

**MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
DECEMBER 7, 2021 AT 4:30 PM**

The Cordele City Commission held a Work Session on December 7th, 4:30 p.m., Cordele City Hall Courtroom, 501 North 7th Street, Cordele, Georgia with the following present:

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

City Attorney Absent: Tommy Coleman, City Attorney

Staff present: Capt. Jalon Heard, Capt. Scott Farrow, Irene Cantrell, Fire Chief Augusta Telfair, Debra Perry, Jack Wood, Sr., David Wade, Angie Craig.

Staff absent: Steve Fulford, Debbie Wright, Police Chief Mike Hathaway.

Others Present: Don Cole, Michael Waters, Charlie Butts, Fannie Deriso, V. Dunlap, Joshua Deriso, Lisa Garcia, Isaac Owens, Tammye Pettyjohn.

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

Call to Order: Commission Chair John Wiggins called the Work Session 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 Meeting Minutes, November 16, 2021: Commissioner Bartee moved to approve the meeting minutes of November 16, 2021; seconded by Commissioner Reeves; the minutes were approved unanimously by the Commission.

Approval of Called Meeting Minutes, November 19, 2021: Commissioner Reeves moved to approve the called meeting minutes of November 19, 2021; seconded by Commissioner Bartee; the minutes were approved unanimously by the Commission.

DEPARTMENTAL HEAD REPORTS:

Finance Director – Roland McCarthy reported

- Revenue is over Expenses in FY2022 to date \$1,641,168.
- FY2021 Property Tax Collections are \$651,526 collected of the \$2,735,938 due or 24% total collected.

*****Please see report submitted for additional information.**

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Fire Chief – Augusta Telfair reported: October 28 – November 30, 2021

11 fire alarms, 3 motor vehicle accidents, 4 rubbish fire, 1 vehicle fire, 3 structure fire, 1 stove fire, 3 odor investigations, 1 power line down, 1 smoke investigation, 3 EMS assist calls.

*****Please see report submitted for additional information.**

Housing and Urban Development – Irene Cantrell reported.

1. **CDBG 2020** – On November 19th the Engineering Firm advised that they will be submitting the McLeod S/D Sewer Improvements Plans to LPSS packages to EPD and GSWCC for their approvals.
2. **BZA** – The BZA Board met on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, to consider a variance / permit request from Ms. Jackie Walker, to locate a new 2021 single-wide manufactured home at 1106 North 10th Street, Northside Addition, Block C, Lot 27, Cordele, Georgia. This area's Zoning designation is (R-4), Multi-Family Residential District. There were no persons present at the public hearing to object to Ms. Walker's request to locate a manufactured home at 1106 North 10th Street.
 - The Board of Zoning Appeals voted unanimously to recommend to the Cordele City Commission that this request be granted to Ms. Jackie Walker to locate a single-wide manufactured home at 1106 North 10th Street, Cordele, Georgia.
3. **CPC** - The Cordele Planning Commission met on December 2, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., for a scheduled public hearing and a public meeting on an annexation / zoning request from Wells Properties, LLC (Mr. Chip Wells). The subject property is located at 1303 and 1305 East 16th Avenue / Highway 280 East. Also known as Land Lot 9 of the 11th Land District, Crisp County, Georgia, containing 2.373 acres. The requested zoning classification is Highway Commercial District (HC).
 - There being no objections from the public during the public hearing therefore the Cordele Planning Commission members voted unanimously to approved the annexation / zoning classification as Highway Commercial District (HC) be recommended for approval by the Cordele City Commission.

*****Please see report submitted for additional information.**

Chief Codes Official – Jack Wood, Sr. reported.

Total of Job Valuations: \$5,412,835.00 Permit Fees: \$14,977.00

Mr. Wood stated, he expects the job valuations to increase to \$18,000,000 before the end of the year.

*****Please see report submitted for additional information.**

Personnel Director – David Wade reported

1. Requested quotes from local insurance agents for the upcoming Georgia Firefighters Cancer Program renewal. Based on the information received, GMA still offers the most affordable rates. Mr. Wade stated that the City reached out to other companies to see if the City is getting a good rate and by research the City is getting a good rate.
2. Met with Noel Williams of Partners Benefit Group to discuss the upcoming renewal of the City's health insurance plan. All indications point to a 12% annual increase, or approximately \$280,000 per year.

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3. The 30-year Retirement Plan will be implemented soon, sometime around July 1, 2022 because this was not a budgeted item.

*****Please see report that was submitted for information.**

Cordele Police Department – Capt. Scott Farrow – Oct. 28 – Nov. 30, 2021

- **Part I Crimes - 48:** Homicide/Murder – 0; Rape – 1; Robberies – 0; Motor Vehicle Thefts – (2) 1 recovered; Aggravated Assault – (7) 2 arrested, 1 juvenile arrest; Larceny – (30) 11 shoplifting w/10 arrests and 1 juvenile arrest, 11 entering autos, 8 other thefts; Arson – 0; Burglary – (8) 7 residential w/1juvenile arrest, 1 business.
- **Part II Crimes – 125:** Incidents Reported – 207; Family Violence Incident Reported – (6) 3 arrests; Miscellaneous Incidents – 83; Motor Vehicle Crashes – (63) 37 roadway, 26 private property; Arrests Made from Incidents – 116; Citations Issued – 224; Warnings Issued – 97.
- **Total Calls – 1,508**
- The Department will be participating in the Cordele Lions Club Christmas parade on December 2nd. Sgt. Michael Telfair built a “police sleigh” for the float. Sgt. Telfair did an awesome job.
- The department will be participating with Adopt an Angel Toy Drive on December 3rd – December 9th.
- The Department has started preparation for Shop with a Cop 2021, which will be held on December 17, 2021.
- Cadets Joshua Stubbs and Austin Wells are expected to graduate the Police Academy December 17th.

Police Dept. Capt. Jalon Heard reported:

- We are in the process of removing the front window tint from our patrol vehicles. This will be one step in the community and patrolman developing positive relations.
- We are exploring a change in uniforms. The current uniform looks too tactical. We are going to move the equipment back to the belt and provide a more professional appearance.
- We have updated our traffic stop policy. This change provides a more professional interaction with citizens during a routine traffic stop. We monitor these interactions via our body camera videos, and hold the officers accountable. (Take some copies of the directive I sent out)
- We are encouraging the officers to interact with the community, particularly in the neighborhoods, when calls for service slows down. We understand this is the primary way for us to build quality community relationships. We will be tracking the number of contacts to hold the officers accountable.
- We are working with Cordele Housing Authority to begin community meetings in each complex. This will provide a way for citizens to speak directly with the police and voice their concerns about issues that affect them.
- Our investigative unit is meeting, working, and communicating with CCSO investigators to share information. Many of our offenders are well known to both agencies. This sharing of information is beneficial in so many ways. The Sheriff has been very supportive in our efforts to fight crime that crosses over in the county.

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Public Works – Angie Craig reported.

13th Street Sidewalks Project, Lanier Engineer will start the plans for this project today.

*****Please see report that was submitted for information.**

UC&T – Roland McCarthy reported.

Mr. McCarthy stated to see report that was submitted for information.

*****Please see report that was submitted for information.**

CITY MANAGER UPDATE: Roland McCarthy reported.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

- SPLOST Funds Received: Received September SPLOST in the amount of \$101,122.76.
- Received Notice from Mediacom: The City received a letter from Mediacom stating they will implement program changes and rate adjustments on or about January 1, 2022.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Commission to discuss Amending the Zoning Code Ordinance: City Commission to discuss An Ordinance amending the Zoning Code of the City of Cordele to provide for location of Manufactured or Mobile Homes on property where they previously existed; repealing all Ordinances in conflict herewith; and for other purposes. This item will be on the Agenda, December 21st for a First Reading.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commission to discuss Addendum Number Three for Residential and Commercial Solid Waste: Attached is Addendum Number Three being submitted to the City Commission for consideration of Approval for the City of Cordele Residential Solid Waste and Commercial Solid Waste Contracts between the City of Cordele, Georgia and Advanced Disposal Services of Middle GA, LLC. This item will be on the City Manager's Report for approval on December 21st.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commission to discuss annexation of property: The property owners, Wells Properties, LLC are requesting for annexation of the following properties consisting of approximately 2.394 acres of land, located at 1305 East 16th Avenue/Highway 280 East. The property owners are requesting the zoning classification to be Highway Commercial District (HC). The Cordele Planning Commission met on December 2, 2021 and approved this request. This item will be on the City Manager's Report for approval on December 21st.

Commission to discuss a request from Mr. Malcolm Royal to purchase property owned by the City: Mr. Malcolm Royal requests the City Commission discuss allowing him to purchase 516 W. 8th Avenue. This property was donated to the city by Golden Peanut Company, LLC on March 20th 2003. The property description is; Residential in the North West Area, 0.1 Acres (4,225 sq. ft). This item will be on the City Manager's Report for approval on December 21st.

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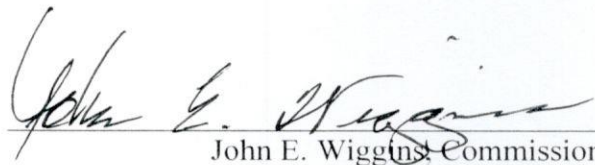
Commission to discuss a request from Hal McCay to donate property to the City: Mr. Hal McCay is asking if the city would like to take ownership of 608 South 7th Street. The property description is; Commercial, 0.26 Acres (11,250 sq. ft). This item will be on the City Manager's Report for approval on December 21st.

Commission to discuss a request for a 4-way Stop Sign: Residents have asked to the City Commission to discuss approving placing a 4-way Stop at 23rd Avenue and 9th Street. This item will be on the City Manager's Report for approval on December 21st.

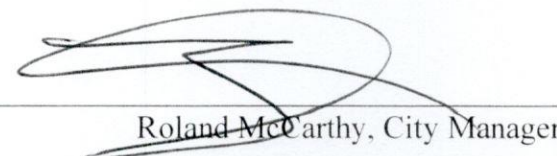
Request to place a Manufactured/Mobile Home: The BZA Board met on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, to consider a variance/permit request from Ms. Jackie Walker, to locate a new 2021 single-wide manufactured home at 1106 North 10th Street, Northside Addition, Block C, Lot 27, Cordele, Georgia; the Board is recommending for the Commission to approve the request. This area's Zoning designation is (R-4), Multi-Family Residential District. There were no persons present at the public hearing to object to Ms. Walker's request to locate a manufactured home at 1106 North 10th Street. This item will be in the City Manager's Report for the next meeting

Executive Session: An Executive Session is requested to discuss personnel matters. Commissioner Bartee moved to go into an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was carried with a 3/1 vote to have an Executive Session immediately following the Work Session. Commissioners Bartee, Shephard and Rainey – aye; Commissioner Reeves voted – nay.

Adjourn: Commissioner Bartee moved to adjourn the meeting and go into an Executive Session at 5:15 p.m.



John E. Wiggins, Commission Chair



Roland McCarthy, City Manager

12/21/21

Date