

**CITY OF TIFTON
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
AUGUST 5, 2019
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 White, City Clerk

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

Request to Consider Study for Including South Tifton in the Tifton Historic District

Citizens of the Historical Preservation Alliance were present to request Council consider adding areas in South Tifton to the City's Historic District. Dr. Homer Day mentioned the group would like to work toward preserving the history and historic character of South Tifton including areas located in the city limits and Tift County. Mr. Ambrose King read aloud a resolution provided by the group which requested the city conduct surveys and studies to determine the feasibility of a South Tifton Historic District. After hearing from the group, Council briefly discussed the proposal. Mr. Bruce Green, Interim URA Director, and Mayor Smith spoke positively of the idea and hoped the City would move forward. Council Member Ehlers questioned adding historic guidelines to the area because it may create unintended consequences for the area's redevelopment. Mr. Green mentioned historic guidelines would be something the study would consider when it is conducted. The Council thanked those present for attending.

Pastor T.L. Pratt, 3102 Hillcrest Ave, Water Line & Street Repair Issues

Mr. Pratt presented Council with pictures of streets in the city and county where water lines have been repaired and the pavement has not been adequately repaired. Mr. Pratt mentioned the areas have reoccurring water line failures and poor street conditions. The areas identified include Wilson Street, King Drive, MLK Drive, Hillcrest Circle, and Kennedy Avenue. Mayor Smith thanked Mr. Pratt for bringing his concerns forward and stated the issues addressed today are very important to the Council. Mr. Pyrzenski and Mr. Dan Groselle w/ ESG both spoke in reference to the concerns and mentioned the City is currently preparing a bid to have the waterlines replaced in the area. Mr. Groselle provided a map of the water line project and mentioned the project will replace the old galvanized lines with PVC water lines in the area of concern.

Police Department Seeking State Certification through Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police

Chief Buddy Dowdy reviewed the certification process, in which the department will complete a review of the department's policies to ensure they meet the state policy standards. Chief Dowdy mentioned the department will move forward with the certification process upon Council's approval.

2019 National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System Update

The National Flood Insurance Program rates each community on flood plan management activities such as public education, maintaining flood information, and enforcing the city's flood ordinances.

Mr. John Shepherd reviewed the NFIP Community Rating System Program and the benefits it brings to the community. Mr. Shepherd mentioned the City's rating is currently an 8. From the City's participation in the program, the residents receive a 10% decrease in flood insurance premiums. He mentioned the City currently has 978 parcels and 488 structures located in flood zones. Council Member Ehlers asked if the city can do anything additional to decrease the rating so residents can save more on insurance premiums. Mr. Shepherd stated he would be reviewing the manual to determine if the city is capable of doing anything additional.

Recommendation to Purchase Server Equipment from State Contract Vendor

Mr. Jonathan Taylor, IT Director, presented a proposal for replacing two servers with a newer technology server. The funding for the purchase would come from SPLOST Funds. Staff recommended purchasing the equipment from a state contract vendor, SHI, for a total cost of \$81,449.96.

Recommendation to Purchase One Vehicle for IT Department from State Contract Vendor Item was removed and not discussed.

Review Comprehensive Plan Goals and 2019 Short Term Work Program Accomplishments

Ms. Jessica White provided Council with an update of the Short Term Work Program accomplishments for 2018-2019. From June 2018 through June 2019 the City completed 25 out of 158 projects. Council also reviewed the Comp Plan Goals, Issues, and Opportunities identified in the Comp Plan. Ms. White mentioned the update and review of the City's plan is necessary each year to help guide discussion and focus on accomplishing plan goals. The Council reviewed and briefly discussed.

CDBG Redevelopment Fund Grant for 325 Commerce Way

Mr. Pete Pyrzenski gave a review of how the project progressed since it was awarded in 2016. The grant currently is to be used to purchase and demo the Davis Building located on Commerce Way and construct a parking lot. Mr. Pyrzenski mentioned DDA has thoroughly reviewed the property and would like to rehab the building since it has significant historical value. Mr. Pyrzenski presented three options for financing the rehab of the building and additional parking area. Mr. Pyrzenski and DDA recommend de-obligating the grant funding and moving forward with financing the project through other sources. Council reviewed the information presented and briefly discussed.

Annual Audit 2020 Understanding of Services

Mr. Pyrzenski provided Council with a letter detailing the services to be provided by the auditors, Mauldin & Jenkins, for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, at a cost of \$45,000. Council reviewed the letter and briefly discussed. Council Member Ehlers suggested putting the audit contract out for bid this year.

Resolution Granting Enterprise Zone Incentives to Twelve 13 Properties, LLC for Property Located at 210 8th Street

Ms. Jessica White presented the Enterprise Zone Application and mentioned the incentives recommended were based on the recently updated schedule. The project consists of residential rehab of 5 loft apartments for an investment total of \$125,000. Staff recommended awarding Twelve 13 Properties \$4,4373.74 in incentives. Council reviewed the application and briefly discussed.

Board Report

Council reviewed the board report, but no appointments were made.

City Manager Report

Mr. Pyrzenski and Chief Dowdy informed Council of a recent active shooter training held for the public safety agencies and local school personnel. Chief Dowdy mentioned the training was successful and all parties had valuable take-a-ways for responding to incidents in the future.

Review of Draft FY2019 Annual Report: Mr. Pyrzenski provided Council with a draft version of the annual report. Mr. Pyrzenski asked Council to review the report and promptly provide him with any recommended changes.

GPS Application in City Vehicles: Chief Buddy Dowdy reviewed the new fleet management system acquired by the City. Chief Dowdy gave a brief demo of how the system works and the reporting benefits the system brings to their department. Council reviewed the program and how the various departments will be utilizing the program.

Sample Survey for Community Development: Mr. Danny Wallace provided Council with a sample survey currently being used by his department to ensure customer satisfaction. Mr. Wallace mentioned the survey is quick and easy and he hopes to get some valuable feedback on the service provided by the department.

Mayor & Council Reports

Vice Mayor Ehlers asked the public to be aware of school buses and children walking in school zones during the school year. He also expressed condolences to the family and friends of Coach Bateman.

Council Member Folk questioned staff about city standards for fencing around pools. He also asked staff to find alternative ways for managing vegetation along roadways besides roundup. Council Member Folk and Council Member Sayles both spoke in reference to the hours being cut back at the Animal Control Office.

Council Member Sayles mentioned he has received numerous compliments on the walking trail and other improvements at Fulwood Park.

Mayor Smith spoke positively on Tift County School Convocation held and mentioned the event was very positive for our schools and our community.

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

Respectively Submitted,

Julie Smith, Mayor

Jessica White, City Clerk