

**CITY OF TIFTON  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
MAY 2, 2016  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
5:30 PM**

**ATTENDEES**

Mayor Julie Smith

Larry Riner, City Manager

Vice Mayor Wes Ehlers

Jessica Jones, City Clerk

Council Member Jack Folk

Rob Wilmot, City Attorney

Council Member Johnny Terrell

Absent: Council Member Frank Sayles

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY2013 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECT CLOSEOUT**

A public hearing was held to discuss the completed CDBG project and receive public comments. Jessica Jones mentioned the grant funding was used for the renovation and expansion of the Leroy Rogers Senior Center. Jones mentioned Quillian Powell Construction Company was the contractor for the project, which began December 2014 and completed February 2016. All grant funding in the amount of \$500,000 has been expended and the final quarterly report is on file at City Hall. There was no public comment; therefore the public hearing was closed.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Julie Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 5:35 PM

**PRAYER AND PLEDGE**

Mayor Julie Smith led the prayer and pledge.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Council member Wes Ehlers made the first motion for approval of the agenda, seconded by Council member Jack Folk, and unanimously carried by all members present.

**PRESENTATION OF JAMES E. DOVE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

Mr. Pete Pyrzenski presented the James E. Dove Scholarship awards to recipients Charley Melissa Dillard and Detreveen D. Jones. Both Detreveen and Charley thanked the City for the scholarship award.

**DRAWING FOR GAS DEPARTMENT SURVEY WINNERS**

Ms. Donna Pate mentioned each year the gas department gathers surveys from the public as well as excavators. Survey participants are entered into drawing to win a \$250.00 gift card, and Ms. Pate was present to draw the winners. Rob Wilmot drew the names and Bessie Duggan and Tucker Brothers were the receipts of the gift cards. Ms. Pate mentioned she would contact each winner to pick up their gift card.

**PRESENTATION OF EXCELLANCE IN REHABILITATION AWARD FOR THE MYON RENOVATION**

Mayor Smith mentioned recently the city officials traveled to Kennesaw, Georgia to accept an award from the Historic Trust Fund for the rehab of the Myon. She mentioned the nomination was submitted by the project architect firm Lord, Aeck, and Sargent. Mayor Smith mentioned the city was very proud

to receive the award and it is an award for our entire community to appreciate. The award received will be displayed in City Hall.

### **CITIZEN INPUT**

**Hal Baxley, 73 Eagle Drive:** Mr. Baxley was present to discuss the LED sign changes being presented and discussed by council. Mr. Baxley mentioned a few years back the issue with LED signs was discussed in depth and he did not understand why the issue was being re-visited. Mr. Baxley mentioned there is a lot going on downtown and more businesses will be interested in locating downtown if they are able to visibly promote their business. He stated everyone worked hard on allowing LED signage and he thought bringing it back up was a move backwards. Mayor Smith mentioned at this time the changes are only being considered. She mentioned a committee was formed to review the Land Development Code and requirements of signs. The committee has made a recommendation to council, but the changes have not been voted on. Mayor Smith explained why the issue was brought back up, and ultimately the issue is being revisited because of recent problems uncovered with Railway Freight's sign. Mr. Baxley mentioned he feels the recommendations are being directed toward him personally and he feels this is going to be detrimental to downtown. Council Member Ehlers read aloud the recommendations and Mr. Baxley requested a copy of the recommendations. Mayor Smith thanked Mr. Baxley for all of his work and development in downtown.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Council Member Folk made the first motion, seconded by Council Member Terrell, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2016 Council Meeting and April 21, 2016 Council Workshop.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Smith asked if anyone would like to discuss or remove any item from the consent agenda. After discussion Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Council Member Ehlers made the first motion, seconded by Council Member Folk, unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda as follows:

2. Ordinance Providing for Zoning Reclassification for 0.27 Acres located at 601 Timmons Drive, from Residential (R10) to General Business (GB)
3. Ordinance Providing for Zoning Reclassification for 0.34 Acres located at 701 Poplar Street, from Residential (R8) to General Business (GB)
4. Ordinance Providing for Zoning Reclassification for 0.16 Acres located at 705 Poplar Street, from Residential (R8) to General Business (GB)
5. Resolution Appointing the City's Voting Delegate on the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia's Election Committee
6. Resolution Providing for New Alcoholic Beverage License for Taurus Nightclub & Bar, LLC located at 332 S. Main Street

### **RESOLUTION APPROVING RESTATED BUDGET REVISION**

Ms. Lois Love, Finance Director, mentioned the revision being presented is to the correct and balance the previous budget revision approved. Ms. Love mentioned an error occurred in GEMS when uploading

the budget and the resolution will correct the errors previously presented. Ms. Love mentioned only four (4) funds were effected and discussed the changes with council. Council Member Terrell made the first motion for approval of the resolution, seconded by Council Member Folk, and unanimously carried for approval.

**BOARD REPORT & APPOINTMENTS**

Mark VanBrackle – Re-Appointed by Mayor Julie Smith to the Tifton Housing Authority Board

Wes Ehlers made the first motion to re-appoint Jeannie Rigdon and Joe Laforest to the Tree Board, contingent upon Mr. Laforest’s willingness to serve, seconded by Council Member Folk, and unanimously approved by all members present.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting was adjourned.



Julie Smith, Mayor



Jessica Jones, City Clerk