

**CITY OF GRIFFIN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
ONE GRIFFIN CENTER, W. ELMER GEORGE MUNICIPAL HALL
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015**

1

Chairperson Doug Hollberg presided and Commissioners Rodney McCord, Ryan McLemore, Dick Morrow, Cynthia Reid-Ward, Cora Lee Flowers and Joanne Todd were in attendance. Also present were City Manager Kenny L. Smith and City Attorney Andrew J. Whalen, III.

Pledge of AllegianceTroop 77, Scouts

Invocation..... Chairman Hollberg

Approval of Agenda – *Motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/McLemore carried 6-0.*

PRESENTATIONS / DELEGATIONS

1. Recognize Darrion Johnson, Equipment Operator III with the Solid Waste Department, as the February 2015 "Strongest Link" award recipient.

Central Services Director Phill Francis both addressed this award and received it on behalf of Mr. Johnson who was ill and could not attend. On Thursday, January 22, after working a night shift running his route, Mr. Johnson rendered assistance to an injured female lying in the median who apparently had been abused and subsequently thrown from a moving vehicle. He immediately called 911 and stayed with the victim until emergency help arrived. These actions reflect a standard of character that all should strive to have and the City of Griffin is proud to have Mr. Johnson in its ranks. He went above and beyond his assigned duties and likely helped save the life of a complete stranger. Mr. Francis conveyed his thanks and his congratulations to Mr. Johnson and will ensure that he receives this "Strongest Link" award and thanks.

Commissioner McCord arrived at 6:08 p.m.

2. Recognize Tom Ridgway, Assistant Director for Griffin Power, who will leave the employment of the City on March 13, 2015, to become the Utility Director for the City of Fairburn.

Electric Director Bill Bosch addressed and presented a plaque to Mr. Ridgway from his Griffin Power family. Mr. Ridgway thanked the City, noting there were many who made him look good and who deserve the credit. They should have this recognition. After 18 years of friendships in the City, especially with Director Bill Bosch, this was a difficult decision. He appreciated the opportunities afforded him here. Commissioners wished him well.

3. Recognize Calvin Vallee, Line Construction Foreman for Griffin Power, who will retire on March 13, 2015, after 29 years of dedicated service to the City of Griffin.

Electric Director Bill Bosch addressed and presented a plaque to Mr. Vallee, noting that Mr. Vallee was full out, full time. Leadership is his first thought and he will be truly missed. He thanked Mr. Vallee for 29 years of dedicated work ethic. Mr. Vallee thanked the City for allowing him to provide for his family for 29 years, noting he was grateful for opportunities.

4. Tim Jones would like to address the Commission to explain a program on which his group is working with the youth of the community.

Tim Jones, Reverend Milner and Reverend Hunt spoke as team members of this program with the youth of our community. They are keenly interested in summer employment and ask that the City Commission pass along any summer job opportunities for these young people, as well as funding opportunities for summer camp. The youth are enthusiastic, interested and eager to work to make Griffin a better place. A good structured camp would not only teach skills and leadership traits but keep them out of trouble, as well. Reverend Hunt said the City could not only help with job opportunities and camp, but also give a great example of leadership in the process.

5. Review Financials for January 2015. Chief Financial Officer Markus Schwab addressed.

Mr. Schwab presented the financials and responded to Commissioner questions.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bill Camp, 5515 Mt. Vernon Parkway, Sandy Springs, of Raymond James has done bond counsel work for the City before and now the Airport Authority. Airport Authority bonds issued today at 2.405%, the City's rating is A1 based on city/county credit, and he is pleased with the process. Commissioner Morrow thanked Mr. Camp and commended his efforts on behalf of the Authority.

**CITY OF GRIFFIN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
ONE GRIFFIN CENTER, W. ELMER GEORGE MUNICIPAL HALL
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015**

2

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Consider approval of Minutes of the 02-24-15 Regular Commission Meeting.

Motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/Todd carried 7-0.

7. Consider denying liability to Charlis Bohannon for injuries allegedly sustained on August 12, 2014 at approximately 7:30 a.m. when she fell in the City parking lot behind 134 N. Hill Street.

