

**MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021
5:00 p.m.**

The Commission of the City of Waycross held their Regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. Mayor James calls the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Members in attendance were: Mayor Michael-Angelo James, Mayor Pro Tem Henry Strickland, Commissioners John Threat, Norman Davis, Marian Solomon-Gaines, and Diane Hopkins.

Fire Department Chief David Eddins offered the opening Invocation. Following the Invocation, Chief Eddins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Police Department Chief Cox introduced Detective James Blount, Police Department, as the Employee of the Month.

City Manager Tonya Miller presented the City of Waycross Employee's 2021 High School Graduates.

City Attorney Rick Currie set a public hearing scheduled for June 15, 2021, at 4:45 p.m. to consider the closure of an alley running in a northern direction between Mary Street and Isabella Street.

China Agu, Acting City Clerk read a Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Appoint a City Attorney for the City of Waycross.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, TO APPOINT A CITY ATTORNEY FOR THE CITY OF WAYCROSS; TO APPROVE THE ENTRY OF A CONTRACT UPON THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ATTACHED HERETO, THE SAME SETTING SALARY AND ALL OTHER TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Commission of the City of Waycross, Georgia is charged with the duty of appointing a City Attorney pursuant to Section 30 of the Charter of the City of Waycross; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission desires to appoint a City Attorney to provide legal advice, written legal opinions, prepare legal documents and consultations on all matters affecting the City to the City Commission, City Manager, boards, commissions, committees, officers, and employees of the City, and as requested by the City Commission, the City Manager, or her designee, in accordance with policies and procedures as may be established by the City from time to time; and

WHEREAS, the contract is for the term of one year but will automatically renew from year to year subject to the right of the City Commission to terminate the contract at any time, and the City Attorney may withdraw at any time, upon at least sixty (60) days' notice to the City; and

WHEREAS, the salary shall be fixed at \$84,525.00 per annum; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross, by and through its Commission hereby appoints RICHARD E. CURRIE to serve as City Attorney upon the terms and conditions as fully set forth in the Employment Agreement attached hereto and hereby made part of the public records of the City of Waycross, Georgia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Employment Agreement containing the terms and conditions of service and compensation as heretofore set forth and described.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of May, 2021, *nunc pro tunc* to 05/01/2021.

CITY OF WAYCROSS
BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:
CHINA AGU, City Clerk

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Appoint a City Attorney for the City of Waycross to the Commission for approval. Commissioner Diane Hopkins seconded the motion. All voted in acceptance, and the motion passed.

Following the approval of the resolution, Attorney Huey Spearman administered the Oath of Office to Attorney Richard Currie.

Mayor Michael-Angelo James announced Cinco de Mayo, and the upcoming State of the City Address, set to air on May 5, 2021.

There were no public remarks on official actions.

Mayor James presented the Consent Calendar as read by Acting City Clerk, China Agu for consideration of official action as follows:

City Clerk read the following ordinances as second readings:

ORDINANCE NO. 021-12

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 6 – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, ARTICLE II. – LICENSES, DIVISION 1. – GENERALLY, SECTION 6-38. – REVOCATION, SUSPENSION, CIVIL PENALTIES – GROUNDS, AND SECTION 6-39. – SAME – PROCEDURE, AND BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 6-40. – APPEAL; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO PROVIDE FOR RENUMBERING OR RELETTERING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

ORDINANCE NO. 021-13

AN ORDINANCE OF THE WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION TO AMEND THE WAYCROSS ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT; TO AMEND ARTICLE VIII – SIGNS, SECTION 807.2 – EXEMPT SIGNS, SUBSECTIONS (M) AND (N) PERTAINING TO UNIFORM SIZE OF CONSTRUCTION AND POLITICAL SIGNS; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines motion for approval of the Consent Calendar and Commissioner Norman Davis seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Ms. Linda Jones, Purchasing Director, presented Request for Reimbursement for ESG for Emergency Purchase of Motor for the emergency repair of an effluent pump.

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve to the bid; Commissioner Diane Hopkins second the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion.

Ms. Linda Jones, Purchasing Director, presented a Bid Extension FY22 Fire Uniforms, Police Uniforms and Police Leather Goods.

Commissioner Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve to the bid; Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines second the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion.

Ms. Linda Jones, Purchasing Director, presented a Bid to Approve East Coast Asphalt to Transport Millings for the Albany Avenue Project.

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve to the bid; Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines second the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion.

