

**City of Tifton
Council Meeting
January 21, 2020
5:30 PM
Tifton City Hall**

Attendees

Mayor Julie Smith

Vice Mayor Wes Ehlers

Council Member Jack Folk

Council Member Johnny Terrell

Council Member M.Jay Hall

Pete Pyrzenski, City Manager

Rob Wilmot, City Attorney

Jessica White, City Clerk

Mayor Julie Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Pastor Keith Norris of Eastside Baptist Church gave the invocation and led the pledge.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Approval of the Minutes

Council Member Folk made the first motion to approve the minutes from December 16, 2019. Motion seconded by Terrell and unanimously approved.

Mr. John Lowe, DDA Board Update

Mr. John Lowe spoke in reference to the accomplishments of the DDA Board since he has served. Accomplishments included: downtown street and lighting improvements, selling the Taylor Building on Main Street and leasing the old Department of Labor Building, purchasing the Davis Building on Commerce for development, and taking over ownership of the Museum of Arts and Heritage.

Consent Agenda

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

- 1. Adoption of the South Tifton Redevelopment Assessment and Strategy prepared by Bruce Green and Associates Consulting**

- 2. Resolution Authorizing the Preparation and Submittal of a Community Home Improvement Program (CHIP) Application**

Resolution Adopting an Updated Schedule of Fees

Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned the only changes from what was originally presented at the workshop were correcting the landfill charges for asbestos and increasing the rental fees of the Leroy Rogers Senior Center. After review, Council Member Ehlers made the first motion for approval of the resolution, motion seconded by Hall, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Updating the Tift Council Service Delivery Strategy

Mr. Wilmot mentioned the County sent over Service Delivery Forms for approval, but after review, the forms need to be corrected before final approval. Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned the utility service map needs to be updated to include the Willow Creek Subdivision Expansion. Staff will work with the County on correcting the forms and bring back to Council if needed. Council Member Terrell motioned to postpone indefinitely, Hall seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Recommendation for Awarding the RFP for Development of Affordable Housing in the South Tifton Redevelopment Area

Mr. Bruce Green gave an overview of the RFP process and provided Council with an outline of the evaluation process of the four proposals submitted. After review of the proposals and presentations, the committee recommended awarding the RFP to IDP, LLC. The developer proposed to construct 56 residential units with amenities. Council reviewed the conceptual site layout and proposed building renderings submitted by IDP. Council briefly reviewed and discussed, but Council Member Terrell requested the item be postponed. Council Member Terrell made the first motion to postpone the item until the February Workshop. Motion seconded by Ehlers with Hall and Folk voting in favor. Mayor Smith voted in opposition. Motion passed with a 4 to 1 vote.

Board Appointments

Appointment of Mr. Frank Sayles to the Tifton-Tift County Tourism Board

Council Member Ehlers made the first motion to appoint Mr. Frank Sayles to the Tourism Board. Motion seconded by Hall and unanimously approved.

Appointment of Mr. Lonnie Lewis to the Tifton Zoning Board of Appeals

Council Member Ehlers made the first motion to appoint Mr. Lonnie Lewis to the ZBA Board. Motion seconded by Hall and unanimously approved.

Appointment of Council Member Jack Folk to the Downtown Development Authority Board

Council Member Terrell made the first motion to appoint Council Member Jack Folk to the DDA Board as the City Council Representative. Motion seconded by Hall and unanimously approved.

Mr. J. Mullinax Appointed to the Downtown Development Authority

Council Member Folk made the first motion to appoint Mr. J. Mullinax to the DDA. Motion seconded by Hall and unanimously approved.

Reappointment of Dr. Steve Rigdon to the Downtown Development Authority

Council Member Folk made the first motion to reappoint Dr. Steve Rigdon to the DDA. Motion seconded by Hall and unanimously approved.

City Manager Report

Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned the railroad and GDOT are proposing to update the cross arms on Main Street and the project proposes a burden on the downtown merchants and traffic. He mentioned staff will work with GDOT on additional options for improvement but wanted to inform the Council of the proposed project. Lastly, Mr. Pyrzenski reminded Council of the ground breaking ceremony for Coca-Cola.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Folk spoke in reference to safety and the golf cart ordinance and asked that the Police Department begin enforcing the ordinance.

Council Member Terrell recommended educating the public on the golf cart ordinance and putting info on the website of the regulations.

Mayor Smith reminded everyone of the upcoming Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on February 6, 2020.

Vice Mayor Ehlers congratulated the DDA on their accomplishments reported tonight and thanked the board members for their service.

Council Member Hall mentioned he had received concerns about homeless people sleeping in downtown.

Executive Session

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

Council Member Terrell made the first motion to go out of executive session, seconded by Folk, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Providing for Executive Session

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

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,

Jessica White, City Clerk

Julie Smith, Mayor