

JANUARY 25, 2022

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF
ALBANY, GEORGIA
GOVT. CENTER – RM 100

PRESENT: Mayor Bo Dorough
Mayor Pro Tem Vilnis Gaines
City Commissioners: Jon Howard, Jalen Johnson, Chad Warbington, Demetrius Young
Virtual Attendee: Bob Langstaff, Jr.
City Manager: Steven Carter
City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Dorough called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., and the invocation was given by Patrick Sebesta, Sherwood Baptist Church, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner Howard moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Commissioner Warbington and, following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A brief discussion followed with Mayor Dorough advising that item #4 on the consent agenda will be removed at the request of the City Manager. Commissioner Warbington moved to adopt the agenda as discussed, seconded by Commissioner Howard and, following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATION re: Albany Police Department

Chief Persley introduced Chuck Groover, Coordinator, Georgia Law Enforcement Certification Program GA Assoc., of Chiefs of Police, who presented a plaque recognizing the Albany Police Department for their successful recertification, that was awarded on 11/12/2021. Mr. Groover gave comments regarding the accomplishments achieved by APD and advised that the certification plaque goes through 2025. He also presented a certification of appreciation to Sonya Johnson, APD Planning and Research Manager, for her endeavors.

Mayor Dorough and Commissioners congratulated Chief Persley and APD for this noteworthy achievement, which as noted by Commissioner Warbington, is an important accomplishment for police agencies.

2022 ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

In reply to Mayor Dorough, Mr. Davis advised that the only boards with term limits are: ADICA, Chehaw and the Utility Board

I. Mayor Appointments

Mayor Dorough advised that he is reappointing the following: 1) Dr. Anthony Parker for one-year term ending January 2023 to the Aviation Commission; 2) Yvonne Jones for one-year term ending November 2022 to the Albany Housing Authority and, 3) Ryshari Burley to fill an unexpired term ending October 2022 to the City/County Joint Board of Adjustments and Appeals.

II. Commission Appointments

Following nominations and unanimous roll call votes, the following were duly appointed: 1) Commissioner Warbington to the EDC for two-year term ending December 2023; 2) Commissioner Langstaff to Aviation Commission for one-year term ending January 2023; 3) Commissioner Howard to KADB for three-year term ending January 2025; 4) Commissioner Warbington to the Pension Board for two-year term ending January 2024; 5) Commissioner Howard to the SWGA Regional Commission for one-year term ending January 2023 and, 6) Commissioner Johnson to the 911 Board for tenure of office.

III. Mayor/Commission Appointments by Wards – Citizen Advisory Board for two-year term ending Jan. 2024

Mayor Dorough reappointed Dr. Charles Ochie, Commissioner Howard stated that he will provide a name due to Ms. Stegall moving from Ward I, Commissioner Johnson reappointed Sallie Odom, Mayor Pro Tem Gaines reappointed Ralph Rambeau, Commissioner Warbington appointed Mattie

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Wright, Commissioner Langstaff reappointed Adam Jones, Commissioner Young appointed David Jones and, following a roll call vote, Jawahn Ware was reappointed as the Citizen member.

A brief discussion followed with Commissioner Young recommending making appointments to the two vacant youth positions. Mayor Dorough advised that these are appointed via the recommendation of the Youth Advisory Council, which is not active. The consensus was to research information and have an agenda item prepared.

- IV. Mayor/Commission appointments by ward – APD Civilian Review Board for three-year term ending Dec. 2024 (Mayor Dorough clarified that only Citizen Advisory Committee is appointed by ward).

Mayor Dorough reappointed Alma Noble, Ernest Davis and appointed Collette Jenkins to fill an unexpired term ending December 2024, Commissioner Howard appointed Dr. Ochie, Commissioner Johnson reappointed Will Davis, Mayor Pro Tem Gaines stated that he will provide a name, Commissioner Warbington reappointed Tom Gieryic, Commissioner Langstaff stated that he will provide a name and, Commissioner Young reappointed Jeremiah Paschal.