For first reading to the Commission, City Clerk presented one ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 021-14

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 2 – ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE III. – CODE OF ETHICS, DIVISION 1. – GENERALLY, SECTION 2-115. DEFINITIONS AND SECTION 2-131. COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS, AND DIVISION 2. – ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, SECTION 2-165. CONSTITUTING THE BOARD AND SECTION 2-167. ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION; TO PROVIDE FOR CODIFICATION; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines motion for approval of the Consent Calendar and Commissioner Henry Strickland seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

China Agu, Acting City Clerk read a Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Approve an Agreement with East Coast Asphalt, L.L.C. of Douglas, Georgia to Transport Millings.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-35

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH EAST COAST ASPHALT, L.L.C. OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA, L.L.C. TO TRANSPORT MILLINGS FROM THE ALBANY WIDENING PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2021, the City Commission awarded the Albany Avenue widening and resurfacing project to East Coast Asphalt L.L.C. of Douglas, Georgia, which included a deduction of \$7,500.00 for the City to retain all millings to use in other needed locations in the City; and

WHEREAS, there is an estimated 256 loads of millings which, on the open market, would cost the City approximately \$166,400.00 to purchase; and

WHEREAS, for a project like this, it would take 10 dump trucks to haul the millings and the City has only one dump truck; and

WHEREAS, East Coast Asphalt, L.L.C. has submitted a price of \$26,145.00 to transport and deliver all millings from the Albany Avenue widening project to the City's property on Garlington Avenue, being the City Armory, and which is a cost of \$102.13 per load; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Waycross City Commission that the agreement or contract for the above-described transport of millings from the Albany Avenue widening project to the City Armory be awarded to East Coast Asphalt L.L.C. of Douglas, Georgia, in an amount not to exceed **\$26,145.00** and to be paid from available Local and Regional T-SPLOST funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Clerk, City Manager and City Attorney be authorized and directed to execute any agreement on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes and intent of this Resolution.

SO RESOLVED AND ADOPTED, this 4th day of May, 2021.

CITY OF WAYCROSS
BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:
CHINA AGU, City Clerk

Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Approve the Agreement with East Coast Asphalt, L.L.C. of Douglas, Georgia to Transport Millings. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the Resolution.

China Agu, Acting City Clerk read a Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Reimburse ESG for the Emergency Motor Replacement.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-36

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, TO REIMBURSE ESG FOR EMERGENCY MOTOR REPLACEMENT FOR EFFLUENT PUMP AT WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2021, one of the effluent pump motors shorted out and failed, leaving the Waste Water Treatment Plant with only one operational effluent pump and vulnerable to a major compliance issue; and

WHEREAS, this repair had to be completed on an emergency basis since if the second pump failed, the waste water treatment plant would be totally unable to move water; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Code of Ordinances of the City of Waycross, section 2-320 (b), the city manager and her designee used best efforts to obtain competitive pricing for said emergency services and all actions taken by the city manager were pursuant to Code section 2-320 and were otherwise reasonable under the circumstances; and

WHEREAS, ESG, the city manager's designee, ultimately decided to make the purchase from Major Turbine and thus able to pass on to the City a big discount due to the fact that ESG is a distributor for Major Turbine and then the City could reimburse ESG from Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds; and

WHEREAS, said matter being considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross approves the emergency procedures used by the city manager and thereby authorizes reimbursement to ESG for the cost of replacing the effluent pump as reflected by Major Turbine invoice # 20803 for a total cost not to exceed \$9,896.04, and said reimbursement to be paid from Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Manager, City Finance Director and City Clerk be authorized and directed to make said reimbursement to ESG on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, hereby ratifying and confirming all actions taken and to be taken.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of May, 2021.

CITY OF WAYCROSS
BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, MAYOR

ATTEST:
CHINA AGU, CITY CLERK

Commissioner Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Reimburse ESG for the Emergency Motor Replacement. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the Resolution.

China Agu, Acting City Clerk read a Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Approve a Bid Contract for Annual Fire and Police Department Uniforms.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-37

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA,
TO APPROVE ANNUAL FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS UNIFORMS AND POLICE DEPARTMENT LEATHER
GOODS BID CONTRACT WITH PATRICK'S UNIFORMS OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, FOR FISCAL YEAR
2022; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2019, the City of Waycross awarded its FY20 Annual Fire Department Uniforms, Police Department Uniforms and Police Department Leather Goods Bid Contract to Patrick's Uniforms of Jacksonville, Florida, with the option to extend for additional years if there were no increases and both parties were in agreement; and

WHEREAS, Patrick's Uniforms has agreed to keep their pricing firm for FY 2022 with no price increase, and the Purchasing Department recommends extending this bid for another year; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the FY22 Contract for Annual Fire Department Uniforms, Police Department Uniforms and Police Department Leather Goods be extended and awarded to Patrick's Uniforms of Jacksonville, Florida, with no price increase from the FY2020 bid.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any Contract on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes and intent of this Resolution.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of May, 2021.

CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA
BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:
CHINA AGU, City Clerk

Commissioner Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Approve a Bid Contract for Annual Fire and Police Department Uniforms. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the Resolution.

China Agu, Acting City Clerk read a Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Accept the Annual Financial Report for Year Ended June 30, 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-38

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA, TO ACCEPT AND ADOPT THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020, PREPARED BY MAULDIN AND JENKINS, CPAs OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Waycross engaged the services of Mauldin and Jenkins, CPAs, of Savannah, Georgia (hereinafter “Mauldin and Jenkins”) to conduct and prepare required annual auditing services for the City of Waycross; and

WHEREAS, Mauldin and Jenkins has audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Waycross for the year that ended June 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mauldin and Jenkins has prepared and submitted its annual financial report for the year that ended on June 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, said matter having been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross accepts and adopts the annual financial report prepared by Mauldin and Jenkins, CPAs, for the year that ended on June 30, 2020, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as if fully set out.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Manager and City Clerk be and are authorized and directed to execute any documents on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes and intent of this Resolution.

