

City of Tifton
Regular Council Meeting
May 4, 2015
5:00 PM
Tifton City Council Chambers
130 E. 1st 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 5:05 p.m.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE

Council Member Chris Parrott led in the prayer and pledge.

Mayor Cater recognized today as International Firefighters Day.

PRESENTATION OF JAMES E. DOVE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Mayor Cater, Donna Pate, and Ernest Dove presented the James E. Dove Scholarship Awards to Lysie Belan and Dylan Merritt.

SWEARING IN OF CHERIE WRIGHT TO THE TIFTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

Mayor Cater swore in Cherie Wright as a member of the Tifton Housing Authority.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY ESG, INC.

Scott Murphy, ESG, Inc., stated the Tifton/Tift County water system for the second year in a row, has received the highest standard of excellence that can be issued in the State of Georgia, "The Gold Award". He discussed why the award was received.

He stated they are updating the list for the LMIG funds and this year Hall Avenue, Chestnut Avenue and Murray Avenue are the streets selected. He stated utilities will be moved from these in preparation for new surfacing of the streets.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL AGENDA

Attorney Wilmot stated item #3 regarding the ordinance has to be removed, as the Tifton Gazette ran the advertisement twice instead of the required three times. He asked that this be moved to the 6/1/2015 meeting in order to properly run the ad again.

Council Member Parrott moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell and unanimously carried to approve the Council agenda minus item #3.

CITIZEN INPUT

No one spoke.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member Ehlers moved, seconded by Council Member Parrott and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2015 Council Retreat; April 6, 2015 Regular Meeting; and April 16, 2015 Workshop/Called Meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Smith moved, seconded by Council Member Parrott and unanimously carried to approve item 2 as listed below on the consent agenda.

2. Reappointments to the Historic Preservation Commission (Marxann Myddleton, Mark Peterman)

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CHARTER TO PROVIDE FOR A CHANGE IN THE FISCAL YEAR

This item was removed and is to be placed on the June 1, 2015 meeting agenda.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH MAULDIN & JENKINS, LLC TO PERFORM AUDIT SERVICES

Lois Love, Finance Director reviewed the request for continued use of Mauldin & Jenkins as the City's auditor for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 with automatic renewals in subsequent years. She stated subsequent years are automatic unless terminated by the City upon 60 days' notice prior to the expiration of the term. She stated there are several GASB issues coming up that they can assist with. Council Member Terrell moved, seconded by Council Member Ehlers for discussion. Council Member Parrott stated he spoke with Larry Riner about this. He stated he does not have a problem with it at all except he is not in favor of automatic renewals. Attorney Wilmot stated we can only enter into one year contracts. He stated they have to be year to year. He stated this is really a yearly contract with an automatic renewal. Council Member Parrott expressed concern over missing deadlines and he would like something such as consent vote to keep council abreast of the matter. Mr. Wilmot stated you have the ability to have it for a fixed one year term vs. fixed one year with automatic renewal. Council Member Smith asked if the two year agreement would be less expensive than one year. Ms. Love stated she thought it might. Mr. Riner stated this would be put on a tickler file to remind Council 90 days' notice prior to the renewal. Mr. Wilmot reminded them that the motion was to go ahead and accept it with the automatic renewal absent 60 days' notice, and Council Member Parrott was suggesting amending the main motion to not provide 60 days' notice. Council Member Parrott amended the motion to include a 90 day friendly reminder to put this on the agenda to make sure we are satisfied with Mauldin & Jenkins, seconded by Council Member Ehlers and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR APPROVAL OF TOP SCORING CONSULTANTS FOR THE FY2015 CDBG PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH THOSE CONSULTANTS FOR THE 2015 CDBG PROJECT

Jessica Jones stated this was presented at the workshop. She stated the consultants selected were Bob Roberson & Associates and Stacy Watkins & Associates for the administrative and engineering consultation. Council Member Parrott moved, seconded by Council Member Smith and unanimously carried to adopt a Resolution of Top Scoring Consultants for the FY2015 CDBG Project and authorize the City Manager to enter into Negotiations for Professional Services with those consultants.

