

**MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA**  
**APRIL 13, 2015**

**A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, April 13, 2015 at 7:00 P.M., in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor James Dennis presiding and Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson, Commissioners Bob Moore, Dennis Josey, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson present. Commissioner Marty Swain was absent.**

**INVOCATION**

Mike Clements, Youth Minister of First Baptist Church gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Coffee County NJROTC led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**MINUTES ADOPTION**

The following minutes were unanimously approved as corrected in the Work Session:

Work Session..... March 23, 2015  
Commission Meeting..... March 23, 2015

**A MOTION to unanimously approve the minutes as corrected was made by Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The motion unanimously carried (5-0).**

**APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

The Commission **unanimously** approved the order of the Agenda as set forth in the work session. **A MOTION** to approve the order of the Agenda was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Dennis Josey. The motion **unanimously** carried **(5-0)**.

**SWEARING IN CEREMONY OF POLICE OFFICERS**

Mayor James Dennis swore in the following Police Officers: Daniel Harper, Patrick West Eric Guerrero and John Young. The Commission congratulated each officer and thanked them for becoming a City of Douglas Police Officer.

**APPROVAL OF THE GPS MAPPING EQUIPMENT**

Upon recommendation from Lamar Hill, Electric Department Director, the Commission approved the purchase of mapping equipment and software to assist the Electric capture information for mapping purposes on underground poles, transformer sizes and other related Electric assets. It will also be used by Jacob Lott (Public Works), Mike Hudson (Gas/Water/Wastewater) staff to capture similar assets as well. The purchase of these items will be \$14,445.16, from the FY'2015 Electric Department Budget.

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#### **APPROVAL OF THE GPS MAPPING EQUIPMENT-CONTINUED**

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The motion **unanimously** carried (5-0).

#### **APPROVAL OF THE IPC AMENDMENT AND RESOLUTION**

Upon recommendation of Lamar Hill, Electric Department Director, the Commission approved the amendment to the contract with ECG to provide an equitable cost between all participants no funding increase to the city. This will save the city \$15,000.00 a year on ECG year-end services. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Dennis Josey. The motion **unanimously** carried (5-0).

#### **APPROVAL OF THE DISTRIBUTED GENERATION TARIFF**

Upon recommendation of Lamar Hill, Electric Department Director, the Commission approved the rate for anyone who wish to put solar panels on their home or business to sell back to the city. If they don't want to sell back to the city it will not affect them, this is if they just want to buy back where they will pay their part of the fixed cost on our system. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The motion **unanimously** carried (5-0).

#### **APPROVAL OF THE UPGRADES TO THE TENNIS COURT POLES AND LIGHTING**

Upon recommendation from Lamar Hill, Electric Department Director, the Commission approved to install metal poles and new 1000w metal halide lights on Eastside, Wheeler and Roundtree Park on the tennis court. It will bring the lighting up to 25 candle power which is practice level. You cannot hold tournaments or competition tennis at these facilities. The cost to install the poles and lightening at \$35,220.00 (Electric Department Contingency Reserve). The Electric Department do all the labor. Staff will procure the lights and poles under normal procurement process. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The motion **unanimously** carried (5-0).

Mayor James Dennis announced that the city will not close the tennis courts, they are being improved and brought up to standard. All will have new surfaces, new lighting and fencing.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE NEW 4" THOMPSON TRAILER MOUNTED BYPASS FROM GSA CONTRACT #GS-07F-0140V**

Upon recommendation from Stanley Merritt, Purchasing Agent, the Commission approved as discussed in tonight's work session meeting the purchase of one (1) 4" trailer mounted bypass pump from Thompson Pump and Manufacturing Company Inc., of Port Orange Florida from the GSA Contract GS-07F-0140V for a grand total of \$37,970.00. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore. The motion **unanimously** carried (5-0).

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#### APPROVAL OF THE ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR LUZ MARTINEZ

Upon recommendation from Randall Parker, Inspections and Permits Division, the Commission approved the request of Luz Martinez for an Alcoholic Beverage License, for consumption on the premises for beer for La Chaparrita Restaurant, located at 1005 N. Peterson Ave, Douglas Georgia. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Olivia Pearson. The motion unanimously carried **(5-0)**.