SO RESOLVED AND ADOPTED, this 4th day of May, 2021.

CITY OF WAYCROSS
BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:
CHINA AGU, Acting City Clerk

Commissioner Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Accept the Annual Financial Report for Year Ended June 30, 2020. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the Resolution.

China Agu, Acting City Clerk read a Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Award a Contract to Thrift Brothers L.L.C. for Emergency Central Avenue Culvert.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-39

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAYCROSS, GEORGIA,
TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO THRIFT BROTHERS L.L.C. FOR EMERGENCY CENTRAL AVENUE CULVERT
EXTENSION PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, Central Avenue culvert area was in need of repair and the City Commission, after ESG Engineering identified scope of work, prepared plan drawings and issued bids, awarded the bid to Thrift Brothers L.L.C.; and

WHEREAS, on the weekend of April 24-25, 2021, heavy rains eroded a massive hole on the upstream side of the excavation where the original project scope envisioned replacing the headwall only (and not replacing the pipes under Central Avenue); and

WHEREAS, it is believed that the velocity of the rainstorm within the pipeline caused the soil to migrate from beneath and around the pipe and this will only get worse; and it is now apparent that the pipe must be replaced (48" RCP culvert extension) in order to properly repair the roadway and storm system; and

WHEREAS, this work needs to be completed on an emergency basis since the street is heavily traveled area and the fear of additional rainfall; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Code of Ordinances of the City of Waycross, section 2-320 (b), the city manager or her designee used best efforts to obtain competitive pricing for said emergency repair services and all actions taken by the city manager or her designee were pursuant to Code section 2-320 and were otherwise reasonable under the circumstances; and

WHEREAS, since Thrift Brothers L.L.C. was already on site, they have agreed to complete the now extended project for an additional cost of \$93,084.00; and

WHEREAS, said matter being considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Waycross that the City of Waycross approves the emergency procedures used by the city manager and her designee and that a contract be awarded to Thrift Brothers L.L.C. for the contract price of not more than **\$93,084.00** for the emergency Central Avenue Culvert Extension Project and to be paid from Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, City Manager, City Clerk and City Attorney be authorized and directed to execute the Contract on behalf of the City of Waycross, and to do all the acts and things necessary in order to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, hereby ratifying and confirming all actions taken and to be taken .

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of May, 2021.

CITY OF WAYCROSS
BY: MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, MAYOR

ATTEST:
CHINA AGU, Acting City Clerk

Commissioner Diane Hopkins made the motion to approve the Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Award a Contract to Thrift Brothers L.L.C. for Emergency Central Avenue Culvert. Commissioner Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the Resolution.

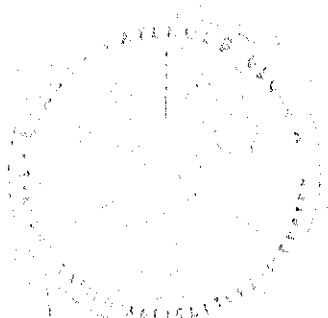
China Agu, Acting City Clerk read a Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia to Award a Contract to Thrift Brothers L.L.C. for Emergency Central Avenue Culvert.

Mr. Tim Peacock, 906 Euclid Avenue, Waycross, Georgia, addressed the Commission about statues and monuments, and a pending lawsuit to halt the requested removal.

Mr. Kevin Taft, 715 Stonewall Jackson Place, Waycross, Georgia, addressed the Commission about a second chance concerning a permit.

During Last call, Commissioners wished Commissioner Norman Davis a Happy Birthday. Commissioner Davis inquired about Crawford Street. Davis also inquired about reflectors on Dorothy Street. Commissioner Threat commended the graduates and the parents for helping them to achieve this accomplishment. Commissioner Solomon-Gaines thanked everyone for prayers for her mother. Solomon-Gaines also announced upcoming community meetings. Commissioner Diane Hopkins congratulated the Police Department for their annual charity fundraiser, and the graduates. Hopkins also thanked Finance Director China Agu for the Finance report, and ESG for getting the City's Water Meter up to 94%. Mayor Pro Tem Henry Strickland echoed congratulations to the graduates. Strickland also thanked Ms. Linda Jones for her diligence with our Purchasing Department. Mayor James welcomed Attorney Currie back. Mayor James also took the opportunity to apologize to Finance Director China Agu. He then spoke briefly about growing and being a good listener.

After the last call, Commissioner Norman Davis made the motion adjourn. Mayor James adjourned the meeting.



CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY: *Michael Angelo James*
MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:

China Williams Agu
CHINA WILLIAMS AGU, Acting City Clerk