

**CITY OF GRIFFIN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
ONE GRIFFIN CENTER, W. ELMER GEORGE MUNICIPAL HALL
TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015**

1

Chairperson Doug Hollberg presided, calling the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners Joanne Todd, Cynthia Reid-Ward, Rodney McCord, Dick Morrow, Ryan McLemore and Rodney McCord attended. Absent was Commissioner Cora L. Flowers. Also present were City Manager Kenny L. Smith, City Attorney Andrew J. Whalen, III, and Teresa Watson to record minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance Commissioner Todd
Invocation..... Chairman Hollberg

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

PRESENTATIONS / DELEGATIONS

1. Recognize Vicki Coggins with the Human Resources Department, for 30 years of dedicated service to the City of Griffin. *Human Resources Director Miles Neville will address.*

Human Resources Director Miles Neville said Ms. Coggins came to the City in 1985 as a Payroll Clerk. She has worked for the City for 30 years, 11 of which have been with Mr. Neville. As a point of reference, Mr. Neville noted that when Ms. Coggins came to be employed in 1985: New Coke had been introduced, Michael Jordan was Rookie of the Year, *We Are The World* was recorded, and Pete Rose was still playing baseball. Much has changed over the last 30 years, and Ms. Coggins does not get a lot of praise for her efforts. Recent research revealed that HR has done over 236,000 checks with very few issues, and he credited Ms. Coggins' work ethic, dedication and attention to detail to a large degree. Mr. Neville noted he was very proud of Ms. Coggins but did not want anyone to think she was retiring. He wants to see many more years of employment for this very bright spot in the Human Resources Department with the contagious laugh and easy manner. Ms. Coggins was presented with a service award.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None were forthcoming.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2. Receive comments regarding the proposed budgets for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016. *City Manager Kenny Smith will address.*

Mr. Smith noted there was a copy of the FY 2015-2016 budget here tonight and would remain available in his office. There will be another public hearing in two weeks with adoption in two weeks, as well.

The Public Hearing was opened with no citizens' comments. Commissioner Morrow stated he was impressed with City Manager Smith and his team. They have produced a budget that is very tight but responsive and faithful to commissioners' goals set at their workshop earlier. Public Hearing was closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. Consider motion to deny claim against the City and Police Officer Tina M. Bean, by The Howard Law Firm, P.C., on behalf of Derrick Wynn for damages in the amount of \$358,213.33, arising out of the arrest of Mr. Wynn on a State Warrant for Aggravated Battery. *City Attorney Drew Whalen will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/Todd to deny claim, carried by a vote of 5-1 with Commissioner McCord dissenting.

4. Consider approval of Minutes of the May 12, 2015 Board of Commissioners Regular Scheduled Meeting.

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2

Motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/Ward to approve as presented carried 6-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Consider approval to amend the City of Griffin's General Fund Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Operating and Capital Budget in the amount of \$2,210.00 for fireworks compliance and safety (Enforcement Officials Fireworks Training Program) as previously approved on April 28, 2015. *Chief Financial Officer Markus Schwab will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners Todd/McLemore to approve carried 6-0.

6. Consider approval to amend the City of Griffin's Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Operating and Capital Budget in the amount of \$16,000.00 (grant award) for the purchase of vehicle cameras as previously approved on April 28, 2015; and approve the transfer of \$124.00 to General Fund Operating Cash from Asset Forfeiture Cash. *Chief Financial Officer Markus Schwab will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners Todd/Ward to approve carried 6-0.

7. Consider on second reading an Ordinance amending the Code of Griffin, Chapter 90, Traffic and Vehicles, Article III, Speed Zones to update the speed zone schedule. *Chief Steven Heaton will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/Todd to approve carried 6-0.

8. Consider Resolution and Letter of Support for The Griffin Housing Authority's Redevelopment Initiatives regarding Meriwether Homes Redevelopment, Phase II. *Planning and Development Department Director Toussaint Kirk will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners Ward/Morrow to approve carried 6-0.

9. Consider execution of agreement with Allen-Smith Consulting to prepare the City of Griffin's FY2016 Community Development Block Grant application to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) in the amount of \$8,000. *Planning and Development Director Toussaint Kirk will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners Ward/Todd to approve carried 5-0-1 with Chairman Hollberg recusing himself from discussion/consideration of any aspect of the CDBG application process since he has a stated conflict of interest. Vice Chair Morrow conducted the item's consideration/vote.

10. Consider approval of an F250 Pick Up Truck from Speedway Ford in the amount of \$31,909.40 and surplus existing unit #863 for the Water and Wastewater Department of the Public Works and Utilities Department. *Director of Public Works and Utilities Brant D. Keller will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners McCord/Ward to approve carried 6-0.