- V. Regular Board Appointments

Discussion followed regarding the process with Mayor Dorough explaining the rotation of Commissioners to nominate individuals and, a spreadsheet was provided (copy on file) to assist with following the process.

1. ADICA: Four appts for two-year term ending Jan. 2024

Commissioner Howard nominated Collette Jenkins. Commissioner Johnson nominated Eric Culbreth. Mayor Pro Tem Gaines passed. Commissioner Warbington nominated Rachelle Scott. Commissioner Langstaff nominated Ryshari Burley. Commissioner Young passed. Mayor Dorough nominated Mark Johnson. Nominations were taken in order and, following roll call votes, Ms. Jenkins was duly appointed (unanimously), Eric Culbreth was duly reappointed (unanimously), Rachelle Scott was duly reappointed (6-1 with Commissioner Young voting no) and, Ryshari Burley was duly appointed (unanimously).

2. Utility Board: Three appts (Two for two-year terms ending Jan. 2024 and one to fill unexpired term ending Jan. 2023)

Commissioner Johnson nominated Brenda Battle, Mayor Pro Tem Gaines nominated Orland Rambo, Commissioner Warbington nominated Ryshari Burley, Commissioner Langstaff nominated BJ Fletcher, Commissioner Young passed, Mayor Dorough nominated Dr. Willie Adams and, Commissioner Howard passed. Nominations were taken in order and following roll call votes, Ms. Battle was declared duly reappointed (unanimously), Orlando Rambo was duly appointed (4-3 with Commissioners Johnson, Warbington and Langstaff voting no) and Ryshari. Burley was declared duly appointed to fill the unexpired term (6-1 with Commissioner Johnson voting no).

3. Community Development Appointments

Following a brief discussion, with the Clerk advising that there are currently nine vacancies on the Council, Mayor Dorough moved to appoint the slate of those desiring to serve on this board, seconded by Commissioner Young and, following a roll call vote, the following were unanimously appointed: Willie Simmons, Demetrius Love Daa'iyah Salaam and Collette Jenkins.

4. Economic Development Commission: Two appts for two-year term ending Dec. 2023

Detail discussion followed regarding new bylaws adopted by the EDC regarding the appointment process since the Chamber of Commerce is no longer a member of the EDC. When this occurred, it was decided to allow those appointed by the Chamber continue serving until their term expires; subsequently appointments will be equally divided, with the City and County each making five appointments, as the City Manager and County Administrator are appointed by virtue of office, etc. The consensus at this time was to only continue with the two appointments as listed.

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Mayor Pro Tem Gaines nominated Orlando Rambo, Commissioner Warbington nominated Milan Patel, Commissioners Langstaff, Young and Howard and Mayor Dorrough had no additional nominations. Nominations were taken in order and, following roll call votes, Orlando Rambo was declared duly appointed (6-1 with Commissioner Johnson voting no) and Milan Patel was unanimously reappointed.

5. Fire Code Board of Appeals: One City appt for three-year term ending January 2025

Mayor Dorrough confirmed that there was no other interest and nominated James Carswell. Following a roll call vote Mr. Carswell was unanimously reappointed.

6. Health Board: One appt for six-year term ending Jan. 2028

Mayor Dorrough confirmed that there was no other interest and nominated Dr. Lucille Wilson; following a roll call vote, Dr. Wilson was unanimously reappointed.

7. Historic Preservation Commission: One appt to fill unexpired term ending Aug. 2022

Commissioner Warbington nominated Jennifer Davis, Commissioner Langstaff passed, Commissioner Young nominated Michael Harper, Commissioners Howard, Johnson, and Mayor Pro Tem Gaines passed, Mayor Dorrough nominated Jake Reese. Following a roll call vote, Ms. Davis was declared duly appointed (5-2 with Mayor Pro Tem Gaines and Commissioner Young voting no).

8. KADB: One appt for three-year term ending Jan. 2025

Mayor Dorrough confirmed that there was no other interest, with the recommendation from KADB to consider Julie Miller, whom he nominated. Following a roll call vote Ms. Miller was unanimously appointed.