#### STAFF COMMENTS

Wynetta Bolder, City Clerk stated the following:

- ❖ Coffee Alliance for the Arts Presents Munch and Music
  - April 15<sup>th</sup> Ambrose Elementary Show Choir
  - April 22<sup>nd</sup> CHS Jazz Band
  - April 29<sup>th</sup> CHS Show Choir
- ❖ Coffee County Historical Society Programs
  - Civil War in Coffee County in conjunction with Confederate History Month, April 17<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
  - Chris Trowell will present Early Coffee County Program Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.
  - Heritage Station Museum Hours of Operation, Thursday & Friday 10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- ❖ Georgia Cities Week
  - Great American Cleanup Project (Parks) April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. -1p.m.
  - Spring Junk Free Week April 20<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
  - Customer Appreciation Day April 24<sup>th</sup> at City Hall, 9 a.m. -3 p.m.
  - Downtown Spring Open House, Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. -2 p.m.
- ❖ Public Safety Day
  - Deputy Chief Brannen Pruette announced that the Douglas Police Department, in conjunction with other public safety, will host a Public Safety Day on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Walmart Supercenter parking lot.

#### CITIZEN COMPLAINT

Edward Taylor, 602 Sears Street, (Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson) appeared before the Commission to discuss the conditions of Leader Street and Sears Street. Mr. Taylor stated that he has expressed his concerns of the conditions of the streets, but feels nothing is being done. He stated that the City Manager explained that the streets were on the scheduled to be repaired.

Mayor James Dennis stated that staff will look into it and if he doesn't get an answer in a week to contact him.

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**COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Commissioner Olivia Pearson thanked Mr. Taylor for coming forth with his concerns. Commissioner Pearson, stated that she has also mentioned about concerns of the condition of the streets. She stated that Leader Street was one that she mentioned to Jacob Lott, Public Works Director/City Engineer. Commissioner Pearson mentioned that Pine Street is another street that is in bad condition. Commissioner Pearson suggested that before we begin repairing streets that are scheduled for repair, we need to reevaluate the streets in the city. Commissioner Pearson announced that Shiloh Baptist Church will be having their annual Spring Revival, April 16<sup>th</sup> to April 19<sup>th</sup>. She also asked to keep the family of the late Albert Edwards in your prayers, and also the brother of Willis Crockett, Parks and Recreation employee who is in Savannah Hospital in ICU.

Commissioner Ronnie Anderson asked the City Manager for an update concerning having someone scheduled in the 311 Call Center 24 hrs.

Mr. Jacobs responded that staff has been looking into a Call Center Company (live person) that provides for Utility Company after hour services. Mr. Jacobs also stated that using their service will be more cost efficient for the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson explained that the city will have to wait on the state to release funds and he has been working hard to get Leader Street repaired. Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson stated that he would personally speak with Mr. Taylor to explain the process of repairing the streets in the city.

Jacob Lott, Public Works Director/City Engineer stated that Leader Street is on the LMIG list and it will be resurfaced in the late fall or early winter. Also Mr. Lott stated that he would visit the location on tomorrow (April 14<sup>th</sup>) to examine the conditions of the street.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

- Visit our Downtown city merchant during Georgia Cities Week
- Thanked volunteers and staff for the Bike Blues and BBQ Festival, also Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson for standing in for the Mayor during his absence.
- Encouraged the Community to help with the Great American Cleanup April 18<sup>th</sup>, 8 a.m. – noon.
- Encouraged citizens to contact the anonymous tip line 260.3600 for any suspicious activities.
- Welcomed the new police officer to our staff.
- Encouraged citizens to take advantage of the Junk Free Clean-up.
- Commissioner Swain is absent due to a medical appointment.

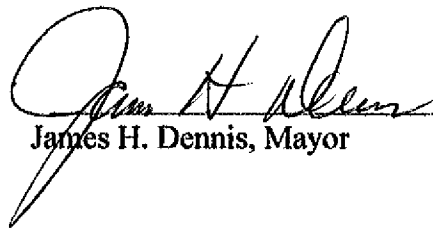
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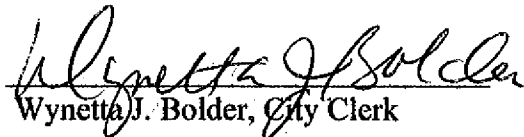
**MAYOR'S COMMENTS-CONTINUED**

- Wished the students and faculty of Satilla Elementary School well with the endeavor to break the hop scotch participation record on April 17<sup>th</sup> with the Guinness Book of World Records.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss in the Regular Meeting, a motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Olivia Pearson. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

  
James H. Dennis, Mayor

  
Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk