

OCTOBER 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 and Demetrius  
Young  
Virtual Attendee: Bob Langstaff, Jr. (virtual)  
City Manager: Steven Carter  
City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Dorough called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m., and advised that the invocation will be given by Pastor Hosea Miller due to Pastor John Spencer not being able to attend the meeting. The pledge of allegiance followed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Commissioner Howard moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gaines and, following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

PRESENTATION (Resolution Recognizing Rev. Charles Sherrod)

Mayor Dorough gave comments regarding Rev. Sherrod's history and read the resolution as follows:

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R174

Recognizing Reverend Charles Melvin Sherrod

***WHEREAS**, on January 2, 1937, Reverend Charles Melvin Sherrod ("Rev. Sherrod") was born in rural Surry County, Virginia; and*

***WHEREAS**, Rev. Sherrod studied sociology at Virginia Union University, a historically Black school in Richmond, and stayed to study theology after graduating in 1958; and*

***WHEREAS**, Rev. Sherrod found time to study at Union Theological Seminary for his master's degree; and*

***WHEREAS**, in 1960 Rev. Sherrod traveled to Shaw University in North Carolina for a civil rights conference that led to the creation of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee ("SNCC"); and*

***WHEREAS**, in addition to being a founding member of SNCC, the leading study group of the 1960s civil rights movement, Rev. Sherrod became the first field secretary of the SNCC in 1961; and*

***WHEREAS**, after having met with Attorney General Robert Kennedy, Rev. Sherrod was dispatched by SNCC to Albany, where he slowly began to win over members of the Black community while teaching workshops on nonviolent resistance resulting in a sit-in at the local bus terminal which started the campaign known as the Albany Movement; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Albany Movement enjoyed national and international attention and was instrumental in securing civil rights for Albany's African American population resulting in election by wards being the linchpin that made it possible for African American representation on the Board of City Commissioners; and*

***WHEREAS**, Rev. Sherrod, despite his death on October 11, 2022, will always be viewed as a servant of Albany. In addition to all of the above, he was a faculty member at Albany State University and was among the first three African American Commissioners elected to the City Commission and served thirteen (13) years,*

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Albany, Georgia, and it is hereby resolved by authority of same that this Commission does hereby extend official recognition to Rev. Charles Sherrod for his resolutely courageous efforts to secure civil rights in Southwest Georgia.*

*Let this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and copies of this Resolution be furnished to the family of Rev. Charles Melvin Sherrod.*

*/s/ Bo Dorough,  
Mayor*

Shirley Sherrod thanked the Commission for the recognition and stated that her husband, Rev. Sherrod loved Albany, adding that he was offered a church and teaching position at a college in West Virginia and declined the offer choosing to come to Albany, where he remained for 61 years.

OCTOBER 25, 2022

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

Commissioner Young stated that he sits in the seat that former Commissioner (Rev) Sherrod sat and moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Howard and following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

**OBJECTION TO CONSENT AGENDA**

There were no questions/comments regarding the consent agenda.

**AGENDA ADOPTION**

Commissioner Howard moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Warbington and following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION**

Commissioner Warbington moved to adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Howard and, following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

A. Resolutions

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R175

Approving and authorizing initiation of procedures to close W. 3rd Ave. between N. Jefferson St. and N. Jackson St.

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R176

Authorizing the purchase of software upgrades for Albany Transit System

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R177

Approving agreement with Peek Pavement Marking, LLC; authorizing use of TSPLOST Funds for striping and marking for certain roadways

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R178

Adopting the Downtown Master Plan

B. Purchases:

1. Automatic Bay Door Operators; Door and Window Company; Total expenditure: \$59,445.00
2. Annual Maintenance and Support; Kronos - Total expenditure: \$79,848.56
3. Temporary Labor Service; Corp. Temps, Norcross, GA - Total est. exp. - \$580,000.00
4. GPS Tracking Units (General Funds); Verizon Connect - Total exp.: \$101,373.00
5. 2023 Ford Utility Police Interceptors; Wade Ford of Smyrna, GA; Total exp. \$422,770.00
6. Primary Cable; Tri-State Utility Products; total exp.: \$296,550.72
7. Airport Runway Painting; Ostrom Painting, Rock Island, IL. - Total expenditure: \$47,963.00

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

A. Alcohol License Applications:

Chief Deputy/License Inspector Anthony Donaldson, reviewed the following application:

OCTOBER 25, 2022

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

1. Los Molcajetes LLC; d/b/a Los Molcajetes; 2418 Sylvester Rd., Suite 6, 7 & 8; J. Galavlz/Agent; Liquor, Beer and Wine Consumption

Commissioner Warbington moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Johnson.

Discussion followed with Commissioner Langstaff clarifying that at the work session it was discussed that Commission discretion/interpretation should be addressed in the current ordinance. Mr. Davis agreed and commented on three other licenses that were denied earlier this year. Commissioner Young commented on the other establishment that was denied for the same reason and suggested revising the current ordinance. Mayor Dorough discussed the current ordinance and also suggested that it should be revised, adding that he feels, to be fair/consistent this application should not be approved until the ordinance has been amended. He asked that this be put on the agenda for revision.

Hearing no additional comments and following a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-2 with Mayor Dorough and Commissioner Howard voting no.

## ORDINANCES

Robert Griffin, Interim Engineering Director, commented on the following ordinance and advised that the City Manager discussed the tree concerns and that fines will be paid to the Tree Bank. In reply to Commissioner Warbington regarding the process, Mr. Griffin explained that the fine is based on acreage and noted the fines assessed (\$21,000 at one site, \$4,800 for a total of \$25,800), adding that the money/fines collected are used to plant trees.

