

**MINUTES**  
**CITY COMMISSION REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING**  
**March 2, 2021**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Cordele City Commission was held on March 2<sup>nd</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  
Royce Reeves, Commissioner  
Wesley Rainey, Commissioner  
Janice Mumphery, Recording Secretary

Jeanie Bartee, Vice Chair  
Vesta Beal-Shephard, Commissioner  
Roland McCarthy, City Manager

**Attorney absent:** Tommy Coleman

**Staff present:** David Wade.

**Staff absent:** Police Chief Lewis Green, Irene Cantrell, Fire Chief Augusta Telfair, Debbie Wright, Steve Fulford, Debra Perry, Jack Wood, Sr.

**Others Present:** N/A

**Media present:** Ricky Smarr – South GA TV; Gabe Jordan - Cordele Dispatch.

**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 Minutes of February 16, 2021:** Commissioner Bartee moved to approve the meeting minutes of February 16, 2021; it was seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the meeting minutes of February 16, 2021 were approved unanimously by the Commission.

**Old Business:** No Report.

**New Business:** No Report.

**Commission Priorities – In Progress:** Roland McCarthy, City Manager reported.

1. **Sidewalks on 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street (Joe Wright Drive) south of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue –** Sidewalks on 8th, 11th Street and 13th Streets south of 24th Avenue, North 11th Street – Currently funds are not available. Will engineer each street separately, as the City receive funds. The Commission has set the priority as follows:
  - I. 11th Street (Joe Wright Drive) South 24th Avenue West
  - II. 8th Street, South 24th Avenue West
  - III. 13th Street, South of 24th Avenue
  - IV. 11th Street North (From 16th Avenue, North to City Limits)

City Manager, Roland McCarthy explained to the Commission the T-SPLOST State Referendum; he stated that this referendum will assist the City with repairing of roads only. Mr. McCarthy asked the Commission if they would like to remove 11<sup>th</sup> Street North and South from the list of Commission Priorities-In Progress, which is City funded and put in them on the Future Progress list, which is State

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funded; the City can receive T-SPLOST monies to put sidewalks on the two streets, but it might be years before it is done, but the City will not have to pay for sidewalks being installed.

**Motion:** Commissioner Reeves moved to take 11<sup>th</sup> Street North and South off the In Progress list and put it on the Future Progress list; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the Commission approval was unanimous to wait on T-SPLOST to put sidewalks on North and South 11<sup>th</sup> Street, which is State funding.

2. **Sidewalk for Pecan Street:** The City has completed their portion of the sidewalks. Steve Fulford has conversed with CSX and they were supposed to be finished with this project by the end of January, 2021, but now hopefully, they will be finished by the end of February.
3. **Inflow/Infiltration Program for Wastewater Collection/Treatment Project in Progress –** SPLOST funds committed for project and the City has submitted all paperwork for a GEFA Loan to rehabilitate the Trickling Filter System.
4. **Gillespie Selden Rehab Project/Urban Renewal:**
  - **2018 CHIP (Community Housing Improvement Program) Grant:** Work is currently being performed on the Environmental Documents for the potential housing rehabilitation of the home located at 307 South 12th Street. The CHIP Housing Inspector has been contacted to schedule dates for the next two home inspections located at 107 Ross Street and 509 West 18th Avenue.
  - **2020 CDBG:** All CDBG paperwork has been submitted to the State and we are waiting to hear back from them concerning the clearance of all the “Special Conditions” then we will be able to draw funds. Lanier Engineering is currently working on the project design and should be furnished within a few months. When the project design has been completed, we will be ready for the bidding process.
  - **Historic Gillespie Gardens:** This project will be done in the Gillespie-Selden Historic District, developers have filed tax credits to pursue project.
5. **Demolish Dilapidated Structures/Remove Abandoned Vehicles:** In Progress with UBPO Cases. Landbank Authority Board has had their second meeting. Code Enforcements Officers will continue to work on cases. City Attorney is also working on dilapidated property.

### Commission Priorities – Future Projects:

1. **16<sup>th</sup> Avenue Widening** – This is on a TSPLOST Referendum that the City will be working on in the future. DOT is paving West 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue. (From West City Limits to 5<sup>th</sup> Street Vicinity) (15 years)
2. **11<sup>th</sup> Street Improvement Project - (From 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, North to City Limits)** The City has worked this project with the latest SPLOST Issue that was approved. 2018-2022 SPLOST Funds are committed to this project.
3. **DOT Study Request/Extend Ga. 300** – This is still on DOT radar. Requesting Update.
4. **Widening US Hwy 280 from Cordele to Americus (has been put on the DOT’s TSPLOST approval list.)** TSPLOST approval list. Bridge over Lake Blackshear is completed.

### APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES – Roland McCarthy reported.

**Approval is requested for the Second Reading of an Ordinance:** Commission approval is requested for the Second Reading of an Ordinance amending Section 5.1 of the City Code of the City of Cordele by adopting new Building Codes; repealing all ordinances in conflict herewith; and for other purposes. Commissioner Reeves moved to approve the Second Reading to amend an Ordinance Section 5.1 of

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the City Code; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.

**Approval is requested for the First Reading of an Ordinance:** Commission approval is requesting for the First Reading of an Ordinance of the City of Cordele adopting a utility accommodation policy: repealing all Ordinances in conflict herewith; and for other purposes. Commissioner Reeves moved to approve First Reading of an Ordinance of the City of Cordele adopting a utility accommodation policy: seconded by Commissioner Bartee; the motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT** – Roland McCarthy reported.

### **Past Meetings & Events**

**Cordele-Crisp IDC meeting, Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at 8:30 AM:** The IDC met on this date. Roland McCarthy attended this meeting.

**Keep Crisp Beautiful meeting, Wednesday, February 17, 2021, 10:00 AM:** The Keep Crisp Beautiful met on this date. Roland McCarthy attended this meeting.

**Rotary Club Meeting, Wednesday, February 17, 2021, 12:00 noon:** The Rotary Club had their weekly meeting and Roland McCarthy was the guest speaker.

**Meeting at County Administrator's Office, Thursday, February 18, 2021, 1 PM:** Steve Fulford and Roland McCarthy met with Clark Herald and County PW Director, in reference to the T-SPLOST Referendum.

**Landbank Authority Board Meeting, Thursday, February 19, 2021, 11:00 AM:** The Landbank Authority Board met on this date at the Crisp County Power Boardroom. Roland McCarthy attended this meeting.

**Meeting at Public Works, Tuesday, February 23, 2021, 10:00 AM:** Steve Fulford and Roland McCarthy met with Gerald Mixon from River Valley Regional Commission, in reference to the State T-SPLOST Referendum.

**Zoom Meeting, GMA 101 Virtual Workshop, Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 3 PM:** Roland McCarthy attended this Zoom meeting that was held by GMA. This was an orientation session to get a better understanding of GMA's role and to learn about the many resources available to help local leaders.

### **Future Meetings**

**Lions Club Meeting and Luncheon, Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 12:00 noon:** City Manager, Roland McCarthy was the Speaker at the Lions Club Meeting on the said date.

Action Report

OTHER CITY ACTION:

**Approval of an Application for Beer and Wine – Consumed Off Premises:** Commission approval is requested for an Application for Beer and Wine – Consumed Off Premises for Kanu 2021 LLC, dba, S and S Food Mart, 1702 South 7th Street, Cordele, GA. The applicant's name is Rupal Thaker. Chief Green approved the application on February 22, 2021. Pending your approval, the license will be issued. Commissioner Reeves moved to approve the Beer and Wine-Consumed off Premises License: seconded by Commissioner Shephard: the motion was approved with a 3/1 vote. Commissioner Barteo voted nay.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

**GEFA Loan to do the rehabilitation to the Trickling Filter System:** All paperwork has been submitted to GEFA to secure a loan to do the rehabilitation of the Trickling Filter System. GEFA will meet March 9, 2021.

**City Attorney Report:** No Report.

**Finance Director Report:** Roland McCarthy reported.  
Revenue is UNDER Expenses in FY2021 to date: \$488,712.00; this is due to the Trickling Filter System.  
\*\*Please see report that was submitted for additional information.

**Fire Chief Report:** Roland McCarthy reported.  
Ladder 3 Fire Truck is down.  
No report was submitted.

**Housing & Urban Advancement Director's Report:** Roland McCarthy reported.  
We are working with the River Valley Regional Commission to make sure all current annexations into the Cordele City Limits are included in the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) Maps.  
\*\*\*Please see report that was submitted for additional information.

**Chief Codes Official Report:** Roland McCarthy reported.  
\$4,975,000 Building values.  
\*\*\*Please see report that was submitted for additional information.

**Personnel Director Report:** David Wade reported.  
\*\*Please see report that was submitted for information.

**Police Chief Report:** Roland McCarthy reported.  
Please see report that was submitted for information.

**Public Works Director:** Roland McCarthy reported.  
A sewer line is broken near the Waste Water Treatment Plant and the estimated repair is \$150,000 to \$200,000; bids are now been taken to repair the sewer line.

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

**U T & C Director's Report:** Roland McCarthy reported.

The 2020 Water Quality Report is available on the City website for anyone to read. Go to [www.cityofcordele.com/water](http://www.cityofcordele.com/water).

We had a major Water Lab Inspection on Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have a few minor changes/updates in paperwork to take care of.

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

**Other Reports:** No other City reports.

**Adjourn:** Commissioner Bartee moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

  
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John E. Wiggins, Chairman

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

3/16/21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date