

**CITY OF TIFTON
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 1, 2016
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5:30 PM**

Attendees

Mayor Julie Smith	Hunter Walker, Interim City Manager
Vice Mayor Wes Ehlers	Jessica Jones, City Clerk
Council Member Jack Folk	Rob Wilmot, City Attorney
Council Member Johnny Terrell	
Council Member Frank Sayles	

Call to Order

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 PM

Prayer and Pledge

Vice Mayor Ehlers led the prayer and pledge.

Approval of the Agenda

Council Member Frank Sayles made the first motion for approval of the agenda, seconded by Council Member Terrell, and unanimously carried.

Swearing in Carter Choate to the Tifton Zoning Board of Appeals

Mayor Julie Smith sworn in Mr. Choate and thanked him for his willingness to serve.

Elliott Caldwell W/Georgia Bikes

Mr. Caldwell was present to encourage council to adopt a complete street policy. The complete street policy is designed to enable safe access to streets for all users. The policy allows for all ages and abilities to safely move along and across streets in the community, regardless of how they are traveling. The policies ensure safety to citizens whom may be walking, biking, or in a wheelchair. The policy is a component to the local road improvement program ensuring that the entire right-of-way is planned, designed, and construction to offer safe access for all users. Based on a UGA study, Tifton has been flagged as having an elevated concern for bicyclists. Mr. Caldwell mentioned biking is becoming more popular in Georgia, and with more bikers on the streets we need to ensure their safety. Mr. Caldwell closed by stating biking enhances the quality of life and encouraged the Council to consider adopting a complete street policy.

Approval of the Minutes

Council Member Terrell made the first motion, seconded by Council Member Folk, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes from the July 7, 2016 Special Called Meeting; July 11, 2016 Council Meeting; July 14, 2016 Special Called Meeting; and July 21, 2016 Workshop/Special Called Meeting.

Resolution Amending Personnel Policies and Procedures with Respect to Re-Hired Pensioner

Council discussed the resolution, which proposed to allow a pensioner to be hired back full-time after a 90 day period. Council discussed how the change would affect insurance and retirement, because these employees would then be qualified for benefits. Mayor Julie Smith called for a motion. Resolution died for a lack of motion.

Resolution Approving Commercial Ground Lease with Tifton Terminal Railroad Museum

Mr. Wilmot mentioned a portion of the parking area on First Street Extension is located on private property. He stated currently the property is being leased from the DDA by Tifton Terminal Railroad Museum. Mr. Wilmot stated in order for the city to enforce the parking ordinance in the area this agreement must be approved. The agreement would allow the City to lease the parking area for public parking and provides for three spaces to be designated for use by the Tifton Terminal Railroad Museum. Council Member Sayles made the first motion, seconded by Council Member Folk, and unanimously carried for approval.

Approval of Agreement with Behavioral Health Services of South Georgia For Employee Assistance Program

Council Member Folk made the first motion for approval of the agreement, seconded by Council Member Terrell, and unanimously carried for approval.

Changing Date for September Council Meeting

Ms. Jones requested the September Council Meeting be changed to August 29, 2016. The September Regular Meeting date falls on Labor Day. All members agreed upon changing the date to August 29, 2016.

Board Report and Appointments

Ms. Jones presented the board report. Vice Mayor Ehlers made the first motion to appoint Ms. Kristy P. Daniels to the Tifton Tift County Library Board, seconded by Council Member Folk, and unanimously carried.

City Manager Report

Mr. Walker presented an update to council on city business. He mentioned Ms. Karen Sanders had been appointed as Interim Finance Director, and the City will continue searching for a permanent Finance Director. He mentioned at the next workshop will be prepare a plan for the search and recruitment of a New City Manager. He briefly discussed his communication with the County on fire department issues, proposed increase of landfill fees, and utility cuts.

Executive Session

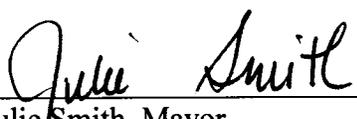
Vice Mayor Ehlers made the first motion to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters, seconded by Council Member Folk, and unanimously approved. Meeting closed to executive session.

Vice Mayor Ehlers made the first motion to go out of Executive Session, seconded by Council Member Folk, and unanimously approved. Meeting opened by into executive session.

Resolution Providing for Executive Session

Vice Mayor Ehlers made the first motion for approval of the resolution, seconded by Council Member Folk, and unanimously approved to accept the resolution.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned.



Julie Smith, Mayor



Jessica Jones, City Clerk