Commission Warbington introduced

### AN ORDINANCE NO. 22-112

Closing Benjamin Ave. and alleys in the vicinity of 315-375 Slappey Blvd., more particularly described herein with certain reservations, authorizing the execution of quit claim deed

Commissioner Warbington then offered the motion and asked for unanimous consent to dispense with the second reading and asked for its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Howard and following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Howard introduced

### AN ORDINANCE NO. 22-113

Amending Article II of Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Albany to provide for the Regular Meetings in November and December 2022

Commissioner Howard then offered the motion and asked for unanimous consent to dispense with the second reading and asked for its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Warbington, and following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Howard introduced

### AN ORDINANCE NO.

Amending Sec. 2-47(C)(2) and Sec. 2-47(D) so as to provide for the Mayor and Board of Commissioners attendance at conferences of MEAG, MGAG and ECG; to adopt new mileage rate calculations for Elected Officials

Commissioner Howard then offered the motion and asked for unanimous consent to dispense with the second reading and asked for its adoption, seconded by Mayor Dorough.

Commissioner Young asked if both items (MEAG, etc., travels and adopting a new millage rate) should be voted separately with Mayor Dorough agreeing that they can be separate items.

OCTOBER 25, 2022

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

At this time, Commission Young withdrew unanimous consent to dispense with the second reading. Discussion followed with Commissioner Young explaining his reason that utility funds should be used to pay for Commissioners to travel for MEAG, MGAG, ECG, etc. Mayor Dorrough explained his reasons for putting this item on the agenda, adding that the travel budget for expenses were increased, and he felt this should come from that account instead of the utility account.

Hearing no additional comments, the motion carried 5-2 with Commissioners Johnson and Young voting no.

Discussion continued regarding the amount to be charged for using a City vehicle and whether use of the City gas card comes into play as well. In reply to Mayor Dorrough, the Clerk advised that the current IRS standard rate is \$0.62.5; however, the rate charged to use the vehicle debited to Commission accounts will be one-half of that rate.

Commissioner Warbington introduced

AN ORDINANCE NO.

[First Reading] Amending Sec. 2-47(D) to adopt new Mileage Rate Calculations for Elected Officials

Commissioner Warbington then offered the ordinance and asked for its adoption, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gaines, and following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Johnson introduced

AN ORDINANCE NO.

[First Reading] Adopted pursuant to the provisions of Title 36, Chapter 35 of 2 the official Code of Georgia annotated, as amended, amending Section 3(e) of the Charter of the City of Albany so as to increase the salaries of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Johnson then offered the ordinance and asked for its adoption, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gaines, and following a roll call vote, the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Langstaff voting no.

Mr. Carter distributed and discussed information (copy on file) regarding the following ordinance.

Discussion included having another pay study, with Mr. Carter explaining the process to include an RFP; clarification regarding the forgivable loan program being used for departments that are critical and are less than 70% fully staffed, which will not be funded by operating funds and explaining that the new study will include everyone.

Commissioner Warbington introduced

AN ORDINANCE NO. 22-115

Amending the City of Albany's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget so as to provide for Mid-Year Pay Adjustments

Commissioner Warbington then offered the ordinance and asked for unanimous consent to dispense with the second reading and asked for its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Howard, and following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

RESOLUTIONS

Derrick Brown, Chief Finance Officer, discussed information (copy on file) regarding the following resolution, adding that this is retroactive to July 1, 2008.

Discussion included Mr. Davis advising that this is not included in the Pension Plan; it will be only for a 401(K), and Mr. Brown adding that a selection is needed by November 18 for those who will be

OCTOBER 25, 2022

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

participating in the 401(a) plan. He explained that the City pays 12% with the plan being optional for elected officials to pay into if they so desire. In reply to Commissioner Warbington, Mr. Brown stated that Ron Rowe, ACCG Rep., can advise on investment options.

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

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R178

Amending ACCG 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan for Senior Management Employees of the City of Albany to include the Mayor and Commissioners as eligible employees; further authorizing a Budget Amendment

David Hamilton discussed the following (copy on file) regarding the annual 5307 and 5303 transportation grants.

Commissioner Howard moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Warbington and following a roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION NO. 22-R180

Authorizing the filing of an application with the Department of Transportation, United States of America, and the GA Dept. Transportation for a grant under Title 49 U.S.C., Sections 5307 and 5303; Should the Grant be awarded to the City, such Grant is Accepted

MEMBER COMMENTS / ITEM FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Commissioner Howard mentioned that Stacey Abrams will be in Albany this evening.

Commissioner Langstaff mentioned three items he would like on the agenda; 1) draft corrective ordinance regarding alcohol licenses for restaurants vs. bars; 2) remove subjectivity on the distance/perimeter when calculating; 3) car break-ins at a hotel(s) and regulations/code section requiring certain type businesses (i.e., convenience stores,) to have video surveillance as it relates to parking lot break-in. He asked what other cities are doing i.e., use of cameras, guards e.g., hotel parking lots.

Commissioner Warbington stated that the recently adopted hotel/motel ordinance requires cameras. Commissioner Langstaff countered that he is unsure if it is the same as convenience stores or is enough to be effective. He asked staff to research and report how other cities are dealing with the problem of break-ins at hotel parking lots.

Mayor Dorough stated that it was brought to his attention that when he asks if there are questions, he always begins with Ward I, adding that he will try to rotate when he asks if there are questions.

Commissioner Howard mentioned an ordinance the City adopted several years ago regarding citizens removing shopping carts from stores' parking lot, adding that this is a growing concern.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

---

MAYOR

ATTEST:

---

CITY CLERK