

MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023 – 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 Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 3:00 pm by Mayor Michael-Angelo James. The meeting was held in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. Present was Mayor James, Commissioners Norman Davis, Sheinita Bennett, Henry Strickland and Katrena Felder.

A. Invocation:

Invocation was led by Mayor Michael-Angelo James

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. GUESTS:

Dr. Earl Martin-902 Elizabeth Street, Waycross Georgia 31501

Dr. Martin spoke on the issue of City Managers position. In his opinion it has been long enough for the appointment of a city manager. It is time, in his opinion, to decide.

Larry Lockey-1005 Sargent Street, Waycross Georgia 31501

Mr. Lockey Announced the NAACP Banquet event being held on January 13, 2023, at the CC McCray Auditorium at 7:00pm.

Aleshia Ivey-1005 Hill Street, Waycross Georgia 31501

Mrs. Ivey spoke about her neighbor cutting her hedges without her permission. She spoke in detail how she was cited after she called the city to complain on Marc Hawkins. She stated that she in her opinion, the city is showing signs of bias and she wanted the commission to be aware of it.

III. TRAVEL/TRAINING SCHEDULE AND REQUESTS

The Commissioners will be traveling to Atlanta on the 10th-11th of January, for Eggs and Issues. They will also be attending the GMA Training on the 20th through the 23rd of January.

IV. PLANNING & INFORMATION SESSION

A. Bids: n/a

B. Discussion: Channel 10

Interim City Manager, Chief Cox, discussed with the Commission the options needed to either keep Channel 10 or not. There was some discussion with the final decision by consensus to table this until the next Commission meeting.

C. Discussion: Appointments to Boards, Agencies, & Authorities

1. WWDA Board
2. Mayor's Youth Council
3. Law Enforcement Training Center Advisory Committee
4. Library Board of Trustees

D. Discussion: Water Meters

Greg Smith, Finance Director, gave the commission updates on the frozen pipes throughout the city and the process by which matters were taken care of. He informed them of the overtime that was used but covered by ESG, due to all the frozen and burst pipes throughout the city. He also informed them that the batteries for the water meters that are not lasting as long as they should and is causing issues that need to be corrected.

E. Privilege License Renewals:

1. Qee's Company, J. Edwards, 670 Oak Street, Waycross Ga. 31501, Beer and Wine, Consumption on Premises.
2. Dollar General, C. Sermons, 1803 Knight Avenue, Waycross Ga. 31501, Beer and Wine, Package Sales Only.
3. Aden's Minit Market, K. Batton, 2198 Brunel Street, Waycross Ga. 31501, Beer and Wine, Package Sales Only.

F. Privilege Licenses: n/a

G. Proposed Ordinances: n/a

H. Proposed Resolutions: n/a

I. City Attorney's Report:

Attorney Rick Curry reported there was a resolution on the GEFA Loan, however it had to be taken off, because it needed to be modified.

J. City Manager's Report:

1. Department Report: James Smart, Public Works Director

James Smart, gave the departmental report for Public Works.

K. Last Call and/or Adjourn to Executive Session

Commissioner Davis- asked that Mrs. Ivey complaint be investigated. He also gave information on the City Managers position. He spoke to Mr. Lockey conveying his excitement about the NAACP Banquet and asked Mr. James Smart to give an update on where the process was on getting the Wi-Fi station active in EE Moore Park.

Commissioner Felder- thanked all the citizens for coming out to express their concerns. She also spoke to the concerns of not having decided on a City Manager, she stated they would be going into executive session for that purpose tonight. She thanked Mrs. Ivey for having the courage to come before the commission and address matters going on in her neighborhood, and that it will be investigated. To the Mayors Youth Council, she expressed joy, enthusiasm, and excitement for their decision to become apart of such a worthy and needed council. Congratulated them all she expressed, and please don't hesitate to allow the commission to help whenever there is a need.

Commissioner Strickland-thanked all the youth who are apart of the Mayors Youth Council. He encouraged them to continue in the direction of government and commended them on making the decision to be committed to the council. He also thanked public works department for all the extra work they put in because of the inclement weather conditions the city went through. He thanked Chief Cox for the great work he is doing as acting Interim City Manager.

Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita- gave condolences to the Mitchell family for the loss of their mother To Mrs. Ivey she apologized for the rudeness she stated she encountered. She also went on to confirm the dates for the NAACP Banquet. To the youth she thanked them for the paths they choose to become apart of the Mayors Youth Council, and she encouraged them to be a light for other youth to want to follow in the same path. She went on to thank the public works department and Chief Cox for the great job that they do.

Mayor James- thanked everyone for coming out and gave a reminder of the events going on in the city for the month of January. And to Mrs Ivey he thanked her for coming and sharing her concerns. He expressed his happiness for the Youth Council and all they have planned.

There was a motion made by Commissioner Davis to adjourn for the purpose of going into Executive Session for personnel. Seconded by Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita Bennett. All voted in favor.

L. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:19pm.

- A. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore'
- B. Pronouncement of City Officers (Presented by Mayor and Confirmed by Commission)

<i>City Attorney</i>	<i>Rick Currie</i>
<i>Assistant City Attorney</i>	<i>Huey W. Spearman</i>
<i>Official Organ:</i>	<i>Waycross Journal-Herald</i>
<i>City Depository:</i>	<i>Ameris Bank</i>
	<i>Waycross Bank & Trust</i>
<i>City Auditor:</i>	<i>Mauldin & Jenkins CPAs</i>
<i>City Engineer:</i>	<i>ESG Engineering</i>
<i>Municipal Court Judge</i>	<i>Judge Douglas W. Gibson</i>
<i>Municipal Court Judge Pro-Tempore'</i>	<i>Adrienne Gibson</i>
<i>Insurance Agents:</i>	<i>Gallagher/Five Points</i>
	<i>Oakbridge Insurance Company</i>
	<i>Cigna Health, Anthem Vision, New York Life & AD&D</i>
	<i>Gallagher Insurance</i>
	<i>Travelers Liability & Workers Comp</i>
<i>City Election Superintendent:</i>	<i>Ware County Board of Elections and Registration</i>

- C. Appointment to Executive Positions (One-Year Appointments) Recommended by Mayor and Confirmed by the Commission:

Downtown Waycross Development Authority:	Mayor
Law Enforcement Training Center Advisory Cmte:	Fire: _____
<i>Commissioners</i>	Police: _____
<i>There was a consensus to remove this from the agenda and to change the name to the correct name of Jimmy Blackburn Sr. Public Safety Training Center</i>	
Library Board of Trustees:	Ex-Officio: _____
<i>Commissioner</i>	
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:*

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|----|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. | Mayor | Mayor Michael-Angelo James |
| b. | City Manager | Tommy Cox, Interim City Manager |
| c. | City Attorney | Rick Currie, City Attorney |
| d. | Finance Director | Greg Smith, Finance Director |
| e. | City Commissioner | Diane L. Hopkins, Commissioner |
| f. | Department Head | Marissa Hendrix, Human Resources |

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:

+ Michael Angelo James
MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline Powell
JACQUALINE FOWELL, City Clerk

