

**MINUTES  
CITY COMMISSION CALLED MEETING  
JUNE 22, 2023**

A Called Meeting of the Cordele City Commission was held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00 AM, Cordele City Hall Courtroom, 501 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Cordele, Georgia with the following present:

Royce Reeves, Sr. – Commission Vice Chair	Vesta Beal-Shephard, Commissioner
Wesley Rainey, Commissioner	Isaac Owens, Commissioner
Angela Redding, City Manager	Tommy Coleman, City Attorney
Janice Mumphery, Recording Secretary	

**Absent:** Commission Chair Joshua Deriso

**Media Present:** Cameron Sanders – CBS 44; Cordele Dispatch – Sarah Brown.

**Call to Order:** Commission Vice Chair Royce Reeves called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

**Invocation:** There was a silent moment of prayer.

**Pledge Allegiance to the United States Flag:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commission Vice Chair Reeves.

**Roll Call:** A quorum was established.

Attendee's Name	Title	Absent	Present
Joshua Deriso	Commission Chairman	✓	
Royce Reeves, Sr.	Commission Vice Chairman		✓
Vesta Beal-Shephard	Commissioner Ward 1		✓
Isaac Owens	Commissioner Ward 3		✓
Wesley Rainey	Commissioner Ward 4		✓

**Approval of Agenda – June 22, 2023:** Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the Agenda for June 22, 2023; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved by the Commission.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Consider and Approve an Ordinance Establishing Procedures for the Development of an Agenda; Repealing All Ordinances In Conflict Herewith; and For Other Purposes.  
Commissioner Owens stated he went back and look at the Civility Pledge that the Commission made and the things that are in the Civility Pledge; the 9 Pillars of the Civility Pledge: (1) Be considerate of others' opinions. It's okay to agree to disagree; (2) Get curious instead of furious; (3) A silent voice is not always a weak voice; (4) Be Kind; (5) Actively Listen; (6) Think about the impact; (7) Ask questions to learn; (8) Remember the acronym QTIP (Quit Taking It Personal); (9) Having empathy. Commissioner Owens stated that the Commission needs to give serious consideration as to what the Commission is saying; that we need to be mindful to each other in what the Commission is saying.  
Commission Vice Chair Reeves stated, since he has been a commissioner, there have been things the he did not agree with, there has been things each of the Commission has not agreed

with, when you do not agree with something, the people who voted a commissioner into to office want the Commissioner to vote his/her conscience. The Commission get voted in by Wards, not at-large. Commission Vice Chair Reeves stated he likes the system that the Commission has because, one person does not control everything. He has put things on the Agenda and it is not voted on, but he moves forward.

Commissioner Rainey moved to approve the First Reading of an Ordinance; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission.

2. Consider and Approve a Resolution Requesting the General Assembly to Approve An Amendment to the City Charter of the City of Cordele to Correct An Error in Section 6.27; Repealing All Resolutions in Conflict Herewith; and For Other Purposes.  
Commissioner Shephard moved to approve a Resolution Requesting the General Assembly to Approve an Amendment to the City Charter; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved by the Commission.

3. Discussion of Fire Truck Purchase.

City Manager Angela Redding stated that during the Budget Work Session, there was discussion of the need for a Ladder Truck. Chief Alligood was able to travel to Wisconsin and look at a truck that is already built and ready to roll. To have a new truck built, this truck is a 2022. A new truck would take at least two to two and a half years. City Manager Angela Redding stated, she reached out to GMA regarding the lease for a Fire Truck, they provided the City with a five, seven, ten-year terms; the City can lease the vehicle for ten years and the first payment will be due next year. Looking at what the City currently have, in terms of our debt service and some of the debt that will be rolling off in the up coming years, the City should be able to afford this truck. In order for them to hold the truck for the City, and if this is something the Commission wants to do, to move forward, it will require 5% down payment, which is around \$63,000. If for some reason the City decides not to move forward with the truck, then the company would retain \$10,000 because the truck has been basically taken off the market.

Fire Chief Alligood stated that the current truck that the City has is 50 ft. and it gives the City no credit because it is not as tall as the City tallest building, this 75 ft ladder will give the City ISO credit for the truck because it is taller than the tallest building, so it is a necessity.

City Attorney Tommy Coleman stated that there will be another vote on the lease/purchase contract, the Commission is only telling the City Manager to move forward.

Commissioner Rainey moved that the Commission move forward with the 5% down payment and a ten-year lease; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the Commission approved the motion.

#### 4. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

##### **Ribbon Cutting**

The Watermelon Festival Ribbon Cutting was held Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at the Chamber of Commerce. The Ribbon Cutting is the official kick-off to a month long of Watermelon Days Festival activities.

##### **Juneteenth Event at the Library**

Commissioner Shephard and City Manager Angela Redding, along with Chris from the Cordele Dispatch read Juneteenth stories to children at the Library on Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Upcoming Events**

*74<sup>th</sup> Watermelon Festival Parade*

June 24, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

*74<sup>th</sup> Watermelon Arts & Crafts*

Georgia Veterans State Park

June 24, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Transportation to and from the park will be provided from Southgate Shopping Center located at 102 E 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue

*Rededication of Perlis Park*

Corner of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue

June 22, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Art is funded by Georgia Council for the Arts

RFP has been issued for the Residential and Commercial Solid Waste Collection and Disposable Services, it was advertised June 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

Mandatory pre-proposal conference will be held on Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 10:00 AM, at Public Works Department, located at 808 East 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Proposals are due no later than 2:00 PM on Monday, July 31, 2023.

*Fireworks on the Flint*

Georgia Veterans State Park July 3, 2023, 8:00 p.m.

Fourth of July (Independence Day)

City Offices will be closed Tuesday, July 4, 2023, for Fourth of July

**City Commission Meeting**

Due to the Fourth of July holiday, the first City Commission Meeting in July will be held on Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

- 5. ADJOURNMENT:** Commissioner Shephard moved to adjourn at 8:15 AM; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved by the Commission.