

JULY 25, 2023

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 Chad Warbington  
City Commissioners: Jon Howard, Jalen Johnson, Vilnis Gaines, Bob Langstaff, Jr. and  
Demetrius Young  
City Manager: Steven Carter  
City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Dorough called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and advised that the invocation is being given by APD Chaplain Matthew Watkins, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

OBJECTION TO CONSENT AGENDA

There were no objections.

CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION

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

AGENDA ADOPTION

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

PRESENTATION (Government 101 Class)

Mr. Carter stated that all those attending the class this time are City employees and presented a certificate of completion to the following:

Denise Clark  
Marques Covin  
Angela Fleming  
Tamara Jackson  
Todd Kennedy  
Margaret Mims (absent)  
Ryshari Burley  
Connie Pangle  
Marina Rosen  
Ms. C. Taylor

Marquette Clayton  
Carmalete Daniels  
Christopher Fordham (absent)  
Theresa Jones  
Carie Lince  
Angela Mobley  
Amanda Nava  
Ryan Ramsey  
Lashundra Shealy  
Katori Upshaw

Mayor Dorough and the Commissioners congratulated the participants.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Aviation Commission: Two appointments. One to fill term ending July 2025 and one to fill unexpired term ending July 2024

Commissioner Langstaff stated that the Aviation Commission recommended the reappointment of Ken Hodges and the appointment of Doug Faircloth for the unexpired term ending July 2025. Regarding the third appointment, ending July 2024, due to a 2-2 vote, he advised that the Aviation Commission did not make a recommendation, adding that he did not break the tie as he felt someone who was not a pilot, but rather a person experienced in commercial flying would add diversity to the Board. He said that he polled the members to appoint Pamela Jackson, since she is a frequent flyer as an employee of MCLB and, four of the five members expressed support for Ms. Jackson and one did not respond, and he so moved to accept the Aviation Commission's recommendation to reappoint Ken Hodges,

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seconded by Commissioner Howard and following a roll call vote, Mr. Hodges was declared reappointed.

Mayor Dorough noted that Doug Faircloth was recommended by the Aviation Commission for the term expiring in July 2026; Commissioner Langstaff agreed and nominated Mr. Faircloth, seconded by Commissioner Johnson. Commissioner Howard nominated DeCarlos Marcus, seconded by Mayor Dorough. Following a roll call vote of 4-2 with Commissioners Howard and Young voting no, Mr. Faircloth was appointed.

Commissioner Langstaff nominated Pamela Jackson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Warbington. Commissioner Howard nominated DeCarlos Marcus, seconded by Mayor Dorough. Following a roll call vote of 4-2 with Commissioners Howard and Gaines voting no, Ms. Jackson was appointed for an unexpired term ending July 2024.

2. Board of Health: One appointment to fill unexpired term ending December 2028

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington moved to appoint Abby Dampier, seconded by Commissioner Johnson and the roll call vote motion unanimously carried.

3. Chehaw Park Authority: Two appointments to fill term ending June 2026

Commissioner Johnson moved to reappoint Sean Hendley and to appoint Emmett Griswold, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Warbington and the roll call vote unanimously.

4. Community Development Council: Two appointments to fill unexpired terms ending June 2025

Commissioner Johnson nominated Joshua Anthony, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Warbington; Commissioner Howard moved to appoint DeCarlo Marcus, seconded by Commissioner Young. The motion to close nominations unanimously carried and the roll call vote unanimously carried duly appointing Mr. Anthony and Mr. Marcus.

5. Downtown Development Authority: Two appointments for four-year term ending April 2027

Commissioner Warbington moved to reappoint Vinson Davis, seconded by Commissioner Langstaff, the roll call vote unanimously carried.

Commissioner Langstaff moved to appoint Emmett Griswold, seconded by Commissioner Young, the roll call vote, the.

Commissioner Howard moved to reappoint Dontravious Simmons, however the motion died for lack of a second.

6. Land Bank Authority: Two appointments to fill term ending July, 2025

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Resolutions:

A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R162

Authorizing execution of Loan Agreement, Promissory Note, and any related documents necessary to consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Loan Agreement from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, administered by Georgia Environmental Finance Authority

A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R163

Authorizing contracting with CHA Consulting, Inc. to assist the City with managing the City's Brownfield Program

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A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R164

Authorizing the use of Red Speed Camera Funds re: Cell Phone Forensics

A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R165

Approving additional funding from SPLOST VII Funds for the Downtown Streetscape Right-of-Way  
Authorization Phase

B. Purchases:

1. Airport Janitorial Services; Public Works Industries, Inc. Columbus, GA - Total Exp. \$84,996.17
2. Substation Breakers Update; Substations: 10, 17, and 19; G&W Electric Co. Total Exp. \$344,084.00

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Alcohol License Applications:

Deputy Marcus Mitchell, Code Enforcement, discussed the following license (copy on file):

1. Kashey Clothing, Inc.; d/b/a Reflexions Lounge 312 Thornton Drive. Q. Pressley Jr. /Agent; Liquor Package/Consumption

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the license, seconded by Commissioner Gaines and following the roll call vote, the motion carried 5-2 with Commissioner Howard and Mayor Pro Tem Warbington voting no.

