

Tifton City Council Workshop
November 5, 2018
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

Pete Pyrzenski, City Manager
Rob Wilmot, City Attorney
Jessica Jones, City Clerk

Call to Order

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

Proclamation Declaring National Nurse Practitioner Week

Mayor Julie Smith read aloud the proclamation declaring “National Nurse Practitioner Week” in Tifton and presented it to Dr. Lakesha Williams, DNP with Tift Regional Medical Center. Dr. Williams briefly spoke about the growing nurse practitioner profession and expressed, it is an additional option for patient care.

Main Street and Downtown Development Authority Update

Ms. Lequrica Gaskins presented information on the upcoming Veterans Day event scheduled for Saturday at Veterans Park and Hometown Holidays scheduled for December 1st. She also mentioned hanging baskets with be placed downtown for a trial period and new banners for downtown will also be hung. Lastly, she mentioned the crosswalk improvements will begin soon in downtown.

South Tifton Redevelopment Plan & City of Tifton Housing Plan

Mr. Pete Pyrzenski presented the South Tifton Redevelopment Plan prepared by Bruce Green. The plan gave options for redeveloping the neighborhood surrounding Matt Wilson School. It addressed issues such as substandard housing and blight property, and detailed goals for revitalizing the area and improving the tax base. Mr. Pyrzenski also presented the draft housing plan developed by staff for review and comment. The council was very impressed with the redevelopment plan and looked forward to seeing improvements in the area.

New Business

Review of FY2019 Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) Project List

Mr. Scotty Brogdon presented the proposed resurfacing list for the 2019 LMIG funding. The proposed streets for resurfacing included: Chestnut Ave, Forrest Ave, John Howard Way, Cresent Drive, Twila Drive, Belmont Ave, Pehler Drive, Brookhaven Drive, Old Omega Road, Lakewood Drive, 22nd Street, Wilson Ave, and Branch Street. Council reviewed the list, but no additional recommendations were made. The LMIG grant funding totals \$241,184.17 and the City will cover the remaining funding. The total project cost is estimated at \$629,425.60.

Review of Contract Addendum with Golden Environmental for Curbside Emergency Storm Debris Pick-up

Mr. Pyrzenski reviewed the proposed contract addendum and mentioned Golden has already agreed to the recommended changes. Mr. Pyrzenski stated ESG will assist with debris cleanup, but they cannot solely take on the task of picking up all of the storm debris. The proposed addendum adds an additional storm fee of \$5.00 per residence needing storm pickup and requires Golden to report the number of residents and tonnage taken to the landfill. The proposed addendum was reviewed and a brief discussion. ESG and the landfill also gave updates on storm debris collection and disposal following Hurricane Michael and presented a map of the areas picked up.

Resolutions Providing for Amended Alcohol Licenses

Ms. White presented four resolutions for amended alcohol licenses. She mentioned the applications were amended during the renewal process and the applicants have been reviewed and approved by staff. Staff recommended approval of the following licenses: 41 Beverage Shop, Walgreens, Enmark, and Chili's. Council briefly reviewed but had no questions.

Board Report

The board report was presented and Ms. White mentioned the Housing Authority is needing some appointments to be made so they will have a quorum available to vote in December. Council reviewed the board report, but no appointments were made.

City Manager Report

Code Enforcement Update: Mr. Pyrzenski reviewed the City's current nuisance code in reference to requiring property owners to be responsible for garbage pickup. Mr. Rob Wilmot gave an overview of the process identified in the ordinance for handling the issue and mentioned the ordinance needs to be updated to cover bulky items and contractual issues covered by the solid waste contract. The council discussed issues with landlord/tenant issue and putting household items within the right-of-way. Council suggested to gather feedback from citizens and report back with any recommendations.

Downtown Alleyways: Mr. Pyrzenski informed the Council of recent issues where a property owner installed a fence on their property in downtown. Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned the fence is obstructing neighboring property owners and may cause future safety concerns. Mr. Wilmot suggested updating the ordinance and not allowing fencing between a building and the right-of-way. After discussion, it was determined to allow staff to prepare ordinance revisions and bring back revisions for Council consideration.

Mr. Pyrzenski also mentioned the City is expected to receive FEMA reimbursement from the recent storm and the FY2018 Audit is almost complete. He also recognized Mr. Jonathon Taylor, IT Director, on receiving his state certification. Lastly, Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned the City is planning on a Hometown Connection with the Legislators on November 28th.

Executive Session

Council Member Terrell made the first motion to go into executive session, seconded by Folk, and unanimously approved. Meeting closed to executive session.

Meeting opened back to regular session.

Resolution Providing for Executive Session

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

Respectively Submitted,

Julie Smith, Mayor

Jessica White, City Clerk