

FEBRUARY 6, 2024
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
GOVT. CTR. – RM. 100

PRESENT: Mayor Bo Dorough
City Commissioners: Jon Howard, Vilnis Gaines
Virtual Attendees: Chad Warbington and Demetrius Young
Asst. City Manager: Yvette Fields
City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Dorough called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m., followed by attendance roll call.

AGENDA ADOPTION

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

SPEAKER APPEARANCE

Calvin Hill – was not present

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Public Safety (New Alcohol Licenses)

Deputy Marshal Marcus Mitchell discussed the following (copy on file):

1. Buffalo Rock Company; d/b/a Buffalo Rock 1011 Randolph St.; T. Myers/Agent; Beer, Wine, and Liquor Wholesale; WARD 6

In reply to Commissioner Young regarding Buffalo Rock increasing security due to issues with theft Deputy Mitchell advised that they are not sure whether to sell alcohol, adding that they are wholesale at this time and will not be selling at the location. Commissioner Young asked for additional information regarding their future plans on whether to sell.

Mayor Dorough commented on maps that are provided which do not reflect street names and asked that they be corrected. He asked how many wholesalers are in Dougherty County and was told that there are three.

Deputy Mitchell discussed the following (copy on file) and advised that the application does not meet the proximity requirement and is too close to the nearest school (St. Theresa).

2. Tejas Business Inc.; d/b/a Gillionville Grocery, 1603 Gillionville Rd.; T Brown/Agent; Beer and Wine Package; WARD 4

Commissioner Warbington clarified that the original owner allowed the license to expire and therefore, the new application does not meet proximity requirements. Discussion continued regarding the

FEBRUARY 6, 2024
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
GOVT. CTR. – RM. 100

proximity requirement, measuring from the front door of the establishment to the nearest property line of the school.

Commissioner Howard stated that the Albany Herald will only publish on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and will not be covering Commission meetings. Mayor Dorough stated that two additional reporters are being hired with emphasis directed to local matters.

B. Public Administration/Finance

AFD Fire Chief C. Scott and Derrick Brown, CFO, discussed the following (copy on file) and advised that a power point will be presented.

1. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus 20-27 Fireline, Inc. of Winder, GA – Total expenditure: \$202,740.00

Chief Scott provided a project overview, showed photos of the apparatus, discussed benefits to the City, budget overview, vendor selection and advised that the request is to approve the purchase of equipment.

In reply to Mayor Dorough, Mr. Brown discussed MSA’s standards/training.

In reply to Commissioner Gaines regarding the recent fire truck accident, Chief Scott stated that the four fire fighters were released from the hospital and recovering from their injuries.

MEMBER COMMENTS / ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Commissioner Howard asked for an update on junk cars, with Mr. Carter stating that this will be on the next agenda to include a breakdown of the process, what is considered a junked car and what PR can be provided for the public. Commissioner Howard stated that at the recent GMA meeting he spoke with Kay Love about and a book he read regarding poverty, adding that he would like a presentation of the findings. Mayor Dorough asked for a link for the report, with the City Clerk being tasked with distributing. Commissioner Howard suggested having the presentation for all entities (City/County/School Board, etc.).

Mayor Dorough asked to regroup regarding the Tennis Committee, which seems to be at an impasse. He again asked that the County provide a written commitment that the City will handle the funds. He mentioned that he will be in Savannah on the night of the March meeting, stating that he can attend virtually, mentioned Mayor Pro Tem Langstaff conducting the meeting or to moving the meeting to Wednesday night.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Mr. Carter gave condolences to the soldiers who were killed in the attack last week; mentioned Govt. 101 that began last night, provided the location of the next meeting; commented on MEAG hosting a remote meeting soon at 401 Pine at 9:30, adding that the GA Economic Outlook luncheon will be that

FEBRUARY 6, 2024
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
GOVT. CTR. – RM. 100

same day at ASU-West at noon. He stated that budget season has started and as such, he asked that information be provided early to be incorporated.

Mayor Dorough mentioned the update from Marion Turner (Federal Lobbyist) regarding a clean/renewable energy webinar, which could benefit the City and asked that someone sit in on the webinar.

In reply to the Clerk, Mayor Dorough suggested polling the Commissioners regarding the March meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Litigation)

At 9:07 a.m. Commissioner Howard moved to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing potential litigation, seconded by Commissioner Gaines; the motion unanimously carried.

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

At 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Howard moved to exit executive session, seconded by Commissioner Gaines; the motion unanimously carried.

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

At 10:01 a.m. Mayor Dorough announced that no action was taken in the executive session regarding potential litigation and adjourned the meeting at 10:01 am.

SONJA TOLBERT
CITY CLERK