Mr. Whalen said this request was based on the anti litem notice of January 21, The claimant maintains that her heel stuck in a crack of the parking lot, causing her to fall and injure her head and other areas, with resulting medical expenses. Since this was the first notice, Risk Management looked at the area but there was not enough specificity as to where the accident actually occurred. Mr. Whalen recommended denial.

Motion/second to deny by Commissioners Morrow/Ward carried 6-1 with Commissioner McCord dissenting.

Commissioner McCord was not comfortable denying this claim as Commissioners are not claims adjustors and have limited experience as such. Mr. Whalen said the legislature puts Boards of Commissioners in this position. As this was the first notice, timing is a mitigating factor.

8. Consider on second and final reading an ordinance requesting the deannexation of approximately 30 +/- acres located along Williamson Road just west of South Pine Hill Road to include property known as tax parcel numbers 054 Block 01 Lot 001 submitted by Bankston Properties LLC. Toussaint Kirk, Director of Planning & Development Services, will address

Motion/second to approve by Commissioners Morrow/Todd carried unanimously at 7-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. Consider approval of a contract with NetPlanner Systems, Inc., the sole source provider for the upgrade of the City's fiber communications network, in the amount of \$17,645.89. *Electric Director Bill Bosch will address.*

Motion/second to approve by Commissioners Morrow/McLemore carried unanimously.

10. Consider approval to nominate 5 megawatts of Project 1 resources to the MEAG Excess Power Pool for use by any MEAG Participant for a period of up to five (5) years. The allocation will be made to option three, 5 MW. *Electric Director Bill Bosch will address.*

Motion/second to approve by Commissioners Morrow/Ward carried unanimously.

11. Approve the creation of three LED Street lighting rates as follows:

_ ST LED 2C - \$12.50/month

_ ST LED 4C - \$20.00/month

_ ST LED 6C - \$26.00/month

Electric Director Bill Bosch will address.

Motion/second to approve by Commissioners Morrow/McCord carried unanimously.

Mr. Bosch noted the LED lights are much less expensive. Equivalent lighting would be about \$25/\$26. They are using these LED street lights in the Industrial Park.

12. Approve an amendment to the Intergovernmental Participant Contract with Electric Cities of Georgia, reallocating services between Distribution Engineering, Analytical and Energy Services, and reallocating the costs for these services. *Electric Director Bill Bosch will address.*

Mr. Bosch said Electric Cities of Georgia has been working on this issue for the past few years to arrive at this proposed reallocation, requiring 75% approval from all participating cities.

**CITY OF GRIFFIN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
ONE GRIFFIN CENTER, W. ELMER GEORGE MUNICIPAL HALL
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015**

3

Motion/second to approve by Commissioners McCord/Todd carried unanimously.

13. Consider submitting S. 8th Street from Poplar Street to S. 9th Street to the Georgia Department of Transportation's LMIG program for the City of Griffin. *Director of Public Works and Utilities Brant D. Keller will address.*

Dr. Keller noted they will put back to curb and gutter these streets after milling an overlay of the area not curbed and guttered. They are working on Meriwether Street now, with regard to design and drainage. They are budgeting some funding from the ad valorem tax for the first time in six years to be used for paving this year. D.F. Fuller is in real need of maintenance, and Commissioner Todd said O'Dell was needing maintenance, as well.

Motion/second to approve by Commissioners Ward/Todd carried unanimously.

14. Consider approval to reject all bids for construction of North Griffin Revitalization Area - Zone 6 Project, City of Griffin Community Development Block Grant and rebid project. *Public Works and Utilities Director Brant D. Keller will address.*

Dr. Keller advised the City got its permit after the loan and new copper limits. We were the first permittee after these new requirements were in place, so we had to redesign. Other requirements on the clean water loan and drinking water loan add a significant amount to the cost. We will bid in September at the latest. We are designing to meet future standards on phosphorus and ammonia, and planning to ensure we don't have to come back for additional monies for additional processes. When we do the redesign, the plant is being conceived so that in the future we can expand, or move, by a sort of "Lego approach". This will bring us into compliance. Commissioner Hollberg said this was yet another trickle down cost by unfunded mandates. Dr. Keller had asked Bill Camp to discuss with Mr. Schwab, and the main concern is the amount we can get out of floating bonds. Mr. Whalen pointed out the caps are based on the full faith and credit of the taxing authority. Another concept was looking at the entire scope and doing a bond issue accordingly. Other options are available but time constraints come into play.

