

**CITY OF TIFTON
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2021
5:30 PM
TIFTON CITY HALL**

Attendees

Mayor Julie Smith

Council Member Wes Ehlers

Council Member Jack Folk

Council Member Johnny Terrell

Council Member M. Jay Hall (via phone)

Pete Pyrzenski, City Manager

Rob Wilmot, City Attorney

Jessica White, City Clerk

Call to Order

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

Prayer & Pledge

Rev. George Graham with Springfield Baptist Church gave the invocation and led the pledge.

Approval of the Agenda

Council Member Folk made the first motion for approval of the agenda. Motion seconded by Terrell and unanimously approved.

Approval of the Minutes

Council Member Terrell made the first motion for approval of the minutes. Motion seconded by Ehlers and unanimously approved.

Public Health Presentation and Coronavirus Vaccine Update

Representatives from the Department of Public Health were present to provide updates on the coronavirus rates and vaccination rates. Tift County has seen a 18% increase in positive cases in the last week. They also provided great information on vaccines distribution and discussed the setbacks in getting supplies and stocking the second dose vaccines for each person vaccinated. Following the presentation, the representatives answered questions from the Mayor and Council.

Southwest Georgia Releaf Grant Award

Ms. Lori Felton, Tifton Tree Board Chair, gave an overview on the \$10,000 grant received from the Georgia Tree Council. The grant funding will allow the Tree Board to plant 165 native trees in Tifton. Ms. Felton also mentioned they are also requesting assistance from the community to adopt trees to care for to ensure the trees survive times of drought. Mayor Smith thanked Ms. Felton and the other Tree Board members for their time in preparing the grant application and looks forward to seeing the new trees installed.

Consent Agenda

Council Member Folk motioned, seconded by Terrell, and unanimously approved the following items on the consent agenda:

3. Approval of the 2021 Council Meeting Calendar
4. Resolution 2021-01, Authorizing the Submittal of the FY2020 CHIP Grant Application
5. Resolution 2021-02, Appointing Agent Under the Georgia Abandoned Mobile Home Act
6. Resolution 2021-03, Setting Qualifying Fees for the 2021 General Election
7. Resolution 2021-04, Providing for an Alcohol Beverage License at Food Lion Located at 2201 US Hwy 41.
8. Resolution 2021-05, Providing for an Alcohol Beverage License at Circle K #2745157 Located at 1203 Hwy 82 W.
9. Resolution 2021-06, Providing for an Alcohol Beverage License at Terminal South Located at 265 Brumby Way
10. Resolution 2021-07, Providing for an Alcohol Beverage License at El Limon Located at 501 S. Ridge Ave.

Discussion and Extension of Ordinance 2020-23, Requiring the Use of Masks or Face Coverings in Public

Mr. Pete Pyrzenski mentioned the mask ordinance in place is set to expire on January 21, 2021, and if Council would like to continue the mandate, they would need to take official action to extend it. Council briefly discussed and Council Member Folk made the first motion to extend the ordinance for 30 days. Motion seconded by Terrell and Council Member Hall voted in favor. Mayor Smith and Council Member Ehlers voted in opposition. Motion passed with a 3 to 2 vote.

City Manager Report

Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned a contractor hit a gas line today at the Hospital and ESG staff quickly responded to repair the line. He also mentioned city customers donated \$4,100 to the HEAT Program in 2020 and those donations will be used to assist customers in need of heating assistance.


Council Comments

Council Member Terrell spoke positively about the progress made in his district.

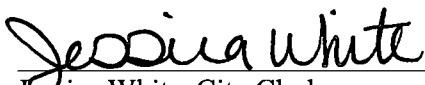
Mayor Julie Smith mentioned the GMA Convention had been postponed until August. She also gave an update on the youth violence and prevention group and mentioned another meeting has been scheduled for next Wednesday.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectively Submitted,



Julie Smith, Mayor



Jessica White, City Clerk