

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION
TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2022 – 3:00 P.M.
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
(417 PENDLETON STREET, WAYCROSS, GA)

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Planning and Information Session of the City of Waycross was called to order July 5, 2022, at 3:00pm 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 (arrived at 3:45), Henry Strickland, Sheinita Bennett and Mayor Pro Tem Diane Hopkins

A. Invocation

Invocation was led by James Smart, Public Works Director

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. GUESTS:

Emily Anderson -

408 Hilcrest Blvd, Blackshear Ga., -

Mrs. Anderson spoke on the importance of selecting a Waycross native as City Manager. Someone who grew up here and resides here and has been in her opinion made a remarkable name for himself in the community.

Wade Carthon-

1101 Alice Street, Waycross Ga., - Mr. Carthon spoke about a property that he purchased on Carswell Avenue that the city will not grant him a permit allowing him to begin renovations to the said property.

Earl Ellis-

607 Spurgeon Street, Waycross Ga., - Mr. Ellis wanted to address the commission to have an opportunity to be allowed to come and give a presentation to the commission before a decision is made. He had concerns of a biased situation in the process that did not allow him a fair opportunity to be in the top number to present., Commissioner Davis asked Marc Hawkins Interim City Manager if he could check into the situation and get back with the commission. Commissioner Bennett asked two questions of Mr. Ellis, 1-what makes him better than the suggested company selected? 2-does he serve any other businesses in this area?

Larry Lockey-

818 Sergeant Street, Waycross Ga., - Mr. Lockey is asking the commission to consider adding more voting precincts for accessibility. He also asked if the commission would consider at this time, to add discussion of said subject to the 5:00 commission meeting. Commissioner Davis also asked if the subject of voter precincts can be added to the 5:00 commission meeting agenda scheduled for today?

III. TRAVEL/TRAINING SCHEDULE AND REQUESTS

IV. PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION

A. Bids: Mamie Jackson, Purchasing Director presented the bids.

1. There was a consensus to place this on Tuesday Agenda.

B. Discussion of Sewer Repair Near Arby's

Robbie Cheek- Engineering

Spoke on the sewer failure underneath Memorial Drive. In his opinion he doesn't want to declare an emergency, but it is something that needs to be fixed now rather than later. He gave the commission a couple of ways to handle with both options requiring a DOT permit. The plan is to come back before the commission once he has a couple of contractors to evaluate and give pricing and a timeline.

C. Discussion of Funds for Homeland Security Grant-

Chief Cox-WFD

Came before the commission asking for a reimbursement grant to pay for items needed for gear for SWAT. He needs approval for the city to purchase with the understanding that it will be paid back with state funds.

D. Discussion of Repairs to Backhoe-Public Works

James Smart- Public Works Director

Spoke briefly on the need to repair the transmission on the 2009 John Deere 310 SJ backhoe. The quoted price is 22,000.00 which would come out of their vehicle maintenance account.

E. Discussion of Letter for Redistricting

Interim City Manager, Marc Hawkins, spoke briefly on the contents of the letter from Carlos Nelson the Superintendent of Board of Elections. He pointed out that it may be necessary to consider redistricting if the Commission plans to add additional voting precincts. He also mentioned speaking with Superintendent Nelson concerning equipment and that is not possible for the City to purchase voting machines. Commissioner Davis stated that there was a previous consensus on the matter of redistricting. City Attorney Rick Curry clarified that there was a previous consensus that the Commission did not wish to request that the State review or assess the current district lines. The Commission instead wished that the district lines remain as they currently are. Curry clarified that there was never a consensus to prepare a letter to inform the Board of Elections of the Commission's decision not to redistrict. The Commission at this time gave a consensus to prepare a letter to inform the Board of Elections of their decision not to redistrict. Commissioner Davis at this time requested that a letter also be prepared requesting additional voting precincts, there was no consensus.

F. Privilege License Renewals: n/a

G. Privilege Licenses: n/a

H. Proposed Ordinances:

1. An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the City of Waycross, Georgia; To Amend Chapter 2 – Administration, Article II. – City Commission, Division 1. – Meetings, Section 2-65 – Order of Business and Agenda, Section 2-66 – Decorum and Section 2-67 – Public Participation in Meetings of the City Commission; To Repeal Conflicting Ordinances; To Provide for Severability; To Provide for an Effective Date; To Provide for Codification, Renumbering or Relettering; and for Other Purposes.

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

2. An Ordinances of the Waycross City Commission to Amend the Waycross Zoning Ordinance Text; To Amend Article VI – General Provisions, Section 608 – Off Street Parking Requirements, Subsection 608.2 (U) – Number of Spaces Required and To Amend Subsection 608.8 – Off Street Parking Development Regulations, By Adding a New Subsection (H) (1) b – Requirements for Unpaved Parking; To Provide for an Effective Date; To Provide for Codification, Renumbering or Relettering; and for Other Purposes.

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

I. Proposed Resolutions:

1. A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with Ware County, Georgia, For the Use and Distribution of Proceeds from Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, 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 Accept and Adopt the Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year that Ended June 30, 2021, Prepared by Mauldin and Jenkins, CPAs of Savannah, Georgia, 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 a Certain Police Vehicle to be Surplused Property; To Provide for Its Sale on govdeals.com; and for Other Purposes.

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

J. City Attorney's Report:

K. City Manager's Report:

Interim City Manager, Marc Hawkins, spoke on the July 4th firework celebration.

1. Department Report:

Chief David Eddins, WFD spoke about the increase in the price of the ladder truck from the last estimate given to be around 30 to 50,000.00 more dollars. This was not a budgeted item. He needs to get with Director of Finance, Greg Smith to see where they can get the funds from. He also stated that he is still 5 fireman short. He also mentioned that strength training can now start at the WFD.

L. Last Call and/or Adjourn to Executive Session

M. Adjournment

Without a motion the Mayor adjourned at 4:02 pm



CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:

+ Michael Angelo James
MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline Powell
JACQUALINE POWELL, City Clerk