

**City of Tifton**  
**Council Workshop/Special Called Meeting**  
**June 16, 2016**  
**5:30 PM**  
**Council Chambers, 130 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street**

**Attendees**

Mayor Julie Smith  
Vice Mayor Wes Ehlers  
Council Member Jack Folk  
Council Member Johnny Terrell  
Council Member Frank Sayles – via phone

Larry Riner, City Manager  
Rob Wilmot, City Attorney  
Jessica Jones, City Clerk

**Call to Order**

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

**Special Presentation to Jim Willkomm on his Retirement & Celebration 21 Years of**

**Service:** Mayor Julie Smith presented a Proclamation to Mr. Willkomm for his dedicated service to the City of Tifton and Tifton Police Department. Chief Buddy Dowdy expressed Mr. Willkomm is going to be hard to replace and the department is going to miss him very much. Chief Dowdy thanked Mr. Willkomm for his hard work ethic, attention to detail, and friendship.

**Resolution Providing for New Alcoholic Beverage License for Paradise Lounge located at**

**116 Poplar Street:** Jessica Jones mentioned this is a new alcohol license. The previous license issued at this location was for Sonya's Place. The new applicant is Kathleen King and a background check did reveal past offences, but they are older charges. Staff is recommending approval of the alcohol license. Vice Mayor Ehlers requested the City Attorney research and review the suitability of the location and applicant background before the July Council Meeting.

**Special Called Meeting**

Mayor Julie Smith called the Special Called Meeting to order at 5:50 PM.

**State Contract for 20th Street Paving:** Mr. Larry Riner mentioned he had recently found out about a statewide convenience contract through the Department of Administrative Services where local governments can use the contract to complete local projects. Mr. Riner stated through this statewide contract, the city is in compliance with Public Works Law. Mr. Riner stated staff inquired about utilizing the statewide contract to complete the resurfacing of 20th Street, and the proposal came back at 1,467,438.54. Mr. Riner stated the city has budgeted 1.75 million for the 20th Street resurfacing. The proposal received from the statewide contract came in lower than the bids previously received for the project. Mr. Riner stated staff is currently requesting another proposal to relocate the waterlines under 20th Street, and hopes to have all the figures back by the July Council Meeting to present to council. Mayor Julie Smith mentioned after the Chamber Meeting today. She spoke with Senator Greg Kirk and Representative Clay Pirkle. During the conversation they stated they would be willing to accompany the city in getting a meeting with DOT Representatives to discuss funding options for 20th Street. Mayor

Smith stated Mr. Roger Dill is working on getting an appointment with GDOT representatives.

### **FY2017 Budget Presentation**

Mr. Larry Riner stated the final budget being presented tonight is balanced, and the city will not see a property tax increase. The budget totals \$43.9 million for all funds. The general fund budget totals 12.8 million with a decrease of \$212,000 from FY2016. Decreases in General Fund revenues include county fire protection revenue of \$1.607 million. This decrease is due to separation of the City/County Fire Service. As a result of the split the Fire Department budget will decrease by \$486,000. General Fund Budget includes adding a position for a grant writer/public information officer and upgrading a position in the Environmental Management Department. Mr. Riner reviewed the revenue projections for all funds, and the corresponding departmental budgets. Also presented were the SPLOST budgets and major capital projects which include: 20th Street resurfacing, drainage improvements, downtown street improvements, and traveling bridge filer at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Riner presented the multiple Enterprise Fund Budgets which include: Water \$3.428 million, Sewer \$3.788 million, Gas \$4.523 million, SWCD \$3.632 million, and Theatre \$436 thousand. Mr. Riner stated the final budget includes a recommended rate increase for the Solid Waste Fund. Rate Increases include adding \$3.50 to landfill tipping fees, \$3.00 for Inert Landfill Fees, and \$1.50 for concrete disposal. Mr. Riner stated the rate increases were needed in order to balance the proposed budget. Mr. Riner stated the budget does include a 3% COLA for all employees. Council asked Mr. Riner to share the information presented tonight with the county, and move forward with scheduling an SDCC Meeting. Mr. Riner stated he has a meeting scheduled to meet with the County Manager tomorrow.

### **Resolution Adopting FY2017 Budget**

Council Member Jack Folk made the first motion, seconded by Terrell, and unanimously carried by all members present.

### **Ordinance Amending Alcohol Ordinance to Provide for Minimum Age Requirements**

Council Member Jack Folk made the first motion, Ehlers second the motion, and ordinance was briefly discussed. Vice Mayor Ehlers expressed disc jockeys should not be excluded from the definition of live musical performance. Mayor Smith called for the vote. Council members Smith, Folk, Terrell, and Sayles voted in favor. Vice Mayor Ehlers opposed. Ordinance adopted by a 4-1 vote.

### **Resolution Declaring Alley Surplus – Unnamed Alley between Popular Street & Cypress Street:**

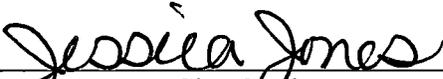
Mr. Larry Riner mentioned both of the resolutions are just housekeeping items. He mentioned at the last council meeting these were voted approved, but we can easily track them if approved by resolution. Vice Mayor Wes Ehlers made the first motion, seconded by Terrell, and unanimously carried by all members present.

### **Resolution Declaring Alley Surplus – Unnamed Alley between 7<sup>th</sup> Street & 11<sup>th</sup> Street**

Vice Mayor Wes Ehlers made the first motion, seconded by Terrell, and unanimously carried by all members present.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Smith, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Jones, City Clerk