

**CITY OF GRIFFIN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
ONE GRIFFIN CENTER, W. ELMER GEORGE MUNICIPAL HALL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2014**

Those present were Chairperson Ryan McLemore, Commissioners Doug Hollberg, Rodney McCord, Dick Morrow, Joanne Todd, Cynthia Reid Ward, City Manager Kenny Smith and City Attorney Drew Whalen. Commissioner Cora Flowers was absent.

Commissioner Cynthia Ward led the pledge to the flag.

Commissioner Doug Hollberg led the invocation.

On motion by Commissioner Todd, seconded by Commissioner Ward and unanimously passed, approval of the Agenda.

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Director of Electric Bill Bosch presented Calvin Vallee as the September “Strongest Link” Award recipient, describing him as fitting the definition of everything the Strongest Link represents. We’ve recently been involved with bringing several new businesses into the industrial park and the process requires a lot of pieces. Calvin was designated to work hand in hand with Otsuka and he absolutely knocked it out of the park.

Mike Blackmon, Superintendent of the Line Crew, said Calvin has resumed his regular duties but Otsuka is still calling for him. He advised Calvin has been a dear friend for 29 years, and has a passion for his job that most do not have. But if you ask him about it, he would just comment that he’s doing his job. Mr. Blackmon expressed a great appreciation for Calvin.

Mr. Vallee said he does not come to work everyday for accolades, he just comes in to do his job. He thanked the Board for the recognition.

Chairperson McLemore said he spoke with Chuck Copeland of the Griffin Spalding Development Authority who agreed that Griffin Power “knocked it out of the park” when dealing with Otsuka. That was critical for the City and we are very appreciative.

On motion by Commissioner Hollberg, seconded by Commissioner Todd and unanimously passed, approval of a Proclamation declaring “Make a Difference Day” in Griffin. Members of the Environmental Council accepted the Proclamation from Chairperson McLemore.

Chief Financial Officer Markus Schwab presented the Financials for August 2014. There was nothing significant to report.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

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Pamela Sutton of 1318 Spellman Avenue expressed her support for the upcoming project at North Hill Street in the flats. With an elderly Mother living nearby she spoke of concerns about drugs in the area. She expressed hopes that the improvements would bring positive changes.

Regina Dalton of 1307 Spellman Avenue also applauded the City and County for the upcoming improvements but had concerns about the drug and gang activity on Tuskegee as well. She felt the residents were in danger, and said the activity goes on all day. Ms. Dalton said it was the first time ever she has not felt safe in her neighborhood.

Ms. Sutton said she had spoken to Commissioner Ward and felt comfortable that the police were working on the problems.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no Public Hearings.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Commissioner Morrow, seconded by Commissioner Todd and passed on vote of 5 – 0 – 1, approval of Minutes of the Workshop on September 23, 2014. Commissioner Ward abstained due to her absence from the meeting.

On motion by Commissioner Morrow, seconded by Commissioner Todd and unanimously passed, approval of the Minutes of the Regular Scheduled Meeting on September 23, 2014.

REGULAR AGENDA

Citizen Engagement Specialist Alvin Huff presented a blanket agreement for a proposed quarterly magazine, advising it's just a draft for the future. He said there are no real partners until we have signed contracts. Commissioner Morrow asked what happens if the partners don't deliver on a timely basis. Mr. Huff advised he would just fill that space with something from the City.

On motion by Commissioner Hollberg, seconded by Commissioner McCord and unanimously passed, approval of a blanket agreement for a proposed quarterly magazine and authorize the Chairperson to approve completed agreements for the same purpose.

On motion by Commissioner Hollberg, seconded by Commissioner Todd and unanimously passed, approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Griffin, Spalding County,

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the Griffin-Spalding County Airport Authority and the Federal Aviation Administration for the construction of a replacement Griffin-Spalding County Airport.

Commissioner Morrow said this is one of the last steps in the legal struggle, allowing funding for the building process to begin. He advised there was unanimous approval by the Airport Authority on Monday evening.

On motion by Commissioner Todd, seconded by Commissioner Hollberg and unanimously passed, approval of an Excess Capacity Sale in the amount of 3,101KW to the City of Buford at the price of \$2.00/KW for calendar year 2015.

On motion by Commissioner Morrow, seconded by Commissioner McCord and unanimously passed, approval of an agreement for services with S&ME for the coring analysis of Meriwether Street in the amount not to exceed \$2,950.00 for the Public Works Department.

On motion by Commissioner Morrow, seconded by Commissioner McCord and unanimously passed, approval of a contract amendment to contract between Charles Abbott Associates and the City of Griffin for building inspections, which adds paragraph "K" related to "structural review".

Mr. Whalen prefaced the upcoming agenda item by stating that O.C.G.A. Sec. 36-33-5 was amended on July 1, 2014 changing the procedure for notification to municipalities of claims for money damages. Proper notice must be given before filing a lawsuit and the governing body must acknowledge receipt of the claim. Commissioner McCord said he didn't remember ever voting to deny someone's claim that he had no knowledge of and was opposed to the concept.

On motion by Commissioner Morrow, seconded by Commissioner Todd and passed on vote of 5 – 1, approval to acknowledge receipt of and recommend denial of a claim for damages related to an Anti Litem notice received for personal injuries to Mary Harrell, with a loss of consortium claim by Johnathan Harrell, arising from the alleged negligence of a Griffin Police Officer while escorting a funeral procession on May 2, 2014. Commissioner McCord voted "no".

Commissioner McCord reiterated that he disagreed with the process of denying something of which the Board has no knowledge.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Mr. Smith said there is a Groundbreaking Ceremony on Friday for the new Food Pic Building at the University of Georgia. There will be a SPLOST Presentation on Thursday, the 23rd at Sun City, and again at Kiwanis on the 29th.

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He reminded the Commissioners of the ECG Economic Bus Tour on November 4th and 5th. The GMA Fall Session will be held in Newnan on Thursday, October 30th.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Morrow thanked the City and County for Dr. Jerry Arkin's proclamation. He said the Doc Holliday BBQ event was very well done. He gave kudos to David Johnson in the sign shop for help getting the markers up when they arrived at the last minute.

Commissioner Hollberg thanked the staff for their participation in the fair this year.

Commissioner Todd commented that she hasn't seen much on Social Media regarding SPLOST.

On motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Hollberg and unanimously passed, approval to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenny L. Smith, City Manager/Secretary

ACCEPTED:

Ryan McLemore, Chairperson