

JANUARY 24, 2017

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

PRESENT: Mayor Dorothy Hubbard
City Commissioners: Jon Howard, Bobby Coleman, Roger Marietta,
Bob Langstaff, Jr., and Tommie Postell
City Manager: Sharon D. Subadan
City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Hubbard called the meeting to order at 7:43 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed a moment of silence.

Mayor Pro Tem Fletcher moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Commissioner Postell; the motion unanimously carried.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Commissioner Langstaff moved to approve the following Alcohol License Application – Transfer of Ownership, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Fletcher; the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

1. HVC Hospitality LLC, d/b/a Courtyard by Marriott, 3019 Kensington Ct. H. Patel/Agent; Liquor, beer and wine consumption – Transfer from LBAM Investor Group, LLC

APPOINTMENTS

- 1 2017 Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem (Ward IV)

Commissioner Langstaff moved to appoint Commissioner Marietta, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the motion unanimously carried.

2. One appointment to EDC for two-year term expiring December, 2018

Commissioner Howard moved to reappoint Milan Patel; Commissioner Langstaff nominated Jim Deal and Commissioner Postell moved to close the nominations on said two names, seconded by Commissioner Langstaff. Following a show of hands, the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Langstaff voting no.

2. Six appointments to ADICA for two year terms expiring January, 2018 & 2019 as noted

Commissioner Langstaff moved to reappoint Martin Carter (term expiring January 2018), James Lindsey (term expiring January 2019), Charles Ochie (term expiring January 2019), Omar Salaam (term expiring January 2019) and Michael Stewart (term expiring January, 2018), seconded by Commissioner Howard; the motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Marietta asked if the five just reappointed to ADICA will or will not be on the DDA (Downtown Development Authority), Ms. Subadan stated that they can be, but being appointed to ADICA does not result in an automatic appointment to the DDA. She mentioned the proposed House Bill, which will correct and clarify the language once passed. Latoya Cutts, Downtown Development Director, advised that the advertisements will run in February for the seven appointments and those currently serving will have to resubmit information indicating their desire to be considered for appointment.

Mayor Pro Tem Marietta moved to appoint Alexander Rolfe, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher. Commissioner Howard moved to appoint Johnny Hamilton. Commissioner Langstaff closed the nominations on said names, seconded by Commissioner Coleman. Hearing no further comments, the motion carried 4-3 to appoint Alexander Rolfe with Mayor Hubbard, Mayor Pro Tem Marietta, Commissioners Fletcher and Langstaff voting in the affirmative.

3. Mayor and Commission appointments to City Tree Board for two-year term expiring August, 2018

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Commissioner Howard reappointed Kay Kirkman, Commissioner Fletcher reappointed Carlos Phillips, Mayor Pro Tem Marietta reappointed Richard Foreman and Commissioner Langstaff reappointed Chuck Norvell. Mayor Hubbard and Commissioners Coleman and Postell stated that they will provide names at a later time.

4. One appointment to Joint City/County Plumbing Board for one-year term expiring January, 2018 (rotating member)

Commissioner Langstaff moved to appoint Glen Tyler Harris, seconded by Commissioner Coleman; the motion unanimously carried.

RESOLUTIONS

Commissioner Langstaff moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Coleman.

A RESOLUTION NO. 17-R102

Fixing and Publishing Qualifying Fees in the City of Albany

In reply to Commissioner Postell, the Clerk read the resolution in its entirety. Mr. Davis explained that Qualifying Fees are 3% of the Mayor and Commissioners salaries.

Hearing no further comments, the motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Langstaff moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher.

A RESOLUTION NO. 17-R103

Authorizing a Master Development Agreement between the City of Albany, Georgia and Albany, Georgia and Albany Development Partners, LLC

Detailed discussion followed with Commissioner Howard expressing concern on the two phases that were added, stating that he will vote in opposition. Commissioner Langstaff noted the two additional items - Airport, LEC – and explained that the rationale is that areas with light present an opportunity for savings. He discussed the Airport, especially the runway, which have older lights and upgrading to LED, along with other sections of the Airport that could result in a savings. He added that there are other area which could also be included resulting in savings. Commissioner Postell stated that he wants to table this matter. Mayor Pro Tem Marietta stated that if this item is passed and an audit conducted, Commissioners need to see the data, which he would like to see immediately after the audit is finished.

Hearing no further comments, the motion carried 4-3 with Commissioners Howard, Coleman and Postell voting no.

Mayor Pro Tem Marietta moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Langstaff; the motion unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION 17-R104

Accepting proposal of Ceres Environmental Services, Inc. re: Storm Debris

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Howard mentioned that rumors are circulating that the City did not request the Governor to declare Albany a federal disaster area and asked that the City Manager provide an explanation at the next meeting whether there was a time lapse, concern or whatever reason it was not submitted. He said citizens are upset and demanding to know who dropped the ball (whether it was the City or County) and an explanation of how/why, adding that when he was in

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Atlanta for Mayor's Day recently, it was a topic of extensive conversation and that it concerns him to have State officials viewing Albany in such a negative light.

Mayor Pro Tem Marietta referred to the storm map, mentioning the first storm, he said that it appears Georgia Power areas were not included in the damage and asked if that map just indicate Albany Utilities damages. Ms. Subadan advised that the map was not City generated. Mayor Pro Tem Marietta asked that the map reflect Georgia Power damages as well. Ron Rowe, Emergency Management Director, explained that the orange portion is mainly within the city limits and indicates areas where property damage occurred in the first storm; it did not include any of the County. The green areas show the path of the tornado, but not damages, in the second storm on January 22.

Commissioner Postell asked EM Director Rowe if 'they' realize he works for the City and not the County. Mayor Hubbard advised that per the Emergency Management Plan, for storm events he (Chief Rowe) steps out of his role as Fire Chief and become the Emergency Management Director, this information is reported to the State by the County. It is a state law that the county takes the lead during disasters/catastrophic events.

At this time 8:07 - Commissioners Fletcher and Langstaff left the meeting at this time (8:07 p.m).

Chief Rowe explained that under normal circumstances, his role is City of Albany Fire Chief; however, he simultaneously has the responsibility of County EMA duties during declared disasters. When the storms tore through Albany/Dougherty County on January 2 and January 22, he assumed his role as Emergency Management Director, per the Emergency Management Plan and State law, during that time he reported to the County. Commissioner Postell asked why the State is claiming that it did not receive any information from the City about the January 2nd storm. Mayor Hubbard advised that the Emergency Management Document is available on the website which explains the process.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

MAYOR

ATTEST

CITY CLERK