

City of Tifton
Council Workshop and Special Called Meeting
May 1, 2017
5:30 PM
Tifton City Hall, Council Chambers

Attendees

Mayor Julie Smith

Vice Mayor Wes Ehlers

Council Member Johnny Terrell

Council Member Frank Sayles

Pete Pyrzenski, City Manager

Jessica Jones, City Clerk

Rob Wilmot, City Attorney (via phone)

Emily Vowell, Attorney

Alcohol License Hearing for EZ Mart located at 3301 US Hwy 82 West and EZ Mart 2 located at 301 W. 7th Street

Mr. Pete Pyrzenski stated the locations have met all the safety and code requirements as of late this afternoon so no action is need to be taken by Council. Mr. Pyrzenski did ask Mr. Danny Wallace, Fire Inspector, and Houston Shultz, Environmental Management Director, to give an overview of the issues with the businesses. Mr. Wallace mentioned Mr. Qadeer Ahmad is the property owner of both EZ Mart locations. Mr. Wallace and Mr. Houston Shultz stated that staff has spent a large amount of staff time inspecting the business locations with only a small amount of progress on needed changes. Mr. Wallace mentioned Mr. Ahmad had numerous violations that needed to be corrected in order for his business license to be approved. Mr. Wallace mentioned he has been working with Mr. Ahmad since January on the inspection process, and as of 2:00 PM all items have been corrected. Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned the business has corrected the issue and paid for their business license so no further action is needed from council. Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned the city would move forward with seeking ramification in Municipal Court.

Review of Festival Ordinance

Mr. Rob Wilmot reviewed the proposed ordinance which would allow for alcohol sales at festivals. The ordinance would require the alcohol caterer to use approved containers (cups) and provide drinking wristbands to attendees. This ordinance would also allow participating businesses located within the control zone to sell alcohol and allow patrons to leave the establishment with the beverage. City Council will be able to designate a festival and apply control zones for alcohol sales. The event sponsor would be in charge of organizing, managing, and conducting the festival activities. The City would be responsible for providing police protection, sanitation services, and street closures. Mayor Smith reviewed questions received the Tourism Association on recommended changes. Discussion was held on the proposed ordinance and the ordinance would be considered for adoption at the next Council Meeting.

Review of Ordinance Establishing an Event Permit

Mr. Pyrzenski asked for additional time for staff to review the proposed ordinance. Item was not discussed and will be brought back before Council upon further review.

Review of Proposed Amendments to the Occupation Tax Ordinance

Mr. Pyrzenski asked for additional time for staff to review the proposed ordinance since it requires major changes to the ordinance. Item was not discussed and will be brought back before Council upon further review.

Resolution Supporting the DDA's DDLF Application to Assist Baxley Properties and Investments, LLC with Development Project on Commerce Way

Ms. Lequrica Gaskins, Main Street Director stated Baxley Properties and Investments, LLC has requested a \$146,126 loan from the Downtown Development Revolving Loan Fund to renovate the buildings located at 335, 337, and 339 Commerce Way. The project proposes to develop a BBQ restaurant, sports bar, and roof-top restaurant totaling an estimated \$820,504. Ms. Gaskins mentioned the presented application and loan is for the first phase of the project for renovations to 335 Commerce Way. The DDA will serve as a conduit for the application and a supporting resolution from the City is needed in order to finalize the loan.

Mr. Pete Pyrzenski also mentioned that the city received notification on Friday that the City's CDBG RF Application was approved for constructing a parking area on Commerce Way.

Review of Award Recipients for the James E. Dove Memorial Scholarship

Ms. Donna Pate w/ ESG presented the award recommendation for the annual gas scholarship. The scholarship committee reviewed all the applications submitted and is recommending awarding scholarships to Johnna M. Young and Karina E. Delgado. Council was given the applications to review and Ms. Pate mentioned the awards will be presented at the next Council Meeting. Council reviewed the applications and essays submitted.

Resolution Providing for an Alcohol Beverage License at Publix Super Markets, Inc. #1422 located at 620 Virginia Avenue

Ms. Jessica Jones presented the application amending the alcohol license for Publix. Ms. Jones mentioned the location has a new manager and this change requires the alcohol license to be updated. Staff has processed the application and background investigation on the manager and is recommending approval. Council reviewed the application, but held no discussion.

Resolution Providing for an Alcohol Beverage License at The Shell Station located at 2302 US Highway 41 North

Ms. Jones mentioned the The Shell Station is under new ownership and the applicant is applying for a new alcohol license. Staff has processed the application and background investigation on the new owner and manager and is recommending approval. Council reviewed the application, but held no discussion.

Resolution Re-Designating and Classifying Hunt Road and Larkin Road

Mr. Pyrzenski stated this was a housekeeping matter and the resolution would designate Larkin Road from the point beginning at the traffic light at Hwy 82 West and run to Carpenter Road. A map showing the recommended changes was provided for Council's review.

Review of Ordinance to Amend the City's Retirement Plan in Order to Implement an Early Retirement Incentive Program for Certain Plan Participants

Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned the ordinance being presented is part of the restructuring of the Fire Department and offering certain plan participants an opportunity of early retirement. The ordinance would allow participants who hold the position of Training Captain or Lieutenant, are at least age 53, and have at least 20 years of service with the City the opportunity to retire early. Mr. Pyrzenski stated the ordinance has been placed on the Special Called Meeting agenda for consideration to allow for the 45 day period.

Police Department Confiscated Bicycles

Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned Moses Brown is currently working on preparing a surplus list for items to be sold at auction. He also mentioned the Police Department has approximately 200 bikes which have been deemed surplus. He proposed making repairs to the bikes and organizing an event during June or July to give away the bikes to residents in need. Council approved the recommendation and scheduling of the event.

Mr. Pyrzenski stated he would like to schedule a budget workshop for May 9th to review the proposed FY2018 Budget with Council. Council agreed on the proposed date for the workshop.

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Mayor Julie Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 6:15 PM.

Decision for EZ Mart Located at 3301 US Highway 82 West and Decision for EZ Mart II Located at 301 West 7th Street

Council Member Frank Sayles made the first motion to issue the business license since the requirements have been met, but seek ramification for violations in Municipal Court. Motion seconded by Terrell and unanimously approved.

Ordinance to Amend the City's Retirement Plan in Order to Implement an Early Retirement Incentive Program for Certain Plan Participants

Council Member Johnny Terrell made the first motion for approval of the ordinance, seconded by Ehlers, and unanimously approved.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned.

Julie Smith, Mayor

Jessica Jones, City Clerk