9. Payroll Development Authority: One appt for three-year term ending Dec. 2025

Commissioner Langstaff nominated Matt Reed, Commissioner Young nominated Daa'iyah Salaam, Mayor Dorrough passed, Commissioner Howard nominated Orlando Rambo, Commissioner Johnson passed, as did Mayor Pro Tem Gaines and Commissioner Warbington. Nominations were taken in order and, following roll call votes, Mr. Reed was declared duly appointed (4-3 with Mayor Pro Tem Gaines and Commissioners Howard and Young voting no).

10. Planning Commission: Two appts for three-year term ending Jan. 2025

Commissioner Young nominated Willie Simmons, Mayor Dorrough passed, Commissioner Howard nominated Yvonne Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem Gaines passed as did Commissioners Johnson, Warbington, and Langstaff. Following roll call votes, Mr. Simmons was unanimously appointed, and Ms. Jackson was unanimously reappointed.

11. SWGA Regional Commission: Two appts (one City and one City/County Joint) for one-year term ending January 2023

Commissioner Howard nominated Dr. Ochie, Commissioner Johnson nominated Carla Jenkins, Mayor Pro Tem Gaines, Commissioners Warbington, Langstaff passed, Mayor Dorrough nominated Casawan Lhuillier Yheyeis.

A brief discussion followed regarding the appointment of the joint City/County citizen and whether the City could appoint someone else. The Clerk advised County appointments are made in December and reappointed Mr. Yheyeis, with the City needing to ratify his reappointment.

Commissioner Young asked for clarification on whether the City appointment is required to live within the city limits. He added that many appointees are serving on multiple Boards and consideration should be given to the burden this may place on them. The Clerk advised that this Board meets in Camilla. Nominations were taken in order and following roll call votes, Dr. Ochie was declared duly appointed (4-3 with Commissioners Johnson, Warbington, and Langstaff voting no). Ms. Jenkins was not

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appointed (3-4 with Commissioner Howard, Mayor Pro Tem Gaines, Commissioner Young and Mayor Dorough voting no) and Mr. Yheyeis was declared duly reappointed (5-2 with Commissioners Johnson and Warbington voting no).

CONSENT AGENDA

A brief discussion followed regarding the request from Commissioner Howard to remove item #2 (Right-of-Way Tree Trimming) from the consent agenda to discuss. Commissioner Warbington moved to approve the consent agenda with the removal of item #2 (Right-of-Way Tree Trimming) and #4 (Oakview and Riverside Cemetery Repairs) as previously discussed, seconded by Commissioner Young and, following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R103

Approving list of streets for Phase IV street resurfacing

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R104

Authorizing five-year contract between the City of Albany and Cardno, Inc, re: Consulting Service associated with Brownfield's Assessments

1. Purchasing: Transit Bus Shelters; Tolar Manufacturing, Total Exp. \$85,400.00

GENERAL BUSINESS

Following comments from Paul Forgey, Planning Director, regarding the following, Commissioner Warbington moved to approve the special approval application, seconded by Commissioner Howard, and following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

1. Zoning Case #21-075 – Ralph McKnight, LLC, Owner/Applicant; request Special Approval to operate an Indoor Self-Storage Facility at 1515 Dawson Rd.

Following comments from Mr. Forgey, Commissioner Howard moved to approve the following special approval application, seconded by Commissioner Warbington and, following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

2. Zoning Case #21-077 – Ervin Peterson, Owner/Applicant, request special approval to operate a group daycare facility for up to 18 clients at 1610 W. Oakridge

Anthony Donaldson, Deputy Marshal, briefly discussed the following Alcohol License Application. Mayor Pro Tem Gaines moved to approve the application, seconded by Commissioner Warbington and, following a roll call vote, the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

3. Southeastern Restaurant Group, LLC; d/b/a My Pie; 2700 Dawson Rd., Suite 14. C. Baker/agent; Beer & Wine Consumption

Deputy Marshal Donaldson briefly discussed the following alcohol license transfer of ownership. Commissioner Warbington moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Johnson and, following a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-2 with Commissioners Howard and Young voting no.

