

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2022 – 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 31, 2022, at 5:00 pm by Mayor Michael-Angelo James. The meeting was held in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. Present was Mayor James, Commissioners Norman Davis, Katrena Felder, and Henry Strickland

A. Invocation

James Smart, lead the invocation

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. GUESTS:

Malachi Christopher, 613 Lee Ave, Waycross Georgia 31501-

Mr. Christopher, announced to the commission the start of his own internet Gospel Radio Station for this area. He encouraged the commission to use the station for announcements and other community news.

III. TRAVEL/TRAINING SCHEDULE AND REQUESTS

Commissioner Felder announced travel to St Louis for training purposes, along with Chief Eddins.

IV. PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION

A. Bids:

1. FY 23-04 Stormwater Utility Materials

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda

2. FY 23-05 Surplus Land Sale Brunswick Ave Parcel WA0803 085A 0.21 Acres

There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday agenda

B. Discussion: ARPA Grant – Dr. Ingrid Thompson-Sellers, President SGSC, Taylor Hereford, & Betsy Kinnon

Dr. Sellers alongside Taylor Hereford, shared gratitude to the city for the \$45,000 given to help students who faced hardships to complete their education. They each shared stories of students who benefited from these monies and how it impacted their lives. Betsy Kinnon spoke as a recipient of monies awarded, and how it played a big part in helping her achieve one of her goals. She expressed her gratitude for the city's contribution.

C. Discussion: Fourth of July Fireworks

Interim City Manager, Marc Hawkins, spoke briefly on the possibility of moving the fireworks exhibition out to Trembling Earth. He and Mayor James met with Ware County, and they have agreed to work together splitting the cost of the fireworks which will allow for a much larger and longer display. Commissioner Davis wants an alternate site to be considered because it would limit being able to see the display from the previous location. Marc discussed plan to bus citizens from designated spots to and from Trembling Earth Recreation Center. Commissioner Felder stated that she agrees with Commissioner Davis, but the idea is a good one if they can work together to find a different location. Commissioner Strickland stated he understands the pros and cons, but he stated he is for the change in location. He believes that the change is good for the city. After discussion, they consensus was to try to find a different location and bring it back before the commission with an update.

D. Discussion: 2023 Holiday Calendar – Marissa Hendrix, HR Director

Marrissa, spoke to the commission seeking approval to add Veterans Day to the 2023 Holiday Calendar.

There was a consensus to add to 2023 Holiday Calendar.

E. Discussion: Continuing Critical Illness Insurance for Retired Firefighters – Marissa Hendrix, HR Director

Marrissa, spoke briefly on the cost to continue Critical Illness Insurance for Retired Firefighters.

There was a consensus to add to continue coverage.

F. Discussion: Longevity and Merit Increases – Marissa Hendrix

Marissa along with Chief Eddins, asked the commission to consider giving the employees either Longevity Increases or Merit Increases. They discussed the pros to each one leading to the Commissioners asking the department heads to come up with a plan of action and get back with them.

G. Privilege License Renewals:

1. George's Liquor Store, Ritesh Patel, 2401 ½, Plant Ave, Waycross Georgia 31501, Package Sales, Beer, Wine, & Liquor
2. Walmart #4527, Catharine Stacey, 1630 Plant Ave, , Waycross Georgia 31501, Package Sales, Beer and Wine
3. Walmart #0556, Bruce Landrum, 2425 Memorial Dr., Waycross Georgia 31501, Package Sales, Beer and Wine
4. Fancy Q Sushi, Jianchong Huang 514 Mary St., Waycross Georgia 31501, Consumption on premises, Beer and Wine

There was a consensus to place the renewals on Tuesday agenda

H. Privilege Licenses: n/a

I. Proposed Ordinances:

1. An Ordinance of the Waycross City Commission To Amend the Zoning Map of the City of Waycross, Georgia; To Re-zone the Property Described Herein Located at 121 Victory Drive for IP – Industrial Park to C – 2 Highway Commercial; To Set an Effective Date; To Repeal Conflicting Ordinances; and for Other Purposes.

There was a consensus to place this on the agenda for Tuesday

J. Proposed Resolutions:

1. A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Award Bid Contract to Diamond Concrete Products for Reinforced Concrete Pip for Several City Stormwater Projects; and for Other Purposes.

There was a consensus to place this on the agenda for Tuesday

2. A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Approve Holiday Calendar for Calendar Year 2023, and for Other Purposes.

There was a consensus to place this on the agenda for Tuesday

3. A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Declare Certain Real Property Described Herein and Located Between Albany Avenue and Brunswick Avenue as Surplus Property; To Authorize Sale to Highest Responsible Bidder; and for Other Purposes.

There was a consensus to place this on the agenda for Tuesday

K. City Attorney's Report:

Attorney Rick Curry, reminded all about the Public Hearing set for tomorrow at 4:45 p.m.

L. City Manager's Report:

Interim City Manager, Marc Hawkins announced the events that were going on around the city for information purposes.

1. Department Report: James Smart, Public Works Director

James Smart, presented the departmental report for public works department.

M. Last Call and/or Adjourn to Executive Session

Commissioner Davis- stated he wanted to speak with Marc Hawkins, and Greg before they leave. He spoke with Mr. James Smart about the additional basketball court.

Commissioner Felder – thanked everyone for coming out, and to remain involved and continue sharing your concerns. She thanked all the department heads for their many works.

Commissioner Strickland- thanked all citizens for coming out.

Mayor James- thanked everyone for coming to express their thanks and share their concerns. He thanked all the staff for their hard work.

N. Adjournment

The mayo asked for a motion to adjourn. There was a motion made by Commissioner Felder, to adjourn. Commissioner Strickland seconded all voted in favor and the mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

BY:


MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:


JACQUALINE POWELL, City Clerk

