Plant Avenue Canal execution.

MLK and Bailey Street Storm Drain execution.

2006 Alice Street Sewer Tap Installation execution.

Woodward and Riverside washout / drainage execution.

Toomer Street Sewer Extension execution.

Marion Street Canal execution.

Crawford Street storm drain repairs execution.

Hwy 55 drainage issue execution.

SR520 WAWA sewer tap / manhole execution.

Spurgeon Street water leaks execution.

Glenmore Fire Hydrant execution.

**Funding updates:** None.

**Traveling and Training:** None.

### **Projects:**

2019 TSPLOST Multi-infrastructure Improvements –

Richmond Avenue – Complete

Beville Street –Striping

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Jane Street – Striping

Hanover Street - Striping

Crawford Street – Striping

Design Phase for 2024 Road Paving Project

Design Phase for Multi-infrastructure Improvements

Design of Parks – APRA

Utility Rate Study

- ***Construction can be lengthy; we do our best to not inconvenience citizens but there may be delays.***

**Decision Required:** None.

**Miscellaneous:**

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## **Water and Wastewater**

### **Week's Priority:**

#### **Collections and Distribution**

1212 Pruitt St -Water Leak execution.

811 Atlantic Ave- Water Leak execution.

2006 Alice St.- Water Leak execution.

202 Glass St.- Water leak execution.

1309 Lee Ave- Water Leak execution.

303 Butler St- Water leak execution.

Drive By meter reading.

#### **MAINTENANCE**

Weekly preventative maintenance task execution.

Lift station inspections execution.

Temps- Water Plant spring cleanup.

#### **WWTP**

Lab permit and process control samples execution.

#### **Water Plant**

Normal daily operations and well inspections.

**Funding Updates:** None.

**Travel and Training:** None.

#### **Projects:**

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WWTP Upgrades.

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## **Community Calendar**

- Mar 4/5 – Working Session/Commission meeting.
- Mar 7– Newsies open - Waycross Area Theatre.
- Mar 12 – Rise and Shine - Coastal Pines Tech.
- Mar 12 – City Codes Information Sharing session.
- Mar 14 – AKA and City - SBD Entrepreneur Workshops.
- Mar 17 – Steve Bean Youth Art Show - Okefenokee Heritage.
- Mar 18/19 – Working Session/Commission meeting.
- Mar 20 – Property owners/Realtors Working Group session.
- Mar 21 – Business After Hours - Wiley's Top Shelf.
- Mar 21 – Mentorship meeting.
- Mar 26 – Business Development meeting.
- Mar 28 – City Update.
- Mar 29 – Rod Run - Okefenokee Fairgrounds.
- Mar 30 – Community Archiving Day – Auditorium.
- Mar 30 – Easter Egg Hunt - Memorial Park.

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### **City Hall Meeting Community/Business Meetings**

These monthly meetings allow community members and local businesses to meet with the city manager and staff and discuss any concerns or ideas they may have. All interested parties are encouraged to attend these meetings, which will be held monthly. The meetings will be held in the commission chambers at City Hall and will provide an open forum for discussion.

**Codes Information Sharing Session every 2nd Tuesday monthly at 12:00 pm**

**Landlords/Realtors every 3rd Wednesday monthly at 12:00 pm.**

**Business Development every 4th Tuesday monthly at 1:00 pm.**

**Community/Faith Outreach every 3rd Thursday monthly at 12:00 pm.**

**Mentors of Waycross every 3rd Thursday monthly at 1:30 pm.**