

**CITY OF GRIFFIN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
ONE GRIFFIN CENTER, W. ELMER GEORGE MUNICIPAL HALL
TUESDAY, January 27, 2015**

The Regular Scheduled Meeting of the City of Griffin Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Doug Hollberg at 6:00 p.m. Those present were Commissioners Cynthia Reid-Ward, Joanne Todd, Dick Morrow, Ryan McLemore and Rodney McCord. Absent was Commissioner Cora Lee Flowers. Also in attendance were City Attorney Andrew J. Whalen, III, and City Manager Kenny Smith.

Commissioner Hollberg led the Invocation.

Commissioner Reid-Ward led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Chairman recognized the attendance of County Commission Chair Rita Johnson.

Approval of Agenda - *Unanimous at 6-0 on motion/second by Commissioners Todd/Morrow.*

PRESENTATIONS / DELEGATIONS

1. Recognize Butch Richardson, with the Water Department, as 2014's "Strongest Link" Award recipient.

Public Works Director Brant Keller presented the award to Mr. Richardson for heroic efforts in an emergency situation on October 20, 2014. The nomination of Mr. Richardson was submitted by Ms. Martha Drolet at the Simmons Plant. Mr. Richardson was working at Simmons Water Treatment Plant by himself when a driver delivering chlorine became pinned underneath a ton cylinder of chlorine as a "stop" device on the vehicle failed. In an effort to catch the man, Mr. Richardson managed to cushion the man's fall, preventing him from hitting a nearby brick wall. Mr. Richardson then moved the truck in order to get the cylinder off the man's legs, quickly called 911 to get medical assistance and remained until the man could be life-flighted to Atlanta. Thanks to his quick thinking, it is very likely that Mr. Richardson saved this man's legs and probably his life. Many employees demonstrate fine qualities, but Mr. Richardson is indeed worthy of the annual designation of Strongest Link in the Chain FOR 2014. Mr. Richardson received two days off with pay, a \$100 American Express gift card, and a "Strongest Link" plaque, along with the thanks of his department and the City.

2. Consider Proclamation declaring January 21, 2015 to be Kiwanis International Day. *Proclamation celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of Kiwanis International was unanimously approved on motion/second by Commissioners Todd/Morrow and presented to Kiwanis of Griffin President Johnie McDaniel, along with numerous other club members in attendance.*

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

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PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Receive comments regarding a request amending the Unified Development Code of Griffin at Article 7, Zoning Districts, Table 7.3 (Permitted Uses), to allow for manufacturing of alcoholic beverages as a Special Use permitted in the Central Business District (CBD). *Toussaint Kirk addressed. There was no public comment. Director Kirk noted this was not a request for a Special Use Permit but rather for a Permitted Use in the Central Business District.*

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Consider approval of Minutes of the Regular Scheduled Meeting on January 13, 2015. *Motion/second to approve by Commissioners Morrow/McLemore carried by a unanimous vote.*

REGULAR AGENDA

5. To consider an Ordinance amending the Unified Development Code of Griffin, Article 7, Zoning Districts, Table 7.3 (Permitted Uses), to allow for manufacturing of alcoholic beverages as a Special Use permitted in the Central Business District (CBD). *Toussaint Kirk noted again this was a Permitted Use and not a Special Use Permit and pertained to the Central Business District. This was a discussion topic at the Commissioners' Workshop earlier today. Ordinance was adopted amending the UDO Permitted Uses as presented by a unanimous vote on motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/McLemore.*
6. Approve a change order to the contract with Renfroe Construction in the amount of \$188,324.01 for the construction of the new Electric Operations facilities.

Director Bill Bosch noted this detention pond has had its challenges, but the project is still coming in under budget. *Change Order was approved unanimously on motion/second by Commissioners Todd/Morrow.*

7. Consider a timber sales agreement with Murdock Forest Management, Inc. for the procurement of timber harvesting at the Still Branch Regional Reservoir spray field for the Water and Wastewater Department of the Public Works and Utilities Department. Director Brant Keller noted this company would cruise the timber for sales and would allow for expansion of the spray fields. *Agreement was approved by a unanimous vote on motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/Reid-Ward.*
8. Consider approval of the tree Trimming and Removal Services to Southern Pride Tree Care & Removal as primary and JTH Coleman Group d/b/a Tatum Tree Care

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as secondary service for the Public Works and Utilities Department. Director Keller provided an overview of the bid and award process for the tree trimming and removal services, as advertised in Bid #15-007. Bid tally sheets and an analysis were provided *Agreement to approve services contract to Southern Pride Tree Care & Removal as primary and JTH Coleman Group d/b/a Tatum Tree Care as secondary service was approved unanimously on motion/second by Commissioners Todd/McCord.*