11. Consider the purchase of a Water Meter Test Bench Unit from Ferguson Waterworks in the amount of \$33,582.93 and amending the FY 2014-2105 budget accordingly, for the Water and Wastewater Department of the Public Works and Utilities Department. *Director of Public Works and Utilities Brant D. Keller will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners Todd/Ward to approve carried 6-0.

12. Consider the purchase of Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) for the High Service Pump #2 at Still Branch Water Treatment Plant from McNaughton-McKay in the amount of \$178,894.45 for the Water and Wastewater Department of the Public Works and Utilities Department and amend the budget accordingly. *Director of Public Works and Utilities Department Brant D. Keller will address.*

Dr. Keller responded to Commissioner Morrow's questions regarding reimbursable costs (none for this item), circuit protection, etc.

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3

Motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/Ward to approve carried 6-0.

13. Consider award of lowest and best bid and construction contract to McCoy Grading, Inc., for the GDOT LMIG program year 2015 in the amount of \$433,149.37 for the Public Works and Utilities Department and amend the budget accordingly. *Director of Public Works and Utilities Brant D. Keller will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/Ward to approve carried 6-0.

14. Consider approval of a Task Order to Paragon Consulting Group for the construction management of the GDOT LMIG 2015 project in the amount of \$20,870.00 for the Public Works and Utilities Department and amend the budget accordingly. *Director of Public Works and Utilities Department Brant D. Keller will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners Todd/Ward to approve carried 6-0.

15. Consider a parking configuration to add on-street parking spaces to the east side of North 5th Street. *City Manager Kenny Smith will address.*

Mr. Smith referenced a diagram with sizable rights-of-way. He stated the City was approached by the property owner for these additional spaces, and since the City is developing a park one block from there, it will help the entire area along 5th Street to Broad Street. Spaces are only being designated for the east side. He has talked with Griffin Daily News regarding this action. They are fine as long as the entrances to their buildings are not impeded. Costs for this action are budgeted in Public Works and will most likely span the remainder of this fiscal year and spill into the next. There are no scheduled improvements to the new park at this time.

Motion/second by Commissioners Morrow/McLemore to approve carried 6-0.

16. Consider changing the name of Thomas Packing Company Drive to Thomas Drive. *City Manager Kenny Smith will address.*

Mr. Smith said there was some debate as to whether this is actually a street or not. It is contained entirely within the city's 13.86 acres here. It may, in fact, be a private drive but GIS shows it as a city street, so this request comes out of an abundance of caution. There is no packing company in existence any more, and a shortening of the name to Thomas Drive is just practical. There is a Thomas Street in the County but no Thomas Drive is the City that he is aware of at this point.

Motion/second by Commissioners Ward/Todd to approve carried 6-0.

17. Request to approve travel for Chairman Hollberg and Commissioners Todd and McCord to the MEAG Power Annual Conference, July 13-15, 2015. *City Manager Kenny Smith will address.*

Motion/second by Commissioners Ward/McLemore to approve carried 6-0.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- There are scheduled two Listening Sessions for Archway Partners on Tuesday, June 2 at 9:30 AM in the Spalding County High School cafeteria and 6:30 PM in the Orrs Elementary cafeteria. He encouraged attendance.
- June Jam, on June 6 at the new Solomon Park at 5th, is shaping up to be a good event.
- Open House for the newly relocated Electric Department will be June 5 at 11 a.m. on Thomas Drive. Everyone is invited.

CITY COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner McCord congratulated all graduates this week.

Commissioner McLemore asked for a brief synopsis of the FY 2015-16 budget. City Manager Smith complied, citing much of the rationale presented earlier this morning at the Workshop.

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4

Commissioner Morrow cited two highly successful programs for Memorial Day commemorations this past weekend. He really thanked the city and staff for community public services and public relations. Everyone did an awesome job and provided quick response to many issues. Electric and Public Works were very responsive, and veterans were most appreciative. Commissioner Morrow was extremely proud of our city and staff. Many were from out of town and everyone was truly impressed.

Commissioner Todd echoed Commissioner Morrow's sentiments. There were three military deaths in 2005 when she was Mayor, and she recalled sending letters to their families thanking them for the service of their loved ones. No city in Georgia is more patriotic than Griffin in her opinion. The National Guard unit here is well known and respected, and they represent the City of Griffin well. She, too, was very proud.

Chairman Hollberg June Jam and other events were highly anticipated and should highlight the City quite well.

ADJOURN

Motion/second by Commissioners Ward/McLemore to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. carried 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenny L. Smith, City Manager/Secretary

Accepted:

Douglas S. Hollberg, Chairperson