4. Starlight 625, inc., d/b/a Starlight Exon; 1817 N. Slappey Blvd., S Ahmed/Agent; Beer package

RESOLUTIONS

Jimmy Norman, Director Utility Operations, briefly discussed the contract regarding the following resolution. Commissioner Howard expressed concern regarding outsourcing big ticket items to private companies instead of using local vendors.

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In reply to Commissioner Warbington, Yvette Fields, Interim Asst. City Manager, explained the bidding process, survey and certifications, adding that there were only one/two local companies, with others choosing not to bid and/or their bid was too high. Commissioner Warbington moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Langstaff.

Commissioner Young agreed with Commissioner Howard's comments regarding assisting local vendors bid on City projects. Mayor Dorrough stated that the equipment is specialized and extremely expensive, with this being something that the City does not do in-house, etc., adding that it was bid through ECG.

Hearing no additional comments and following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R105

Authorizing one-year contract between the City of Albany and W. A. Kendall and Co., LLC and W. E. Hicks, Inc., d/b/a Trees Unlimited re: right-of-way trimming

Hearing no additional comments and, following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

Regarding the following resolution, Asst. Engineering Director Rob Griffin discussed funding sources, i.e., TSPLOST. In reply to Commissioner Warbington, Mr. Carter explained the use of interest from TSPLOST funds to assist with future funding.

Commissioner Howard moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Warbington and, following a roll call vote, the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Johnson voting no.

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R106

Approving installation of traffic calming measures in the 1100 Block of Eager Ave; Authorizing the use of TSPLOST for such measures

Commissioner Warbington moved to adopt the following resolutions, seconded by Commissioner Howard and, following a roll call vote, the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Johnson voting no.

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R107

Approving installation of traffic calming measures in the 1300 Block of Whitney Ave; Authorizing the use of TSPLOST for such measures

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R108

Approving installation of traffic calming measures in the 700 Block of Shadowlawn Dr; Authorizing the use of TSPLOST for such measures

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R109

Authorizing contracting with Zane Grace Construction for construction and installation of speed tables at various locations; authorizing use of TSPLOST Funds for such measures

MEMBER COMMENTS/REQUESTS

Mayor Pro Tem Gaines mentioned the speed table issues, with everyone wanting them and the problems that have been created. Commissioner Warbington agreed, adding that he has already received calls for the speed tables queued for approval. He recommended an agenda item, as he has promised that solutions are forth coming.

Commissioner Young commented on a session he attended at GMA regarding work-force development and vacant positions within the City, adding that education institutions have made overtures to help fill vacancies. He suggested sharing this information with staff and engaging the tech college, the 4-C Academy, et. al. to help fill those slots.

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Discussion regarding speed tables followed, with Mayor Dorough suggesting that the speed table process be reconsidered, adding that when tables are installed on streets, traffic issues are created on adjacent streets. Regarding items for future agendas, he asked why the City has a Downtown Development Authority and other entities, which provide the same services. He asked if there is a policy that once the City owns the buildings they cannot be sold, which is a major hinderance to development. He advised of discussion regarding raising the limit for Utility Board purchases to \$1.0 million before Commission approval is required and asked to have a professional look at renovating Carver Gym.

Commissioner Howard suggested that three Commissioners meet with APD, the Gang Task Force, and ADDU monthly in conjunction with work sessions to be apprised of issues within the city. Commissioner Johnson agreed, stating that he receives many calls on the same issues, recommending that the Fire Chief could be included. Mr. Carter assured the Board that they have been, and will continue to be, kept informed of matters affecting the city. A discussion ensued regarding Commissioners being able to meet face-to-face with the leadership in those departments.

Mayor Dorough mentioned discussion regarding drafting three different maps in preparation for redistricting discussions. Since objections were raised, he asked for suggestions to proceed. Mr. Carter displayed maps and asked for guidance.

There being no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK