

SEPTEMBER 11, 2018
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
GOVT. CTR. – RM. 100

PRESENT: Mayor Dorothy Hubbard
Mayor Pro Tem Bob Langstaff, Jr.
City Commissioners: Jon Howard, Matt Fuller, BJ Fletcher and Roger Marietta
City Manager: Sharon D. Subadan
City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Hubbard called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m., and reminded the audience of the process to address the Commission (Citizen Comments/Speaker Appearance Forms).

SPEAKER APPEARANCE

1. Dr. Anthony Parker, President, Albany Technical College, gave an update on Albany Tech's Transportation Academy. He said that the capacity of driving students has increased from 50 to 75 students per semester, with graduates increasing from 150 to 225; surrounding counties/cities have been working with them to increase student enrollment and placed in jobs. On Friday, a formal signing will be held with Schneider Transportation, which has offered jobs to graduating students; an offer has been made by SouthernAg to lease a 2015 completely reconditioned Mack Truck for \$1.00 per year for service as a road truck and, ATC has redirected a portion of the Perkins grant funding for the upcoming fiscal year in order to purchase an additional CDL road vehicle. He read a statement from Werner Washington, P&G Plant Manager, which supports Albany Tech's endeavors to provide P&G's carriers, (Raven Southern Ag, Schneider, etc.) an adequate number of drivers and mechanics, which helps reduce the carriers' costs, with reduced costs being passed on to P&G. He stated that keeping P&G strong is vital for Albany and discussed additional jobs that will be created at P&G as a result of reducing transportation costs. He mentioned scholarships that will be available, that will help offset other costs, such as drug screenings, permits, etc. Books were placed in the lending library for students to use, which eliminate fees that they otherwise would have encountered.

Mayor Hubbard thanked Dr. Parker for his time and all the work that he is doing to assist with providing jobs.

2. Henry Thomas distributed information (copy on file) regarding the Georgia Music Association and the new program he is putting in place to help young artists. He said that currently they work with 14 artists and have put together a CD to help sponsor a program scheduled Nov. 9-11, which will regionally showcase these artists. He asked the Commission to support the work they will be doing over the next 30 days as they work to get this program together with the goal to reach all counties in Georgia.

Commissioner Marietta asked if a location was selected. Mr. Thomas said they are in negotiations with Spectra to use the Civic Center, adding that he is working to bring people from 21 counties to this event.

Mayor Hubbard asked how CDs' can be purchased, with Mr. Thomas stating that they are on sale now at two locations in Albany.