

City of Tifton
Regular City Council Meeting
January 9, 2017
5:30 PM
Tifton City Hall

Attendees

Mayor Julie Smith

Vice Mayor Wes Ehlers

Council Member Jack Folk

Council Member Johnny Terrell

Council Member Frank Sayles

Hunter Walker, Interim City Manager

Jessica Jones, City Clerk

Rob Wilmot, City Attorney

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 PM. Mayor Smith led the prayer and pledge.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Approval of the Minutes

Vice Mayor Ehlers motioned, seconded by Folk, and unanimously approved the minutes from the December 2, 2016 Special Called Meeting; December 5, 2016 Regular Meeting; December 8, 2016 Special Called Meeting; December 15, 2016 Workshop; and December 22, 2016 Special Called Meeting.

Proclamation Recognizing National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

Mayor Smith presented employees of the Tifton Police Department with a proclamation recognizing National Law Enforcement Appreciate Day. Mayor Smith thanked all of the officers for their hard work and dedication to the community.

Proclamation for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Mayor Smith presented a proclamation recognizing Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Ms. Akeria Lockett was present to receive the proclamation and noted the upcoming events planned for Tifton in honor of Dr. King.

Swearing in New Board Members to City Boards

Mayor Smith read aloud the Oath of Office and sworn in the following members to their respective boards: Hal Baxley to the Downtown Development Authority Board, Ray Cross to the Tifton-Tift County Tourism Board, and Peter Crowley to the Tifton Planning & Zoning Board.

CITIZEN INPUT

Walter Dykes, 735 Duggan Street: Mr. Dykes was present to inform City Council of his continued problems with dealing with loud noise coming for the bars located near his neighborhood. He also informed Council of an incident in which he believed he was falsely arrested for disorderly conduct, and asked that his record be expunged. Mayor Smith mentioned the Council had recently updated the noise ordinance and hopefully the new changes would offer the residents with some relief to the excessive noise.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Adding a Local Vendor Preference to the City Purchasing Policy

Mr. Walker reviewed staff's understanding of the recommendations given by Council at the previous meeting for the policy. Council Recommendations included: defining a local vendor as an active business licensed in the city limits; local preference will be given if the bid difference is no more than 3%; the 3% difference should do not exceed \$10,000; require local vendor registration or application. Council briefly discussed and asked for a policy to be drafted based on the recommendations.

Discussion of Employee Education/Training Incentive Plan

Mr. Walker reviewed the educational incentive plan prepared. The program would offer pay increases to full-time employees whom obtained certain certifications and advanced education. The program would exclude department heads. Mr. Walker mentioned this plan would impact the budget and would be subject to budget approval. Council discussed the proposed plan and item will be placed on the workshop agenda for further consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance Approving Rezoning Application Z16-000-015 submitted by Brown Dog Development, LLC, Requesting to Rezone approximately .46 Acres located at 316 West 6th Street (T042 188)

Mayor Smith stepped out of the meeting during the vote on the ordinance because she is an owner of the property. Mr. Wilnot stated the ordinance will rezone the property from its current zoning classification of R-14 to R-10. Council Member Jack Folk made the first motion for approval of the ordinance, seconded by Terrell, and unanimously approved by Ehlers and Sayles. Mayor Smith returned to the meeting after the vote.

Resolution Appointing Pete Pyrzenski as City Manager and Approving Employment Contract

Vice Mayor Ehlers made the first motion for approval of the resolution, seconded by Folk, and approved by Smith and Terrell. Council Member Sayles abstained from the vote. Mr. Pyrzenski was present and thanked the City Council for the opportunity and stated he was looking forward to serving Tifton.

Resolution Setting Qualifying Fees for the November 7, 2017 Election

Ms. Jessica Jones mentioned the presented resolution sets the qualifying fees at \$207.00 as required by the state for the two Council Members up for election in 2017. Ms. Jones mentioned District 1 and District 3 are up for election this year and the qualifying fees must be set by February 1. Council Member Folk made the first motion for approval of the resolution, seconded by Terrell, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Providing for Alcohol Beverage License to Elks Club Tifton located at 422 Victory Drive

Council Member Terrell made the first motion for approval of the resolution and alcohol license, seconded by Sayles, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Providing for Alcohol Beverage License to Taurus Nightclub, LLC located at 332 Main Street

Council Member Terrell made the first motion for approval of the resolution and alcohol license, seconded by Sayles, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Providing for Alcohol Beverage License to EZ Mart located at 3301 US Highway 82
Council Member Terrell made the first motion for approval of the resolution and alcohol license, seconded by Sayles, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Providing for Alcohol Beverage License to Sunmart located at 902S. Central Ave
Council briefly reviewed the application and discussed previous issues at the location. Council Member Terrell made the first motion to table the resolution and schedule a hearing on the alcohol license application, seconded by Folk, and unanimously approved.

Appointment of Jafaria Robinson to the Tifton Housing Authority Board
Mayor Smith appointed Ms. Jafaria Robinson to the Tifton Housing Authority Board.

Discussion of Retreat/Special Called Meeting during Mayor's Day Event in Atlanta
City Council agreed to hold a retreat at the Mayor's Day Conference.

Discussion of Changing Time for the February 16, 2017 Workshop
Mayor Smith requested the time for the February Workshop be changed to 4:30 pm. City Council collectively approved the recommended time change.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Mayor Ehlers made the first motion to go into executive session to discuss real estate and legal matters, seconded by Terrell, and approved by Smith, Folk, and Sayles. Meeting closed to executive session

Resolution Providing for Executive Session
Vice Mayor Ehlers made the first motion for approval of the resolution, seconded by Folk, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Approving Mutual Aid Agreement for Fire Services with Tift County Fire Rescue
Council Member Folk made the first motion for approval, seconded by Terrell, and unanimously approved.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned.

Julie Smith, Mayor

Jessica Jones, City Clerk