Motion/second to approve by Commissioners Ward/McLemore carried 6-0-1 with Chairman Hollberg abstaining due to a previously disclosed potential conflict.

15. Consider approval to amend Clean Water State Revolving Loan package approved May 27, 2014 in the amount of 8.0 million dollars to 12.606 million dollars for Project Number CWSRF 14-013 from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority for the upgrade and expansion of the Potato Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant for the Water and Wastewater Department of the Public Works and Utilities Department. *Director of the Public Works and Utilities Department Brant D. Keller will address.*

Motion/second to approve by Commissioners Todd/Morrow carried unanimously.

16. Consider approval of the Griffin Spalding County Hospital Authority's 2015 allocation of funding of \$13,000, to the Spalding County Board of Health for flu shots. *City Manager Kenny Smith will address.*

Motion/second to approve by Commissioners Morrow/McCord carried unanimously.

17. Consider a request by 1888 Mills to change the street name of "Nacom Way" to "Weaving a Better World Drive." *City Manager Kenny Smith will address.*

Motion/second to approve by Commissioners Morrow/Ward carried 6-1 with Commissioner Flowers opposing.

18. Consider Intergovernmental Agreement between City of Griffin and Spalding County to establish a basis for addressing the administrative, operational, and maintenance cost of the 800 MHz radio system. *City Manager Kenny Smith will address.*

Mr. Smith advised that William Wilson, County Manager, had contacted him today with a request that the City table this item. Commissioners stated they thought we had an agreement after the joint session with Spalding County. Mr. Smith stated he thought so, as well. He sent this IGA to the County Manager on the morning of 3-5-15, and just heard back from him today

**CITY OF GRIFFIN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
ONE GRIFFIN CENTER, W. ELMER GEORGE MUNICIPAL HALL
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015**

4

with the request to table. Mr. Whalen concurred, saying he thought the City was giving the County just what they wanted. Commissioners were not in favor of tabling the matter.

Motion/second to approve the IGA by Commissioners Todd/McLemore carried unanimously.

19. Consider entering Executive Session pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3(4), for the purpose of discussion and acting upon the acquisition of real estate.

To be considered after Reports and Comments.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

There will be a County workshop on gangs and gang activity, initiated by the Sheriff's Office, at 9 a.m. Monday at the Courthouse Annex. Commissioners and directors are invited to attend.

Mr. Smith wished Calvin Vallee and Tom Ridgway well and thanked them for their dedicated service, noting they both will be greatly missed. There will be a reception to honor them on Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Welcome Center and everyone is invited.

Mr. Smith extended sincere sympathies to the Reese family in Pike County this week. The father and son were fatalities in the accident at the Still Branch Reservoir recreation area.

CITY COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner McCord noted there was another loss this week. Reverend W.T. James of 8th Street Baptist Church on Palace Street passed away. He was much beloved and respected. He wished the best to Messrs. Ridgway and Vallee.

Commissioner Morrow wished the best to Tom Ridgway and Calvin Vallee. He passed to the Board a draft letter to the Tombstone Welcome Center and a brochure that is the final work of the Doc Holliday group. He visited Tombstone last year and wants to send brochures to them to incorporate in their program. He will write the letter on City stationery if Commissioners concur. All agreed.

Commissioner Todd sent best wishes and regrets as well, as we all will miss them, to Tom Ridgway and Calvin Vallee. She was sorry to hear of Reverend James' death.

Commissioner Hollberg extended his thanks and well wishes to Messrs. Ridgway and Vallee, and he thanked the Scouts who attended.

Motion/second to enter Executive Session by Commissioners Ward/Morrow carried unanimously at 6:54 p.m. Motion/second to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene to Open Meeting by Commissioners McLemore/Ward at 7:00 p.m. carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

Motion/second to adjourn by Commissioners Morrow/Todd at 7:01 p.m. carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenny L. Smith, City Manager/Secretary

Accepted:

Douglas S. Hollberg, Chairperson