

City of Tifton
Regular Council Meeting
February 2, 2015
5:00 PM
Tifton Municipal Courtroom
130 E. 5th Street

ATTENDEES

Jamie Cater, Mayor
Johnny Terrell, Vice Mayor
Wes Ehlers, Council Member
Chris Parrott, Council Member
Julie Smith, Council Member

Larry Riner, City Manager
Rona Martin, City Clerk
Rob Wilmot, City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jamie Cater called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE

Council Member Julie Smith led in the prayer and pledge.

PRESENTATION BY VIRGINIA PENNINGTON, TIFTON COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS, REGARDING FULWOOD GARDEN CENTER

Virginia Penning representing the Tifton Council of Garden Clubs petitioned the City Council for Landmark Status Site be given to the Fulwood Garden Center located at the corner of 12th Street and Fulwood Boulevard. She stated the reason or the request was to properly identify the location and its benefits to the community, to acknowledge the contributions and give a well-deserved tribute to a prominent and well-respected Tifton family, to protect and preserve this valuable historic site of Tifton and to embrace Tifton tourism for economic development. She provided statements of significance as follows: community benefits – the garden center has long been recognized for beautification and education. The landscape and gardens have been used for social events such as weddings, family celebrations, birthdays and other outdoor events by local and out of town individuals. The grounds have been used for class instructions, plant identification and environmental studies; it has become a mini park for citizens and well as a jogging path and walking area. It has been used to take pictures of classes, proms and weddings; historical benefits – It was the home of Paul and Ruth Fulwood. Mr... Fulwood was an influential vegetable farm producer who contributed to the development of the area into a regional agriculture center. He and Dr. King of the Coastal Plains Experiment Station developed the Big Boy Tomato. Paul Fulwood brought the plant farming industry to the state of Georgia. He developed the idea of “seedling growing” which became the biggest industry in Tift County. Mrs. Fulwood was the President of the American Rose Society and the Georgia Rose Society. She landscaped Fulwood Park, the “Old” hospital, and Oakridge Cemetery. She was a nationally recognized authority on roses and offered many articles for publication throughout the United States. She was the first woman in Georgia to be President of the Board of Trade. Architecture - the modified dutch farm house was built in 1916 and just celebrated its 100th year. After considerable discussion Larry Riner suggested that the

current resolution regarding naming of streets and properties be amended to include naming of landmark status sites. Council Member Smith moved, seconded by Council Member Parrott to direct staff to develop some criteria for designation and modifications to the resolution to provide for this request. Council Member Smith stated the Council of Garden Clubs also needs the endorsement and support of the City Council in the meantime and added that to her motion. Mayor Cater called for the question which was unanimously carried to direct staff to develop criteria for designation and modify the existing resolution, provide for signage and also endorse and support the Garden Club for their work as we create the landmark status site designation.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Scott Murphy, ESG, Inc. made the following presentations to the City:

Georgia F.O.G. Program of the Year 2014 on behalf of Randall Mathis

Georgia Water Laboratory Certificate of Distinguished Merit on behalf of Chanel Houle and Thomas Coker

Georgia Wastewater Laboratory Certificate of Distinguished Merit on behalf of Chanel Houle and Thomas Coker

He stated the FOG Program was awarded as the finest in the state thanks to Randall Mathis. Mr. Murphy state the Georgia Water and Wastewater Laboratory Certificates of Distinguished Merits are for our first competition where we placed 2nd in the state. He thanked Mr. Houle and Mr. Coker for their fine work in attaining these awards.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL AGENDA

Council Member Chris Parrott moved, seconded by Council Member Johnny Terrell and unanimously carried to approve the Council agenda.

CITIZEN INPUT

No one spoke.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member Terrell moved, seconded by Council Member Parrott and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2015 Regular Meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items on the consent agenda.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE 2014 ANNUAL AUDIT

Council Member Ehlers moved, seconded by Council Member Parrott and unanimously carried to accept the 2014 Annual City of Tifton Audit.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR SURPLUS OF OLD FIRE STATION BUILDING, 204 N. RIDGE AVENUE

Council Member Terrell moved, seconded by Council Member Ehlers and unanimously carried to adopt a resolution providing for surplus of Old Fire Station Building located at 204 N. Ridge Avenue.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR SHELL FOOD MART, 2302 US HWY 41 N.

Council Member Parrott moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell and unanimously carried to adopt a resolution providing for alcoholic beverage license for Shell Food Mart, 2302 US Hwy. 41 N.

APPROVAL OF REAPPOINTMENT OF DR. GREG ANDERSON TO THE TIFT COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Council Member Smith moved, seconded by Council Member Ehlers and unanimously carried to reappoint Dr. Greg Anderson to the Tift County Airport Authority.

OTHER BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF BID FOR HUNT ROAD UTILITY PROJECT #103 - RELOCATION OF GAS LINES AND INSTALLATION OF SEWER SERVICE

Council Member Parrott moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell and unanimously carried to award the bid for the Hunt Road Utility Project to Little River Construction in the amount of \$242,267.08.

APPROVAL OF BID FOR HUNT ROAD PROJECT – ROAD SURFACE/STORM DRAINAGE PROJECT

Council Member Ehlers moved, seconded by Council Member Parrott and unanimously carried to award the bid for the Hunt Road Project – Road Resurface/Storm Drainage Project to Reames & Sons Construction in the amount of \$528,526.15.

DISCUSSION OF TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ACT OF 2015 (STATE OF GEORGIA)

Mr. Riner provided information on a proposed transportation funding act being considered by the State of Georgia. He stated this could cost the area about \$1 million if passed. He stated this bill is still being worked on and will keep everyone apprised. Mr. Wilmot stated some cities have adopted resolutions in opposition to the bill. Mr. Riner stated the county and school system are working at a staff level on this. Mr. Riner stated the county manager is in contact with the Department of Revenue to obtain the fuel numbers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL, REAL ESTATE AND/OR LEGAL MATTERS

Council Member Parrott moved, seconded by Council Member Smith and unanimously carried to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel, Real Estate and/or Legal Matters.

Council Member Parrott moved, seconded by Council Member Ehlers and unanimously carried to come out of Executive Session.

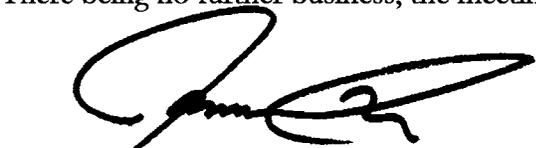
ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEM

Attorney Wilmot asked for a motion to enter into an easement agreement for that portion of the fire exit at the Tift Theatre. Mr. Wilmot stated this will be for the sum of \$35.00 per year. This item died for lack of a motion.

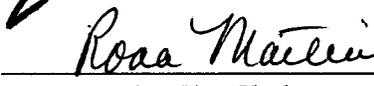
RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Parrott moved, seconded by Council Member Ehlers and unanimously carried to adopt a Resolution providing for Executive Session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:35 p.m.



J.G. "Jamie" Cater, Jr., Mayor



Rona Martin, City Clerk