



MINUTES
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023 – 5:00 P.M.
WAYCROSS CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Waycross City Commission Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 5:01 pm by Mayor Michael-Angelo James. The meeting was held in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. Present was Mayor James, City Manager, Ulysses Rayford, Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita Bennett, Commissioners Norman Davis, Katrena Felder, and Henry Strickland.

A. Invocation: Commissioner Henry Strickland

Invocation led by Public Works Director, James Smart

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. City Clerk to Read Section 2-66 (a) – Decorum.

Decorum read by Acting City Clerk, Greg Smith

D. Request Motion to Approve Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Strickland seconded by Commissioner Davis and Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita Bennett. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

II. PUBLIC REMARKS ON OFFICIAL ACTIONS

III. EXECUTIVE DUTIES:

A. Schedule Public Hearings:

1. To Consider Rezoning 1202 House Street from R-75 Residential to RM-75 Residential
2. To Consider an Amendment to Zoning Code 908.5 – 908.8

City Attorney Rick Currie set public hearings for these two items on July 18, 2023, at 4:30 and 4:45.

B. Waycross and Ware County Planning Commission Appointments

1. Post 4: Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita Bennett to appoint Eunice Dixon.
2. Post 6: The commission moved pass the post 6 appointment.

C. Waycross and Ware County Development Authority (WWDA) Board Appointment

Motion made for Steven Burse by Commissioner Strickland and seconded by Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita Bennett. All voted in favor the motion passed.

IV. OFFICIAL REPORTS:

A. City Manager's Report

City Manager reported;

The City's priorities remain connected to enhancing customer service and communication, community engagement and development, and economic growth.

This week's Priorities are:

1. Continuous evaluation of city processes and systems that lead to better efficiency and customer service.
2. Determine City budget discussion calendar date.
3. HWY 520/84 Safety mitigation plan w/ GDOT & Key Stakeholders.
4. Review workforce pay scale, retirement, and evaluations.
5. Community interaction/engagement (4).

B. Mayor's Report (To Include Any Public Service Announcements).

The mayor reminded everyone of the Juneteenth celebration happing on June 19, 2023, on Oak and Folk Street, from 11a.m. until 5p.m.

V. CONSIDERATION OF OFFICIAL ACTIONS:

A. Consent Calendar:

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Waycross City Commission Planning and Information Session, Monday, May15, 2023, 5:00 P.M.
 - b. Waycross City Commission Public Hearing, Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 4:00 P.M.

- c. Waycross City Commission Public Hearing, Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 4:30 P.M.
- d. Waycross City Commission Public Hearing, Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 4:45 P.M.
- e. Waycross City Commission Meeting, Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 5:00 P.M.

2. Ordinance Second Readings:

- a. An Ordinance to Abandon and Close a Portion of an Unopened Alley in Block L of Northside Subdivision; To Authorize Quitclaim Deeds to the Adjoining Property Owners; To Establish an Effective Date; To Repeal Conflicting Ordinances; and for Other Purposes.

3. Privilege License Renewals: n/a

Commissioner Felder made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar seconded by Commissioner Strickland. All voted in favor and the motion was passed.

B. Privilege Licenses: n/a

C. Bids:

1. Land Sale – Lots 9-16 Commons Street

Commissioner Felder made a motion to accept this bid seconded by Commissioner Strickland. All voted in favor and the motion was passed.

D. 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 the Southern Corner of Bailey Street and Buchannon Street from R – 50 Residential to RS – Single Family; To Set an Effective Date; To Repeal Conflicting Ordinances; and for Other Purposes.

There was a motion to approve the Ordinance by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioners Felder and Davis. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

- 2. An Ordinance to Abandon and Close a Fifty-Foot-Wide Right of Way for Isabella Street Running from Augusta Avenue to Dewitt Street; To Close and Abandon a Twenty-Foot-Wide Alley Running from Mary Street to Carswell Avenue; To Authorize a Quit Claim Deed to the Adjoining Property Owner; To Establish an Effective Date; To Repeal Conflicting Ordinances; and for Other Purposes.

There was a motion to approve the Ordinance by Commissioner Felder, seconded by Commissioner Strickland. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. An Ordinance of the Waycross City Commission to Amend the Waycross Zoning Ordinance; To Amend Article IX – Administration Enforcement, Penalties, Section 901 – Enforcing Officer and Section 907.4 – Board of Zoning Appeals – Powers and Duties, Pertaining to Applications and Procedures for Appeal; To Provide for an Effective Date; and for Other Purposes.

There was a motion to approve the Ordinance by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioners Felder and Davis. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

4. An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the City of Waycross, Georgia; To Amend Chapter 1 by Adding a New Section 1-15 so as to Allow Publication of Notice of Public Hearings on the City Website; To Repeal Conflicting Ordinances; To Provide for an Effective Date; To Provide for Renumbering or Re-lettering; and for Other Purposes.

There was a motion to approve the Ordinance by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Strickland. All voted in favor and the motion carried

E. Resolutions:

1. A Resolution of the Waycross, City Commission to Approve a Deferred Payment Loan to the Owner of 611 Owens Street for Rehabilitation Assistance as Part of the Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization Program; and for Other Purposes.

There was a motion to approve this Resolution by Commissioner Felder. Seconded by Commissioner Davis and Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita Bennett. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

2. A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Approve the Sell and Transfer of Certain Surplused Real Property Located on Commons Street, and for Other Purposes.

There was a motion to approve this Resolution by Commissioner Strickland. Seconded by Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita Bennett. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. A Resolution of the City of Waycross, Georgia, To Approve Terms and Conditions of American Rescue Plan Act Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionately Impacted Communities Grant Program, and for Other Purposes.

There was a motion to approve this Resolution by Commissioner Davis. Seconded by Commissioner Felder. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

VI. LAST CALL and/or ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Davis- extended condolences to the Sanders family for the loss of their loved one. Thanked the City Manager for the gazebo being painted in EE Moore Park.

Commissioner Bennett – extended condolences to the Sanders, Williams and Ohara family for the loss of their loved ones. Thanked Debra Combs for her initiative and great spirit cleaning up Oak Street.

Commissioner Felder- thank everyone for coming. She also extended her condolences to all families who have lost loved ones. She spoke on citizens getting prepared for the opportunities that are coming to the city, and everyone working together as one across all departments. She mentioned the great opportunity to take advantage of the free adult education being offered through Coastal Pines, to put yourselves in place to be a recipient to the great jobs coming to the city.

Commissioner Strickland- thanked all for coming out. He spoke about the great job opportunities coming to the city.


Mayor James- thanked all for coming out. Reminded all about the Juneteenth Celebration. Spoke on the great things coming to Waycross from every direction. Reminded the community about the free dumpsters for trash in each district.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The mayor moved for a motion to adjourn, the motion was made by Mayor Pro Temp, Sheinita Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Davis. All voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 pm.

CITY OF WAYCROSS

BY:


MICHAEL-ANGELO JAMES, Mayor

ATTEST:


JACQUALINE POWELL, City Clerk

