

**MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 19, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Cordele City Commission was held on April 19th, 5:30 p.m., Cordele City Hall Courtroom, 501 North 7th Street, Cordele, Georgia with the following present:

Joshua Deriso, Commission Chair	Vesta Beal-Shephard, Commissioner
Wesley Rainey, Commissioner	Isaac Owens, Commissioner
Angela Redding, City Manager	Janice Mumphery, Recording Secretary
Hayden Hooks, Attorney	

City Attorney Absent: Tommy Coleman

Staff present: Capt. Jalon Heard - Interim Police Chief, Irene Cantrell – HUD Director, Fire Chief Augusta Telfair, Debra Perry – City Clerk, Jack Wood, Sr. – Chief Codes Official, David Wade, - Personnel Director, Steve Fulford – Asst. City Manager/Public Works Director, Elaine Kent – Financial Consultant, Debbie Wright – UT&C Director, Kimberly Jackson – Detective Administrative Assistant.

Others present: J. Bolden, Geraldine Ford, Belinda Griffin, Jamel Mejia, Ronald Michael, Sr., Mike Pittman, Carol Johnson, Jannifer Royal, F. Davis, Charlie Butts, Pete Chambliss, Velesia Grant, Charles Hardeman, Michael Waters, Steven Crenshaw, Kathy Hancock, Anna Rolle, Dr. Ruby Jackson, George & Kenya Whitehead, Javantae Hunt, Seneicus Whitehead, Crandall Postell, Larry Hardemon, Marie West, Tenisha Smith, Vivian Jones, Karen Dunlap.

Media present: Rick Smarr - South GA TV; Cordele Dispatch – Neil McGaHee.

Call to Order: Commission Chair Joshua Deriso called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Invocation: Prayer was rendered by Dr. Ruby Jackson.

Pledge Allegiance to the United States Flag: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Shephard.

Roll Call: A quorum was established.

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

Approval of Agenda – April 19, 2022: Commissioner Rainey moved to approve the Agenda for April 19, 2022; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes – April 5, 2022: Commissioner Shephard moved to approve minutes for April 5, 2022; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the minutes were approved by the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: All Speakers will have 5 minutes

- a) Mr. Ronald Michael – Appeared before the Commission with several items of concern:
- City-County Consolidation
 - Confederate Statue Petition – Mr. Michael inquired about the 8,000 signatures.
 - City Charter 5.16-Section 1
 - Open Records requests received by Mr. Michael, regarding complaints of write-ups of staff members for the last one hundred (100) days, which was requested by the Commission Chair Joshua Deriso on January 11, 2022.

SPEAKERS ON A SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM: No one appeared before the Commission.

PROCLAMATION: National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 24-30, 2022
Commissioner Shephard read the Proclamation. Belinda Griffin and Jamel Mejia, Victim Advocate, Office of District Attorney, was present. Proclamation was read by Commissioner Shephard.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Consider a Resolution of the City of Cordele Recognizing Georgia Cities Week, April 24-30, 2022, and Encouraging All Residents to Support the Celebration and Corresponding Activities. Commissioner Rainey moved to approve the Resolution; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the Resolution was approved by the Commission. Resolution was read by Commissioner Owens
2. Consider a Resolution to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with River Valley Regional Commission to provide Grant Administration Technical Services on the ARPA Grant Pursuant to Code of Federal Regulations regarding Noncompetitive Sole Source Procurement found at 2 CRF Part 200.320(c)(2). Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the Resolution; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the Resolution was approved by the Commission.
3. Discuss Ordinance 2021-05: An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Code of the City of Cordele to provide for Manufactured/Mobile Homes; Repealing All Ordinances In Conflict Herewith; and for other Purposes. There were several suggestions made by the Commission to resolve this matter:
 - Commissioner Shephard suggested that the Zoning and Appeals Board, the Historic Preservation Committee and the Commission should come together, sit down and make a decision on this matter once and for all.
 - Commission Chair Joshua Deriso suggested having a Public Hearing for the Gillespie Selden area to see how the residents feel about the situation.
 - Commissioner Owens stated he agrees with Commissioner Shephard to get the three boards together, to discuss and resolve this matter.

After a brief discussion on this matter a motion was made.

Motion: Commissioner Rainey moved to keep the Ordinance for Zoning in the Gillespie Selden area the same; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission. Commissioners Shephard, Rainey and Owens voted aye. Commission decided to keep Ordinance 2021-05 the same.

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4. Consider a Second Reading of an Ordinance of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Cordele, Georgia Repealing An Ordinance That Conflicts With Georgia General Law; Repealing All Additional Ordinances in Conflict herewith; and For Other Purposes. Commissioner Rainey moved to approve the Second Reading of this Ordinance; seconded by Commissioner Owens; the motion was approved by the Commission.
5. Consider a First Reading of an Ordinance Establishing and Authorizing an Interment Fee in City Cemeteries; Repealing all Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and For Other Purposes.
Motions:
 - (1) Commissioner Owens moved to approved the First Reading of an Ordinance establishing and authorizing an Interment Fee in the City Cemeteries; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission;
 - (2) Commissioner Rainey moved for the Interment Fee to be \$150.00; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission.
6. Discuss and Consider Proposal from Paychex to provide Payroll and HR Software. Elaine Kent – Financial Consultant gave a brief summary on the Proposal from Paychex, in reference to Payroll and HR Software. Commissioner Owens moved to approve the Proposal; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission.
7. Consider a request for items listed to be deemed surplus items. To allow the City of Cordele to dispose of the property via GovDeals.com. See Attachment. Commissioner Rainey moved to approve the items to be deemed surplus and to dispose of the items on GovDeals.com; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission.
8. Consider an Application for Alcoholic Beverage License: Shahid Mehmood is applying for a Beer & Wine Consumed Off Premises, at Valero 601 LLC/Family Food Mart, 601 East 8th Avenue, Cordele, GA. Approved by Interim Police Chief Jalon Heard on April 15, 2022. Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the Alcoholic Beverage License; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved by the Commission.
9. Consider an Application for Alcoholic Beverage License: David Spencer Burke is applying for a Beer Only – Consumed Off Premises, at David Food Mart, 902 West 16th Avenue, Cordele, GA. Approved by Interim Police Chief Jalon Heard on March 22, 2022. Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the Alcoholic Beverage License; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved by the Commission.
10. Consider a request from Mr. Milton Holly, Jr. to place two new single-wide manufactured homes at the Southeast corner of West 8th Avenue and North 11th Street, on Block 85, Lots 1-3, Cordele, Georgia. The Board of Zoning Appeals met on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at City Hall; the Board approved the request from Mr. Holly to place the manufactured homes at the Southeast corner of West 8th Avenue and North of Street. See BZA minutes from April 14, 2022. Commissioner Owens moved to approve the request to place two single wide manufactured homes in the Southeast corner of Wet 8th Avenue and North 11th Street; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved by the Commission.
11. **CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:** City Manager Angela Redding reported.
 - Reminder of the TSPLOST vote that is coming up in May, 2022.

- Financial Report was included in the Commissioners packet.

12. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: No Report.

13. OTHER REPORTS:

1. Commissioner Owens stated that he and City Manager Angela Redding attended an event at Crisp Regional Hospital, where U. S. Senator Jon Ossoff was the Speaker. Senator Ossoff informed the public of securing a \$400,000.00 Federal Grant to help transportation challenged patients of Crisp Regional Hospital. Commissioner Owens stated this is much needed and it will provide jobs for Cordele.
2. Commission Chair Joshua Deriso requested an update on the Forensic Audit. City Manager Angela Redding stated that she did request from the Commission to have a Forensic Audit, but at another Commissioners Meeting she informed the Commission that she had asked Elaine Kent, Financial Consultant to look into the different areas of the finances, just base on what Mrs. Kent has reviewed, there is nothing that stands out to require a Forensic Audit. City Manager Angela Redding gave a brief description of a Forensic Audit; it will cost a lot of resources, as well as, staff time. The only thing that is being looked into is the Tourism Funds for the Rail Platform. In regards to anything else, nothing as been found. Commission Chair Deriso stated that a motion was brought by the Commission and it passed to have a Forensic Audit. City Manager Angela Redding stated, she did ask the Commission for a Forensic Audit, but once the Financial Consultant, (Elaine Kent) was brought on to help with the Finance Department, she was asked to look into it. City Manager Angela Redding stated if it is the will of the Commission, it can be advertised and we can move forward, but again if there is not a specific area that needs to be looked into; it will take a lot of time and resources. City Manager Angela Redding asked if the Commission wanted her to get bids to have a Forensic Audit. Commission Chair Deriso stated that there was a motion made and approved by the Commission to do a Forensic Audit on January 18, 2022, and he would like for this to move forward. After further discussion about this matter a motion was made.
Motion: Commissioner Rainey moved to not to proceed with the Forensic Audit; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was carried with a 2/1 vote. Commissioners Rainey and Shephard voted aye; Commissioner Owens voted nay. There will not be a Forensic Audit at this time.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Rainey moved to go into to Executive Session at 6:50 p.m. to discuss litigation matters; seconded by Commissioner Shephard, the motion was approved by the Commission.

15. REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED: Commissioner Owens moved to reconvene the Meeting at 7:52 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved by the Commission.

16. ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Rainey moved to adjourn the Meeting at 7:56 p.m.; seconded by Commissioner Owens; the motion was approved by the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Rainey moved to approve the Meetings Minutes for April 19, 2022; second by Commissioner Shephard; Minutes were approved by the Commission.

APPROVED