

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION
TUESDAY JANUARY 2, 2024 – 3:00 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, January 2, 2024, at 3:02 pm by Mayor Michael-Angelo James. The meeting was held in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. Present was Mayor James, Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita Bennett, Commissioners Katrena Felder, Alvin Nelson and Norman Davis.

A. Invocation: Commissioner Diane Hopkins

Led by James Smart, Public Works Director

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. GUESTS:

Dr. Martin, 902, Elizabeth Street, Waycross Ga. 31501- he stood to voice his opinion concerning the fact that there are still no traffic lights on Corridor Z at the Blackwell and Garlington intersections.

III. TRAVEL/TRAINING SCHEDULE AND REQUESTS

The Commissioners, Mayor and City Manager will be traveling for Eggs and Issues to Atlanta Georgia. The City Manager and Patrick Simmons will meet with GDOT next week January 9th .

IV. PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION

A. Bids:

1. WAYX 24-05 Surplus Transfer-WPD Service Weapon and Police Badge

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda.

2. WAYXL 24-02 Surplus Land Bid-1011 Johnson Ave

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda.

B. Discussion Items:

1. Appointments for Boards, Authorities, & Agencies

Marc Hawkins, Community Improvement Director spoke on all the seats that will need reappointment.

2. Chip Grant

Marc Hawkins gave information on this grant stating that it will cover part of Dist. 1 and Dist. 3 areas. A Resolution is needed to apply for this Grant. When it gets finalized, Marc will make sure that all commissioners have a copy of a larger map.

3. COLA

Greg Smith, Finance Department Director, provided the commission with a possible wage increase for employees. He prepared and handed out documentation for review.

4. ARPA Grant Update

The City Manager gave an update regarding the applications for the grant awards. He stated that currently the city has received 327 packets. Out of the 327 packets, 100 are complete and 127 need additional information. The cut off was January 5th. The 100 will go to the Directors to screen on the 15th of February citizens will start receiving money. He will return with information on the final selection out of the 100.

5. Unpaved-Dirt Roads List

The City Manager provided an update on 54 dirt roads. The commission was provided handouts to help with updates on these roads.

C. Privilege Licenses Renewals:

1. Bunky's, C. Patel, 1545 Ossie Davis Parkway, Waycross Ga. 31501, Beer and Wine, package sales only.
2. Wallys, N. Patel, 1565 Ossie Davis Parkway, Waycross Ga. 31501, Beer and Wine, package sales only.

D. Privilege Licenses: n/a

E. Proposed Ordinances:

1. An Ordinance Recognizing the Election Districts of the City of Waycross As Established by the City Commission on July 19,2011; and for Other Purposes.

***A point of order was called by Commissioner Davis. He stated because there is a lot of confusion around this Map. He suggested to the commission to table to come back to it later. Commissioner Felder stated, that "because" of the confusion the Ordinance should stand as clarification to the citizens. A vote was taken, and Commissioners Bennett, Nelson and Davis voted for it to be tabled. ***

2. An Ordinance to Abandon and Close A Portion of an Unopened Alley in Block 88 of Railroad Plat Subdivision; To Authorize Quitclaim Deeds to Abutting Landowners; To Establish An Effective Date; To Repeal Conflicting Ordinances; and for Other Purposes.

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda.

F. Proposed Resolutions:

1. A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Declare As Surplus Property A Weapon and Badge for Retiring Lieutenant Terrell Murphy; and for Other Purposes.

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda.

2. A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Accept and Approve the Paving Priority List Generated and Created by the City Engineer; and for Other Purposes.

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda.

3. A Resolution of the City of Waycross To Submit An Application To Obtain FY 2024 Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) Funds For Housing Rehabilitation Improvements.

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda.

G. City Attorney's Report:

H. City Manager's Report:

I. Last Call

Commissioner Davis – expressed condolences to the Cooper Family for the loss of their loved one.

Commissioner Bennett- thanked everyone for coming out. She stated that she enjoyed being Mayor Pro Temp, and appreciated those that supported her in that role. She sent condolences to the Neloms and Cooper family for their loss.

Commissioner Felder- thanked everyone for coming. She congratulated Lt. Murphy on his retirement and for 22 years of service to the city.

Commissioner Hopkins- thanked all for coming out and wished all a Merry Christmas.

Mayor Pro Temp, Alvin Nelson- thanked everyone for coming out.

Mayor James- thanked all for coming out. He gave condolences to the Neloms and Cooper family for their loss. He congratulated Lt. Murphy on his retirement and his service. Happy New Year to all.

J. Adjourn to Executive Session

K. Adjournment

A. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore' _____

B. Pronouncement of City Officers (Presented by Mayor and Confirmed by Commission)

City Attorney: *Rick Currie*

Assistant City Attorney: *Huey Spearman*

Official Organ: *Waycross Journal-Herald*

City Depository: *Ameris Bank*
Waycross Bank & Trust

City Auditor: *Mauldin & Jenkins CPAs*

City Engineer: *ESG Engineering*

Municipal Court Judge *Judge Douglas W. Gibson*

Municipal Court Judge Pro-Tempore' *Adrienne Gibson*

Insurance Agents: *Gallagher/Five Points*
Oakbridge Insurance Company
Cigna Health, Anthem Vision, New York Life & AD&D
Gallagher Insurance
Travelers Liability & Workers Comp

City Election Superintendent: *Ware County Board of Elections and Registration*

C. Appointment to Executive Positions Recommended by Mayor and Confirmed by the Commission:

Downtown Waycross Development Authority: **Mayor**

Law Enforcement Training Center Advisory **Fire:** _____

Committee: **Police:** _____

Commissioners

Library Board of Trustees:

1. *Commissioner*
2. *Board Member*
3. *Board Member*

Ex-Officio: _____

Waycross-Ware County Land Bank Authority:

1. *Post 1*
2. *Post 2*

Waycross Convention & Visitors Bureau:

1. *Post 3*
2. *Post 4*
3. *Post 5*

Mayor's Youth Council:

Southern Georgia Regional Commission

Mayor

Transportation Planning Coordinating Committee:

Mayor

Ware County Health Board:

Mayor

Waycross-Ware Co Development Authority:

Mayor

Waycross-Ware Co Chamber of Commerce:

Mayor

(Mayor and/or City Manager are Automatic Appointees to the Southern Georgia Regional Commission, Waycross-Ware Development Authority, Transportation Planning Coordinating Committee and Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Waycross Development Authority)

Pension Committee for Retirement Fund* *(Recommended by Mayor and Confirmed by City Commission)(Mayor, City Manager, City Attorney, and Personnel Analyst & Risk Management Employee are Automatic Appointees:*

- a. Mayor
- b. City Manager
- c. City Attorney
- d. Finance Director
- e. City Commissioner
- f. Department Head

Mayor Michael-Angelo James
Ulysses Rayford, City Manager
Rick Currie, City Attorney
Greg Smith, Finance Director

Marissa Hendrix, Human Resources

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:

+ Michael Angelo James
MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline Powell
JACQUALINE POWELL, City Clerk

