

NOVEMBER 28, 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, Vilnis Gaines and Demetrius Young
Virtual Attendees: Jalen Johnson and Bob Langstaff, Jr.
City Manager: Steven Carter
City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Dorough called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and advised that the invocation is being given by Pastor John Spencer, Sherwood Baptist Church, 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, the roll call vote unanimously carried.

PRESENTATIONS (Government 101 Certificates)

As PIO Krista Monk called out names, Mr. Carter presented certificates and thanked the following participants who completed the Government 101 Course:

Emily Alford	Maggie Bell
Angela Calhoun	Takisha Campbell
Steve Frost	Marion Frost
Donnell Harden	Corey Holman
Rukiyah Majeed	Whitney Marshall
Tausha Reed	Angela Sowell
Anthony Trice	

Mayor Dorough and the Commissioners expressed their appreciation to the attendees for their participation.

Commissioner Young asked that Commissioner Corey Morgan from Camilla be acknowledged for his attendance at the meeting, accompanying Ms. Maggie Bell.

OBJECTION TO CONSENT AGENDA

There were no objections to the consent agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION

Commissioner Johnson moved to adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Gaines, the roll call vote unanimously carried.

A. Resolutions:

A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R209

Approving Easement Agreement to the United States of America re: C.B. King Federal Courthouse

A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R210

Authorizing execution of Agreement with Care ATC, Inc., to act as provider for on-site Health and Wellness Center

RESOLUTION NO. 23-R211

Authorizing execution of Real Estate Lease Contract for City of Albany to participate with Dougherty County in leasing JFT Public Properties, LP's Building at 1301 Evelyn Ave., for GBI Office Space

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A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R212

Approving purchase of generator and mobile light towers, Authorizing use of CARES Act Grant Funds

A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R213

Authorizing contract with Legacy Construction + Consulting, LLC for construction and installation of speed tables for the 1200 Block of Baker Ave., and the 2300 Block of 12th Ave; Authorizing use of TSPLOST Funds for such measures

A RESOLUTION NO. 23-R214

Accepting 2023/2024 Emergency Solutions Grant Award

B. Purchases:

1. Fleet Telematics; Annual Service for (545) GPS Tracking Units (Verizon Connect) - Total exp. \$101,373.00
2. Well No. 19 and 24 Rehabilitation and Upgrades; Donald Smith Co., Inc.; Headland, AL - Total exp. \$652,650.00
3. CAD System Software; Priority Dispatch, Salt Lake City, UT - Total exp. \$92,300.00
4. Flex Wing Mowers; Flint Equipment Co. - Total exp. \$82,520

AGENDA ADOPTION

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington moved to adopt the agenda with the addition to enter executive session to discuss litigation and a personnel matter, seconded by Commissioner Langstaff, the roll call vote unanimously carried.

At the request of Commissioner Young, Mayor Dorough read each of the purchases as noted on the consent agenda.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington moved to approve the following special approval zoning application, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the roll call vote unanimously carried.

1. Special Approval Case #23-073; Deleda D. and Lee Prophet, Jr., Owners/Applicants for property located at 409 Whitney Ave., to build self-storage units

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington moved to approve the following, seconded by Commissioner Johnson.

Anthony Donaldson, Chief Investigator discussed the following (copy on file):

2. 2024 Annual Alcohol License Renewals

Regarding the Roses Shopping Center, Commissioner Howard referred to Reflections Lounge, stating that he received pictures of trash/debris in the parking lot after the bar closes and asked that Code ensures that trash is put in proper receptacles and the area is kept clean. Mr. Donaldson stated that he will contact the manager and report back.

Hearing no additional comments, the roll call vote carried 6-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

ORDINANCE(S)

Commissioner Johnson introduced

AN ORDINANCE NO. 23-116

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Amending the Zoning Ordinance and Map of the City of Albany to change the status of the property located at 1010 9th Ave. from C-R to C-1

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

In reply to Mayor Pro Tem Warbington regarding whether properties will be demolished, Paul Forgey, Planning Director stated that he felt there will be demolition. Discussion continued regarding the C-1 designation with Mayor Pro Tem Warbington asking if a condition can be added regarding demolition and Mr. Forgey advising that the owners want to combine all three properties, which could make it more saleable if marketed as commercial property of a certain size.

Hearing no additional comments, the roll call vote unanimously carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington introduced (for the second reading)

AN ORDINANCE NO. 23-117

Adopted pursuant to the provisions of Title 36, Chapter 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, as amended, amending section 26 of the Charter of the City of Albany so as to provide expense accounts for Utility Board members

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

RESOLUTION

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington moved to table the following resolution for sixty days to ensure all questions are answered, seconded by Commissioner Langstaff, the roll call vote carried 4-3 with Commissioners Howard, Gaines and Young voting no.

A RESOLUTION NO.

Declaring 114 DCED owned vacant parcels to be surplus properties and authorizing donation of the parcels to Innovative Housing Initiatives, Inc

MEMBER COMMENTS / ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Commissioner Howard mentioned his out-of-town family visiting this past weekend, shopping at Walmart in E. Albany and expressing concerns regarding the filthy condition of the entrance to the store. He stated that their primary concern, however, was a panhandler on a bicycle with a dog and sign, sitting at the road suggesting that it is dangerous, especially when the big transfer trucks enter onto Walmart property and asked APD Chief Michael Persley, the City's options even though the area is not city property. Chief Persley stated that he will research the matter. Commissioner Howard also mentioned additional complaints including night walkers not having proper lights to ensure their safety, and conditions at Murphy Gas Station. Chief Persley said he will research and report back.

Mayor Pro Tem Warbington stated the at the suggestion of fellow Commissioners, this suggestion/request is being made to have a follow-up in place after meetings, i.e., within 24 hours, a summary is provided of the questions/action items to gives Commissioners something to refer back to and refresh memories. He mentioned date specific items discussed at the September retreat with no updates being provided. Mr. Carter explained the internal control process with constant updates sent to staff and asked if the request is to include the Board. Discussion continued regarding the Commission and staff being engaged and accountable. Mayor Pro Tem Warbington mentioned cities that are giving out air tags for people to put on their property which should help in preventing theft/petty crimes happening in his area and neighborhoods. Chief Persley stated that the idea has been explored, however, cell phones detect air tags and explained the downside of it, i.e., if a person is stealing, air tags are in place and the person has an iPhone, the air tag can be detected. Mr. Carter further explained that if you are traveling with an air tag that is not yours, you will see on your phone that you are traveling with an air tag that does not belong to you. Mayor Pro Tem

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Warbington questioned using red speed monies to purchase some; with Chief Persley stated that he would like this to be discussed at the next Public Safety meeting.

Mayor Dorough mentioned the hotel/motel tax being on a January agenda and, regarding Paul Eames Park, specifically he asked for information covering the last eight years of utilities paid for the Park, including maintenance cost/supplies, repairs, any/all correspondence between the City and School Board; as well as inspection reports. Mr. Carter questioned inspection reports and advised that the City does not make inspections at the Park. Mayor Dorough referred to the report from Wood (Master Plan) regarding cracks which may indicate structural problems, resulting in repairs being cost prohibitive especially with the limited use of the facility and asked that this be an agenda item as well.

At 6:39 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Warbington moved to enter executive session to discuss potential litigation and personnel matters, seconded by Commissioner Gaines, the roll call voted unanimously carried as follows:

Ward I	yes
Ward II	yes
Ward III	yes
Ward IV	yes
Ward V	yes
Ward VI	yes
Mayor	yes

At 7:36 p.m. Mayor Dorough reconvened the meeting to advise that no decision was voted on in executive session.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK