

**MINUTES  
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING  
AUGUST 17, 2021**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Cordele City Commission was held on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m., Cordele City Hall Courtroom, 501 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Cordele, Georgia with the following present:

|                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| John Wiggins, Commission Chair       | Jeanie Bartee, Vice Chair         |
| Royce Reeves, Commissioner           | Vesta Beal-Shephard, Commissioner |
| Wesley Rainey, Commissioner          | Roland McCarthy, City Manager     |
| Janice Mumphery, Recording Secretary | Tommy Coleman, Attorney           |

**Staff present:** No staff was present.

**Others Present:** Charlie Butts, Devontae Hunt, Isaac Owens, Willie Williams, Don Cole.

**Media present:** Ricky Smarr – South GA TV; Cordele Dispatch – Neil McGaHee.

**Call to Order:** Commission Chair John Wiggins called the meeting to order.

**Invocation:** Prayer was rendered by Rev. Ricky Smarr.

**Pledge Allegiance to the United States Flag:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of Work Session Minutes – August 3, 2021:** Commissioner Bartee moved to approve the Work Session Minutes, August 3, 2021; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.

**Approval of Agenda – August 17, 2021:** Commissioner Bartee moved to approve the Agenda for August 17, 2021; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.

**ADMINISTRATION - FISCAL:**

**Approval for the purchase of radios and equipment:** Commission approval is requested for the purchase of Motorola equipment and services in the amount of \$135,523.97. Currently the equipment being used is outdated and causing an issue at the 911 Call Center when used. Upon Commission approval the City will order the Motorola Equipment. Commissioner Reeves moved to approve the purchase of Motorola Equipment; seconded by Commissioner Shephard. Commissioner Bartee inquired about the purchase being in the City's budget; Mr. McCarthy replied, "yes" it is, purchase is a part of SPLOST funding. After a brief discussion, the motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.

**Approval for Surplus Property:** Commission approval is requested for the attached list of surplus property. Upon Commission approval the property will be disposed of or sold via GovDeals.com. Commissioner Bartee moved to dispose of the property on Gov. Deals.com; Commissioner Reeves seconded the motion; the motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS – COMMISSION APPROVAL**

### **ORDINANCES**

- a. **Second Reading of an Ordinance:** To amend Chapter 7 “Cemeteries” of the City Code of the City of Cordele: Repealing all Ordinances in conflict herewith; and for other purposes. Commissioner Rainey moved to approve the Ordinance; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.
  
- b. **Second Reading of an Ordinance:** Commission approval is requested for the General Election Ordinance. The City Commission of the City of Cordele hereby ordains that pursuant to the Charter of the City of Cordele, as amended, and the Georgia Elections Code, as amended through the regular 2021 session of the Georgia General Assembly, the General Election for Chairman of the City Commission, City Commission Ward 2 and City Commission Ward 3, as provided by O.C.G.A. & 21-2-1, et seq., to fill terms expiring on December 31, 2021. Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the Ordinance; seconded by Commissioner Reeves; the motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.

### **CITY MANAGER UPDATE:**

**Decision requested for Suspension/Revocation of an Alcohol License:** A decision is requested from the Commission for a suspension/revocation of an Alcohol License for Joe’s Meat Market located at 1305 South Joe Wright Drive. Upon the decision by the Commission notification will be made to the owner of Joe’s Meat Market.

**Motion:** Commissioner Reeves moved to allow Joe’s Meat Market to keep their license; Commissioner Shephard second the motion. Commissioners Reeves and Shephard voted aye; Commissioner Bartee and Rainey voted nay; Chair John Wiggins broke the tie, voting nay. The motion was not carried with a 3/2 vote, not in favor of Joe’s Meat Market keeping their license.

**Motion:** Commissioner Rainey move to suspend Joe’s Meat Market Alcohol License, not Business License, but Alcohol License for one-year; Commissioner Shephard asked, if Joe’s Meat Market move to another area; will he be able to apply for another Alcohol License? The answer was “yes”; he would be able to apply for another Alcohol License, if he moves to a different location. Commissioner Bartee seconded the motion. Commissioners Rainey and Bartee voted aye; Commissioners Shephard and Reeves voted nay; Commission Chair John Wiggins broke the tie with an aye vote. The motion carried with a 3/2 vote to suspend Joe’s Meat Market License for one-year.

City Clerk, Debra Perry inquired about Joe’s Meat Market State License. City Attorney Tommy Coleman stated that his State License will be automatically suspended as well. Mr. Coleman stated the State requires that they are notified within 45 days, if there is a disciplinary action has been taken by the City’s Commission or Council. Attorney Coleman stated the Law says, a business cannot have a State License if the business does not have a City License.

### **Approval of reappointments to the Cordele Housing Authority Board of Commissioners:**

Commission approval is requested for the reappointment of Gene Ford as a Commissioner to a five-year term and Mattie Gwyn as a Resident Commissioner to a one-year term. Upon the Commission decision a letter will be sent to the Housing Authority with your decision. Commissioner Reeves moved to approved the reappointment of the Board Members; seconded by Commissioner Bartee; the motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

**Meeting on July 30, 2021:** Received May SPLOST distribution on the amount of \$110,505.76.

**GMA Meeting August 6-10, 2021:** The annual GMA convention was held in Savannah on these dates. Commissioner Bartee, Commissioner Shephard, Commissioner Reeves and Roland McCarthy all attended the conference.

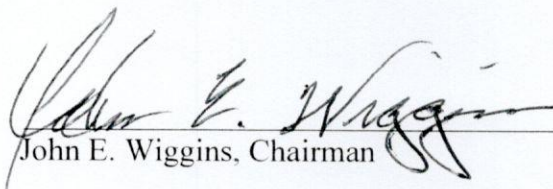
**Vacation Requested:** City Manager Roland McCarthy requested vacation from September 9-20, 2021. Commissioner Reeves moved to approve the vacation; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the request was approved unanimously by the Commission.

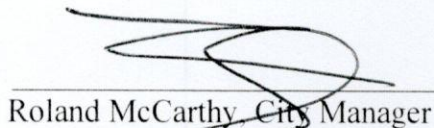
**CITY ATTORNEY'S UPDATE:** City Attorney Tommy Coleman informed the Commission about alleged violations of the State Election Code against the City of Cordele. Mr. Coleman stated, after an investigation by the Secretary of State, the SEB found probable cause that the City violated the Election Code during the administration of the City of Cordele General Municipal Election in Crisp County on November 3, 2015. The reprimand is for the City to agree to cease and desist from further violations of the Election Code and pay a \$250.00 civil penalty. Commissioner Reeves moved to approve the reprimand for the City to agree to cease and desist from further violations of the Election Code and to pay a \$250.00 civil penalty; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.

\*\*\*Chair John Wiggins made an announcement that he has reconsider to retain the seat of Chair of the City of Cordele, he will run for another four-year term of office.

**Executive Session:** Commissioner Reeves moved to have an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was carried unanimously by the Commission.

**Adjourn:** Commissioner Bartee moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 p.m., and go into an Executive Session.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John E. Wiggins, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roland McCarthy, City Manager

September 21, 2021  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date