

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024, 5:00 P.M.
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
(417 PENDLETON STREET, WAYCROSS, GA)

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Waycross City Commission Meeting was called to order on Monday, April 15, 2024, at 5:00 pm by Mayor James. The meeting was held in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. Present were Commissioners, Katrena Felder, Sheinita Bennett (in at 5:30), Commissioner Davis and Mayor Pro Temp, Alvin Nelson.

A. Invocation: Mayor Michael-Angelo James

Invocation led by Chief Eddins, WFD

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. GUESTS:

Roy Rhodes- 1602 Coral Road, Waycross Ga. 31501- He wanted to get permission from the city to reprint the bi-centennial coins. There was a consensus to add a resolution on tomorrow's agenda for approval.

Marla Howell- 1201 Pruitt Drive, Waycross Ga. She is concerned about the increase in the number of homeless and where they are setting up. She stated that people do not want to take their kids to the park because of the encampments they have set up. She stated that the businesses where they set up are suffering because they are using it as a bathroom. She just wanted to make the commission aware of.

Nelson McCray-300 Fireman Street, Waycross Ga. 31501- He wanted to ask the commission permission to have a bench put into Walter Thomas Park on behalf of St. Peters Baptist Church.

III. TRAVEL/TRAINING SCHEDULE AND REQUESTS

Commissioner Felder will be traveling to Fitzgerald Georgia, for a meeting sponsored by GMA.

IV. PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION

A. Bids:

I. WAYX 24-08 Surplus Firefighter Helmets & Boots

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda.

B. Discussion Items:

1. Infrastructure Update

The City Manager allowed Former Commissioner Solomon Gaines to come forward to speak on behalf of her sorority desire to be able to assist in helping with youth programs this summer. Also, they desire to set a table outside in the front for voter engagement. Help share information and register voters for the election.

He also spoke on the transportation plan, a handout that he distributed to the commission. There is a need to outline any structural changes as far as the roads and highways. It will also allow for more funding from the state because there is a plan in place. This plan will help the city prepare for future growth. This is a work between the city and county.

2. Talent Management:

He discussed the Retirement Plan for the workforce. He discussed the direction of going this route. He also mentioned that the COLA would not be given because of the amount of revenue coming into the city. He mentioned to the commission about updating our fees, fines, and service rates. Some of which have not been increased since its origination. He spoke on the need for more housing to be able to take care of the growth coming to the city.

C. Privilege Licenses Renewals: n/a

D. Privilege Licenses: n/a

E. Proposed Ordinances:

- 1. An Ordinance of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Amend Chapter 28-Offenses, By Adding A New Article V.-Urban Camping, and Improper Use of Public Spaces; To Set An Effective Date; To Repeal Conflicting Ordinances; and for Other Purposes.**

This Ordinance by a vote of 3 to 1 was **TABLED**. District-2 Sheinita Bennett-No, District-3 Katrena Felder-No, District-4 Diane Hopkins-Yes, District-5 Mayor Pro Temp, Alvin Nelson -No.

F. Proposed Resolutions:

- 1. A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Support Modification of the City's Retirement Plan; and for Other Purposes.**

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda.

G. City Attorney Report:

H. City Managers Report:

He highlighted the police for their efforts working with him trying to communicate with the homeless that are hanging in the parks. He reached out to the Housing Authority and OATH to get information on placing them in available housing.

I. Last Call

Commissioner Bennett- thanked everyone for coming out. She expressed condolences to the Sanders family.

Commissioner Felder- thanked everyone for coming. She thanked all department heads for their dedication to serving the citizens.

Commissioner Hopkins- thanked all for coming out.

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

Mayor James- thanked all for coming out. He thanked the Commissioners and the City Manager for all they do. He thanked Rick Currie for 10 years of service to the city and wished him well on his retirement.

J. Adjourn to Executive Session

K. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor James at 6:09pm

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:

Michael Angelo James

MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline Powell
JACQUALINE POWELL, City Clerk