OTHER BUSINESS

DISCUSSION REGARDING USE OF CITY FACILITIES

Mr. Riner reminded Council of previous discussions regarding this matter. He stated we have a request for use of the Myon for a wedding reception on 5/30/15, where no alcohol will be served. He stated until we have a policy in place he would like to use this venue as a trial run for future rentals of the facility. He stated city staff would be here to monitor that activity. He stated the State of Georgia will also be holding some daytime listening sessions here for Diversified Services. He said a policy will be developed based on the study of the use.

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

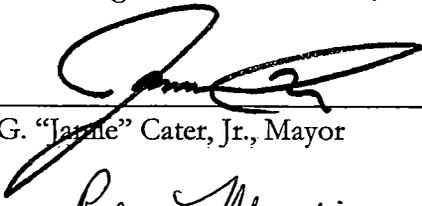
Council Member Smith moved, seconded by Council Member Ehlers and unanimously carried to enter into Executive Session to discuss Legal Matters.

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

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Parrott moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell and unanimously carried to adopt a resolution providing for executive session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:21 p.m.



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



Rona Martin, City Clerk

**AT A MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TIFTON
HELD ON 5/4, 2015
A MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council member Julie Smittle makes the following motion:

1. That City Council now enters into executive session as allowed by O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4 and pursuant to advice by the City Attorney, for the purpose of discussing the following:

(check all that apply)

- Legal Matters.
- Personnel Matters.
- Real Estate Matters.

That each member of this body, in open session, at the conclusion of such executive session, and consistent with the provisions of City of Tifton Resolution No. 99-66, either:

1. Execute the Affidavit, the form of which having been previously approved; or
2. Vote upon the Resolution, the form of which having been previously approved, to be followed by the execution of the above-referenced Affidavit by so many members of this Council that so desire,

all of which is in compliance with O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4; thereby this body, by appropriate form of either Affidavit or Resolution/Affidavit, ratifying the actions of the Council taken in executive session and confirming that the subject matters of the closed session were within exceptions permitted by the Open Meetings law.

Council member Wes Ehlers seconds the motion.

Motion Approved

Those voting in favor of the motion for closure:

Council Members:

*Mayor James Carter, Council Members Julie Smittle, Wes Ehlers
Chris Parrott, Joanny Ferral*

Those voting against the motion for closure:

Council Members:

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before the undersigned attesting officer, duly authorized to administer oaths in the State of Georgia:

Present

Absent

/
/
/
/
/
/

J. G. "Jamie" Cater, Jr.

Wes Ehlers

Christopher Parrott

Johnny Terrell

Julie Smith

Who, after being duly sworn, deposes and on oath states the following:

1. I am a member of the Tifton City Council and I was present at a meeting of the City Council held on the 4th day of May, 2015.

2. That it was my understanding that O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4(b) provides as follows:

When any meeting of an agency is closed to the public pursuant to subsection (a) Of this Code section, the chairperson or other person presiding over such meeting shall execute and file with the official minutes of the meeting a notarized affidavit stating under oath that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law and identifying the specific relevant exception.

3. The subject matter of the closed meeting or closed portion of the meeting held on the 4th day of May, 2015, which was closed for the purpose(s) of :

Legal Matters

Personnel Matters

Real Estate Matters

As allowed by O.C.G.A., Title 50, Chapter 14, was devoted to matters within those exceptions and as provided by law.

4. This affidavit is being executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4(b) that such an affidavit be executed.
5. This affidavit is likewise executed by the following members of the City Council present at such executive session in support of open and honest government and in compliance with City of Tifton Resolution 99-66.

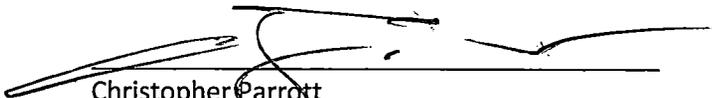
This 4th day of May, 2015.



J. G. "Jamie" Cater, Jr.
Mayor, City of Tifton



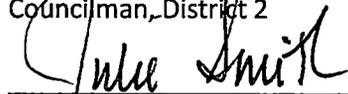
Wes Ehlers
Councilman, District 1



Christopher Parrott
Councilman, District 2



Johnny Terrell
Councilman, District 3



Julie Smith
Councilwoman, District 4

Sworn to and subscribed before me
By all City Council members
on this 4th day of
May, 2015.


Notary Public