Deputy Mitchell discussed the following (copy on file):

2. Viet Pho 717 N. Westover Blvd., Ste. A & B. T. L. Kim/Agent, Beer/Wine Consumption

Commissioner Langstaff moved to approve the license, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Warbington, and following the roll call vote, the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

B. Purchases:

Joshua Williams, Buyer II, discussed the following information (copy on file):

1. 401 Pine Parking Improvements; Jim Boyd Construction, Inc. Total Exp. \$374,859.00

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Langstaff, the roll call vote unanimously carried.

C. Selection of Henderson Park Design:

Steve Belk, Recreation Director, discussed information (copy on file) pertaining to the two options [two baseball fields or multipurpose with indoor/outdoor basketball].

Discussion followed with Commissioner Gaines stating that he supports staff's recommendation. In reply to Commissioner Gaines, Mr. Belk stated that staff's recommendation is for multipurpose. In reply to Commissioner Young's regarding which is cheaper to construct, Mr. Belk commented on the square footage of each, etc., adding that the option with more square footage will allow for more programs/activities/events.

Mayor Dorough indicated that staff changed the recommendation from the work session, with Mr. Belk explaining that it was his personal opinion and that he supports the 'team' [staff]. Additional discussion followed regarding the design of the multipurpose space vs. baseball courts.

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Commissioner Young moved to approve staff's recommendation of the multipurpose field, seconded by Commissioner Howard. In reply to Commissioner Howard, Mr. Belk commented on times/days of operation. Commissioner Young provided comments on the need for a football field to practice and spoke in favor of the multipurpose option.

Mayor Dorough commented on relocating Gillespie, which will enhance the field including having restrooms and a dug-out, adding that he will support two baseball fields. He then offered a substitution motion in support of the baseball fields, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, and following the roll call vote, the motion failed 5-2 with Commissioners Howard, Gaines, Warbington, Langstaff, and Young voting no.

The question was called on the original motion which and the roll call vote, carried 5-2 with Mayor Dorough and Commissioner Langstaff voting no.

D. Adoption of T-SPLOST II Categories

Mr. Carter distributed updated information (copy on file) and discussed the differences between the two versions, advising that some projects may not be fully funded. He explained that in the category of sidewalks, Commissioner Howard asked to add three sidewalks in E. Albany and reminded all that the vote tonight will be for categories only, with the projects being added at the point the funds are dispensed. He noted the list of suggested projects he sent to the Board, adding that they do not have to go with those specific projects.

Commissioner Gaines asked for a list of unpaved alleys; a list, which has not yet been approved, was provided, followed by a discussion of alleys and options.

Commissioner Young asked to see the project list with Mr. Carter distributing the list from staff. Mayor Dorough questioned whether future Commissions are bound by projects list, with Mr. Carter agreeing.

Discussion continued regarding making changes with Mr. Carter explaining the process pertaining to the categories. Mayor Dorough suggested meeting with the County before the list is officially submitted so that both the city and county will have a unified document.

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Maples discussed information as noted (copy on file) regarding the purpose of the grant.

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Young, the roll call vote unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R166

Authorizing acceptance of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

Mr. Maples discussed information as noted (copy on file) regarding relocation of utility infrastructure re: Oglethorpe Bridge, explaining that this is a 60/40 split with the state.

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Howard, the roll call vote unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R167

Approving relocation of the City's Water, Gas and Sewer Utility Infrastructure re: Oglethorpe Bridge; City to provide funds totaling \$675,570.00

Commissioner Howard asked the date of demolition of the bridge with Mr. Maples stating that the city wants the original 2024 date to be honored however, the state is suggesting 2027.

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Community Development Director John Hawthorne discussed information as noted (copy on file) regarding the 2023-2024 Annual Action Plan.

Commissioner Howard moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Young, the roll call vote unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R168

Approving the FY 2023 and 2024 Annual Action Plan

Mr. Maples discussed the TAP Grant and the process regarding the \$1.5 million re: Albany to Sasser Rails to Trails.

Discussion followed regarding the lawsuit which is still pending, a hearing scheduled for November and having funds available now to move forward with a RFQ for a consultant.

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

MEMBER COMMENTS / ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Commissioner Howard questioned the first T-SPLOST, amounts collected, spent and the amount left. Mr. Carter provided information on \$700,000 being allocated to T-SPLOST 1 and stated that information will be brought back to discuss reallocation of the remaining funds.

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington commented on the recodification of the City Code process and suggested having the solicitation hours discussed at the next meeting with the attorney handling the recodification.

Commissioner Young invited all to attend the “Good Life Health Fest” scheduled for Saturday July 29 at the JC Odom Recreation Center in E. Albany (Maple Park) from 10 am to 2 pm.

Mayor Dorough commented on the solicitation ordinance which was determined to be illegal and addressed inconsistencies with the charter/code or ordinances, suggesting that another meeting be held with Mr. Merriam to finalize the recodification of the code process.

Michael Custer, Asst. City Attorney introduced herself and provided brief comments on herself.

Mr. Carter reminded everyone of the Special call meeting for August 10, the August 15<sup>th</sup> work session and the GEFA deadline.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK