

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION
MONDAY OCTOBER 16, 2023 – 5:00 P.M.
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
(417 PENDLETON STREET, WAYCROSS, GA)

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Waycross City Commission Planning and Information Session was called to order on Monday, October 16, 2023, at 5:00 pm by Mayor James. The meeting was held in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. Present were Commissioners, Henry Strickland, Norman Davis, Diane Hopkins, and Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita Bennett.

A. Invocation: Commissioner Norman Davis

Led by James Smart, Public Works Director

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. GUESTS:

No guest presented.

III. TRAVEL/TRAINING SCHEDULE AND REQUESTS

Mayor James to be traveling for Fall District Meeting through GMA to Fitzgerald Ga.

IV. PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION

A. Bids:

1. WAYX24-03 Surplus; 15 Fire Hoses

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday Commission Meeting Agenda.

Dist-1 Norman Davis-yes, Dist-2 Sheinita Bennett-yes, Dist-4 Diane Hopkins-yes, Dist-5 Henry Strickland-yes.

B. Discussion Items:

1. Citizen Review Panel

The City Manager explained that this panel put together by citizens of Waycross would volunteer to go through the ordinances giving their opinions on certain ordinances regarding changes that may need to go before the commission for a possible change. The city manager will VET the volunteers before selecting a panel.

1. Commissioners Town-hall Schedule

The city manager, addressed the commission with a question of how they would like the follow-up and or conclusion of situations that happen in the city with the WPD to be distributed to them for transparency for the citizens.

2. Workforce Vacation Rollover

City Manager, would like to move forward on the rollover of vacation days accrued for the city employees. He stated he is waiting on some data from the county before making his final presentation to the commission. This will not take place until the next budget hearing. He stated he will be getting with the Finance Director and HR Director to finalize the changes to take effect.

C. Privilege Licenses Renewals: n/a

D. Privilege Licenses: n/a

E. Proposed Ordinances: n/a

F. Proposed Resolutions:

1. A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, to Approve Holiday Calendar for Calendar Year 2024, and for Other Purposes.

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda.

G. City Attorney's Report:

H. City Manager's Report:

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

This week's Priorities are:

1. Continuous evaluation of city processes and systems that lead to better efficiency and customer service.
2. Community Clean up.
3. Streets, Roads, and Projects update (priority) execution.
4. ARAP update and application training.
5. Community interaction/engagement (5)

There was a consensus for the city attorney to have a resolution made for renaming Veterans Park to Veterans Memorial Park.

Dist-1 Norman Davis-yes, Dist-2 Sheinita Bennett-yes, Dist-4 Diane Hopkins-yes, Dist-5 Henry Strickland-yes.

The city manager gave his plan on recognizing the employees that have been with the city for 30 years. He also discussed the modifications he made to the city report.

I. Last Call

Commissioner Davis- asked if the city manager would get in touch with Mrs. Emily Davis, to share what services the city offers. He also wanted to ask if the fencing around the park could be done with a stronger material to make it more durable.

Commissioner Bennett- asked if a light on Lee Ave could be replaced. She also expressed emotional concerns about the homeless population and wanted to know in what direction she could point them to for help.

Commissioner Hopkins- nothing currently.

Commissioner Strickland- showed gratitude for all who came out for the Faith in Blue. He stated we all need education on how we can assist the growing number of homeless people.

Mayor James- reminded the commission that he will be traveling for the GMA Fall Convention and also mentioned the Meet and Greet being held at Parnell Park from 9am until 2pm this Saturday.

J. Adjourn to Executive Session

K. Adjournment

Then Mayor adjourned the meeting without a motion at 6:05 p.m.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:

Michael Angelo James
MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline Powell
JACQUALINE POWELL, City Clerk

