

**City of Tifton
Council Meeting
February 21, 2022
Tifton City Hall**

Attendees

Mayor Julie Smith
Vice Mayor Jack Folk
Council Member Josh Reynolds
Council Member Lester Cromer, Jr.
Council Member M. Jay Hall

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 and Pledge

Council Member Reynolds gave the invocation and led the pledge.

Approval of the Agenda

Council Member Hall made the first motion for approval of the agenda, seconded by Cromer, and unanimously approved.

Approval of the Minutes

Council Member Cromer made the first motion for approval of the minutes, seconded by Reynolds, and unanimously approved.

Proclamation Declaring February as Black History Month

Mayor Smith read aloud the proclamation declaring February as Black History Month.

Recognizing James Henderson for Achievement of Advanced Public Works Management Certificate

City Manager Pete Pyrzenski and Mayor Smith recognized James Henderson for the achievement of the management certificate from the UGA Carl Vinson Institute of Government and applauded his dedicated work and accomplishment.

Resolution Declaring Honorary Designation and Naming of the City of Tifton Youth Center in Honor of "Anthony G. Bateman Youth Center"

Mayor Smith commented on the influence and impact Mr. Bateman had on the youth during his tenure at Tift County Schools and recommended naming the youth center in his honor. Mayor Smith read aloud a resolution honoring the legacy of Coach Bateman and naming the youth center in his honor. Council Member Hall made the first motion for approval of the resolution, motion seconded by Folk, and unanimously approved.

Ms. Freida Bateman, wife, of the late Anthony Bateman, spoke in appreciation for naming the youth center in honor of her late husband. Mr. Pyrzenski also recognized Ms. Tonya Tift who was recently appointed as the City's Urban Redevelopment Director and she will also oversee the operations of the Youth Center.

Swearing in Margaret Richardson-Nixon to the Downtown Development Authority Board

Mayor Smith read aloud the oath of office and sworn-in Ms. Nixon to serve on the DDA Board.

Consent Agenda

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

5. **Resolution Designating Rhythm & Ribs as a Festival**
6. **Resolution Updating the Schedule of Fees**
7. **Award of RFQ for Phase 1 Energy Audit & Analysis to Troy & Banks, Inc.**
8. **Resolution Suspending the Mask Requirement in City Facilities**

Consider Action Following Alcohol License Hearing for Speego #1, Jay Shree Maharaj Sales Corporation, 1939 Whiddon Mill Road, Tifton

Council Member Folk made the first motion to suspend Speego's alcohol license for 60 days. Motion seconded by Council Member Cromer and unanimously approved.

Consider Action Following Alcohol License Hearing for Pepi's Food Mart, KD Food Inc., 921 W. 20th Street, Tifton

Council Member Folk made a motion to take no action on the license since the business had taken appropriate action to prevent underage sales in the future. Motion seconded by Council Member Reynolds and unanimously approved.

Consider Action Following Alcohol License Hearing for Eastside Superette, 933 Ferry Lake, LLC, 933 Ferry Lake Road, Tifton

Council reviewed the information presented on the alcohol license renewal and recommended postponing. Council Member Hall made the first motion to postpone action until March 7th, motion seconded by Folk, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Supporting Municipal Authority to Meet Growth Demands Through Annexation

Council Member Folk made the first motion for approval of the resolution, seconded by Cromer, and unanimously approved.

Executive Session

Council Member Hall made the first motion to go into executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Motion seconded by Cromer and unanimously approved. Meeting closed to executive session.

Council Member Hall made the first motion to go out of the executive session and back into the regular session. Motion seconded by Folk and unanimously approved. Meeting opened to regular session.

Resolution Providing for Executive Session

Council Member Hall made the first motion for approval of the resolution, motion seconded by Folk and unanimously approved.

Resolution Approving Submission of the Water and Wastewater Service Area & Plan to EPD

Mr. Wilmot mentioned the presented plan was prepared by ESG Engineering and is the City's plan for managing the water and sewer system in the event the joint system is separated. After review, Council Member Folk made the first motion for approval of the resolution and plan. Motion seconded by Council Member Reynolds and unanimously approved.

Approval of Plan for Amending the Council District Boundaries Following the 2020 Census

Mr. Wilmot mentioned redistricting could be accomplished through an amendment to the City's Charter and the City's home rule authority. Mr. Wilmot mentioned the Charter amendment for redistricting would require advertising and two readings of the ordinance. After reviewing the three options for redistricting, Council Member Folk made the first motion to approve Plan 1. Motion seconded by Cromer and unanimously approved.

Appointment of Ms. Rosemary Hightower to the Keep Tift Beautiful Board

Council Member Hall made the first motion to appoint Ms. Rosemary Hightower to the KTB Board, motion seconded by Reynolds, and unanimously approved.

Financial Report

Mr. Larry Lawrence, CFO, presented the financial statement for the period ending January 31, 2022. Council reviewed and briefly discussed.

Appointment of Elizabeth Torres as Assistant City Attorney

Council Member Folk made the first motion to appoint Elizabeth Torres as Asst. City Attorney, motion seconded by Reynolds, and unanimously approved.

Mayor and Council Comments

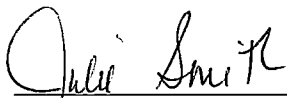
Mayor Smith spoke excitedly of the many great things happening in Tifton.

Council Member Folk spoke on golf cart safety within the community and street parking.

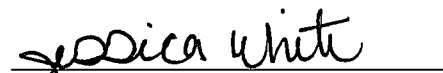
Council Member Hall spoke on the positive work of the city and moving forward with naming the Youth Center in honor of Coach Bateman.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.

Respectively Submitted,



Julie Smith, Mayor



Jessica White, City Clerk