9. Consider approval to purchase an F250 Pick Up Truck from Speedway Ford in the amount of \$24,822.00 and surplus unit #863 for the Water and Wastewater Department of Public Works and Utilities Department. Director Keller address the need for this vehicle and the following for his department. *Purchase approved by a unanimous vote on motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/Reid-Ward.*
10. Consider approval to purchase an F150 Pick Up Truck from Speedway Ford in the amount of \$22,040.88 and the surplus of existing unit #851 for the Water and Wastewater Department of Public Works and Utilities Department. *Purchase approved unanimously on motion/second by Commissioners McCord/Morrow.*
11. Consider approval of a contract with Duffield Aquatics, Inc. in the amount of \$14,847.30 to rebuild the City Pool backwash system for the Public Works and Utilities Department and amend the budget accordingly. Director Keller detailed background for this necessary action to rebuild the City Pool backwash system, along with a budget amendment to provide for this unbudgeted expense with a transfer of funds from Commissioner Contingency to City Pool Repair & Maintenance Services. This was a discussion topic at this morning's workshop, as well. *Contract and Budget Amendment was approved by a unanimous vote on motion/second by Commissioners Todd/Reid-Ward.*
12. Approve the Downtown LCI Concept of one travel lane northbound and one travel lane southbound on GA SR155 as presented in the Downtown LCI road diet. Both sides of downtown GA SR155 will have extended parking stalls, bulb outs at intersections and travel lanes will be shared bike lanes. Director Keller addressed this concept, which was a discussion topic at the Commissioner Workshop earlier today. Dr. Keller provided an overview of this Livable Center Initiative project which will reduce the number of travel lanes from 4 to 2, lengthening angled parking spaces and constructing "bulb outs" or curb extensions at the corners. The project will no longer include a separated bike lane due to safety concerns, but will rather include shared lane markings (aka "sharrows"). Both GDOT and ARC agreed this was an acceptable approach and documentation has been provided. He responded to questions about the scope of the project, delineated the area, and updated the cost estimates (\$2.5 million of the original \$3.2 million will be provided by federal funds but that overall number will probably come in around \$4.99 million).

Commissioner McLemore noted he feared that the design may create more problems than it solves. With SR 155 still in downtown, he was concerned for

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extreme congestion. City Manager Kenny Smith noted that key to this project being successful was the premise that SR 155 would be removed from its downtown designation and rerouted down South McDonough Road to SR 16. ***Downtown LCI Concept was approved by a 4-2 vote with Commissioners McLemore, McCord dissenting.***

13. Consider a request from the Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee to make improvements and additions to the Veterans Memorial Park located inside the Oak Hill Cemetery. Chamber Executive Director Bonnie Pfrogner and Military Affairs Committee Chair Ricky Todd requested these improvements and additions to the Veterans Memorial Park. They desire to erect a monument dedicated to the Global War on Terror, to recaulk and reputty all existing monuments inside the memorial park, to erect a granite podium for ceremonies, to replace eight concrete benches currently in place with permanent granite benches, and to replace the eagle on top of the WWII Monument that was stolen. Plans and an overview were provided. ***Request was approved unanimously on motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/Todd.***
14. Consider approval, on second reading, of amendment to the Alcohol Ordinance to include the requirements for the installation of security cameras at those businesses licensed to sell alcohol by the package for off premises consumption. There have been no changes to this Ordinance since first reading. Chief Heaton noted this requirement for security systems seems to be well received and should help with resolution of crimes committed at businesses that are licensed to sell alcohol by the package. A method is in place to provide for a rebate of \$500 off the cost of licensing at renewal time for all businesses who have installed the recommended equipment. There have been no real objections to the ordinance requirements and staff recommends approval. ***Amendment approved by a vote of 5-1 with Commissioner McCord dissenting.***
15. Consider a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Griffin, Spalding County Board of Commissioners, Griffin/Spalding County Board of Education, and the UGA Partners, agreeing to participate in the development and implementation of the Spalding County Archway Partnership. City Manager Smith and Chamber of Commerce Chuck Copeland addressed the issue and detailed the MOU, noting it was a one-year contract but a three-year commitment. The three partners will each fund the same amount and will be effective July 1, 2015. It may be terminated by any party with a 90-day notice. The Board of Education has approved the MOU and Spalding County is scheduled to consider it at their Board of Commissioners meeting on February 2. ***The MOU was approved unanimously on motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/McCord.***
16. Appoint one (1) member to the **Historic Preservation Commission**. **There have been no applications received and no nominations; the appointment will carry forward to the next meeting.**

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17. Appoint two (2) members to the **Three Rivers Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Advisory Council**. *On nomination, Joanne Todd and James Johnston were appointed to the Three Rivers AAA Advisory Council by acclamation.*

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- *The City Manager reminded Commissioners of their Goals Workshop on February 10, 2015 at a place to be determined. The Workshop will begin at 8:30 am and conclude by 4:30 pm.*
- *The third season of **Rectify** will soon begin filming in the area.*
- *There will be Mainstreet Downtown Mobile Tours from March 30 to April 2.*
- *He congratulated Chuck Copeland and the G-S Development Authority, along with the City and County, for the new business that will be locating in the area. This venture will provide 15 jobs initially and will represent a \$13 million investment.*
- *The recent GMA Mayors' Day Conference in Atlanta was primarily about funding transportation and was not as good as some of the conferences have been in the past.*

CITY COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- *Commissioner Todd thanked staff and commissioners who attended the MEAG event at the GMA Conference. It was a good experience.*
- *Commissioner Reid-Ward thanked the Police Department and those involved with implementing the presentation that was done at Fairmont last Monday. There was a good turnout and the presentation itself was good, as well.*
- *Chairman Hollberg said he wanted to bid farewell to Alvin Huff as Friday would be his last day. He congratulated him and wished him the best in his new venture. He also congratulated Commissioner Morrow on being voted as "Best of the Best" as commissioner.*
- *Commissioner Morrow noted the Airport Authority had signed the bond resolution and intergovernmental agreement on the new airport. March 18 will be the target date to sell the bonds. He also voiced concern over the state's consideration of changing the way the state fuel tax is distributed.*
- *Commissioner McCord noted the "Griffin Got Talent" event on January 17 was very good.*

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote on motion/second by Commissioners McCord and McLemore at 6:36 p.m.