

MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
July 5, 2023

The City of Cordele Commission held a Regular Meeting on July 5, 2023 at 9:00 AM, Cordele City Hall Courtroom, 501 North 7th Street, Cordele, Georgia with the following present:

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

Staff present: Rusty Bridgers – Finance Director, Fire Chief Alligood, Lin Mercer – Codes Department, Melinda Spillers – HR Administrative Assistant, Police Chief Jalon Heard, Steve Fulford – Asst. City Manager/Public Works Director, Debbie Wright – UC&T Director, Irene Cantrell – HUA Director, Jackie Walker – Municipal Court Clerk.

Staff absent: Jack Wood, Sr., David Wade.

Media Present: Ricky Smarr - South GA TV; Sarah Brown – Cordele Dispatch

Call to Order: Commission Chair Joshua Deriso called the Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

INVOCATION: There was a moment of silent prayer.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Rainey.

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 – July 5, 2023: Commission Vice Chair Reeves moved to approve the Agenda for July 5, 2023; seconded by Commissioner Owens; the minutes were approved by the Commission.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET WORK SESSION MINUTES – June 14, 2023: Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the Work Session Budget Minutes for June 14, 2023; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the minutes were approved by the Commission.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – June 20, 2023: Commissioner Rainey moved to approve the Minutes for June 20, 2023; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the minutes were approved by the Commission.

APPROVAL OF CALLED MEETING MINUTES – June 22, 2023: Commission Vice Chair Reeves moved to approve the Called Meeting Minutes for June 22, 2023; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the minutes were approved by the Commission.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Commission Chair Deriso called the Public Hearings to order.

1. ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS; ARTICLE VI. USE PROVISIONS BY DISTRICT; SECTION 625.3 Conditional Uses.

KAYLA MARIE SMITH

Kayla Marie Smith is requesting a variance to locate one new (16' X 75') Single-Wide Manufactured Home at Block 105, Lots 6 and 7, 510 East 5th Avenue, City of Cordele, Crisp County, Georgia. The zoning classification of this property is (R-4), Multi-Family Residential District. Kayla Marie Smith is the property owner and the potential manufactured home owner.

Kayla Smith was not present.

COMMENTS:

Commissioner Shephard stated, she does not have an issue with Ms. Smith placing her Manufactured Home where she would like on the two lots. We are placing Manufactured Homes all over the City, in Ward I and Ward II. Commissioner Shephard stated she has no objection to Ms. Smith placing the Manufactured Home on the property that she owns.

City Manager Angela Redding stated, this is the last request that was in the pipeline before the moratorium was adopted.

2. FY 2023-2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

The Governing Body was presented with a proposed budget for FY 2023-2024. Notice of a Public Hearing was advertised in the legal organ for the City on June 21, 2023 and June 28, 2023. A copy of the budget was placed in the City Clerk's office for public inspection. This public hearing is to receive comments on the proposed FY 2023-2024 budget.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Milton Holly asked if there is anything in the budget for the Westside infrastructure improvement, anything for the Westside improvements, in particular Ward One?

Commission Chair Deriso replied: "only thing I think is sidewalks."

Commissioner Shephard replied: "and the paving of the streets."

City Manager Angela Redding stated: The various departments submitted their budget. The Public Works Department plan to pave streets, according to the streets that are on a priority list. For Joe Wright Drive, there is funding in TSPPOST and LMIG to pave this street. Basically, with the budget, the departments submit their request for each line item and then if there are streets that need to be paved in a certain area or other work that needs to done.

Mr. Holly: "So there was no request for the Westside or Ward One at all?"
City Manager Angela Redding: "no specific request for any of the Wards."

Commission Chair Deriso: "What I will share with you is, usually in some Cities, the budget is the biggest policy you can set, because you can pass a lot of things. But, if there is no money to go into those projects (proposals), it is not going to happen. So, usually the Governing Body has a larger say on what happens in the budget, it just does not come up from Department Heads. There are things, you have to do, there are certain things State and Federal Law make sure you have to do with the budget, but it also on this body to be able to recommend projects to be done, so it is just not on the Department Heads. The last people that approve this budget is the Governing Body."

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARINGS: Commissioner Rainey moved to close the Public Hearings at 9:11 AM; seconded by Commission Vice Chair Reeves; the motion was approved by the Commission.

REGULAR MEETING: Regular Meeting was called to order by City of Cordele Chair Joshua Deriso at 9:11 AM.

SPEAKERS APPEARANCES: Speakers will have five (5) minutes: No Requests.

SPEAKERS ON A SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM: Speaker will have three (3) minutes: No Requests.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. FINANCE DEPARTMENT: City Manager Angela Redding Reported.
Special Revenue received in June.

LOST (Local Option Sales Tax)
\$225,004.69

SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax)
\$211,944.08

TSPLOST (Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax)
\$29,283.20

Total Collected in May, 2023: \$466,231.97

2. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Fire Chief Todd Alligood Reported.
Reporting Period – May 31 – June 27, 2023, there were 58 total calls.

Department News

- Passed Yearly SCBA Air Quality Test
- New hire starts 7/11/23 (Joshua James) Cordele Fire will be at full staff.
- Performing yearly maintenance on Stations
- Planning for joint Active Shooter Training in July
- Several firefighters have attended classes and earned certificates from the Georgia Public Safety Training Center

- Georgia Fire Standards and Training completed the annual review of the Fire Department, we passed the review. The credit goes to Lt. Bullington, he keeps all the records and had everything ready for Standards and Training.

3. HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT – Irene Cantrell Reported.

CORDELE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION:

On June 12, 2023, the CHPC held a Called Meeting to address, discuss, and receive some clarifications on the modifications to the “Application for Certificate for Preservation” to the property located at 804 West 15th Avenue, and is within the Gillespie Selden Historic Preservation District. The property owner is Ms. Ethell Mumphery. After a thorough review and consideration of the requested repairs, replacements, etc., to the rental property that had sustained some fire damages to the siding, doors, windows, roof, flooring, and the front porch.

After a full discussion and review of the list of repairs and the photographs received from Mrs. Mumphery the CHPC unanimously voted to approved the modified “Application for Certificate for Preservation” at 804 West 15th Avenue.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOANS:

Hobo Café’ – First Loan
Hobo Café’ – Second Loan
Ray Ray’s Restaurant
The Grant Building
R & D Lawncare

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS:

There have not been any requests submitted to the BZA Board for conditional use variances.

CHIP 2018 GRANT PROGRAM:

The CHIP 2018 Rehab Grant Program has successfully completed two (2) homes and now we are anticipating a memo from the DCA office to proceed with the next home.

CORDELE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION:

There have not been any Applications submitted to date for Land Annexations, Zoning Amendments, Plat Review, etc.

CDBG 2020 SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT:

Lanier Engineering Firm has advised that the Contractor’s report is showing 18 homes have been connected to the City Sewer System and septic tanks abandoned. The project is 85% complete.

EJB Family & Youth Outreach Services, Inc. CEO, Mr. Michael Water

The number of youths that have signed up to participate in the Youth Programs within the YES Building during the past year of 2022 and the current year of 2023 are estimated at 172 plus.

Mr. Waters stated the EJB Family & Youth Outreach is currently serving forty-three (43) families, which are low-to-moderate income and over one hundred middle school youth

participate in the program. For questions or concerns, please see website:
www.ejboutreach.com

4. CODES REPORT: Lin Mercer Reported.

New Job:

Warehouse Griffin Grading & Concrete at 3501 Pateville
 Job Valuation: \$250,000.00 Permit Fee: \$930.00

Completed:

Car Connect Urgent Care East 16th Avenue \$1,458,376.00
 EV Charging Stations at Pilot \$200,000.00

5. PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT: Melinda Spillers Reported.

June 06, 2023: Met with Noel Williams and Alissa Wilkerson of Partners Benefit Group regarding the reward of the City’s Supplemental Insurance Plans. Renewals have been quoted with no premium increase with the exceptions of Group Term Life and Dental. Total premiums increased \$96.72 per month and \$122.55 per month respectively. Policies renew August 01, 2023.

June 12, 2023: Promoted an Animal Control Officer to Animal Shelter Manager in the Police Department.

June 20, 2023: Chris Ryan of Local Government Risk Management Services conducted Defensive Driving Classes. Classes spanned over a three-day period with fifty-four (54) employees attending.

6. MUNICIPAL COURT: Jackie Walker Reported.

Total Traffic Cases: 169
 Total Criminal Cases: 21
Total Court Cases: 190

Bench Warrants Ordered: 09
 License Suspensions Ordered: 36
 Total payments \$42,595.19
 Total Court Ordered Refunds \$1,246.00
 Total Defendants Incarcerated 1
 Total Days Jail Sentenced 2

7. POLICE DEPARTMENT – Police Chief Jalon Heard Reported.

Part I Crimes 33

Homicide/Murder 1 (1 arrest)
 Motor Vehicle Thefts 3 (3 recovered) 2 juvenile arrest
 Aggravated Assault 9 (1 adult arrest/2 juvenile arrest)
 Larceny (Thefts) 18 (3 entering autos, 11 shoplifting w/5 arrests, 4 other thefts)
 Burglary 2 (2 residential)

Part II Crimes 61

Incidents Reported 145

Community Contacts	72
Citations Issued	44
Warnings Issued	24
Total Calls for Service	1,123

Departmental News

On June 12th Animal Control Officer Brandi Akin was promoted to the Animal Shelter Manager.

On June 23rd Ptl. Kenan Raines and Ptl. Kenstan Hemphill graduated the South Georgia Police Academy.

The Department have recently hired two applicants, Jason Dukes and Jalen Johnson as Patrol Officers. They will be starting the South Georgia Police Academy on July 5th.

On June 28th, our department was invited to the Connect Camp at the Old Middle School. The Police and Fire Department are currently making plans for our 2nd Annual Cordele Summerfest. This event will be held on Saturday, August 26th 10 AM – 2 PM at the Community Clubhouse.

Noise Ordinances

State Law – Code 40-6-14: Sound and Volume Limitations from within a Motor Vehicle: It is unlawful to amplify sound from a motor vehicle from a distance of 100 ft. or more. This is a misdemeanor; a person will get a citation.

City Ordinances – The City has two (2) that pertain to noise violation: 12-5 deals specifically with noise; it states, it is unlawful to make, continue, or to cause to be made, or continued, any loud unnecessary or unreasonable noise or any noise, which either a noise disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, repose health, peace or safety of other persons within the City. It talks specifically about the hours, 12 midnight to 7:00 AM, but in different situations or circumstances, a response can be made and a citation can be received, depending on the incident.

Disorderly Conduct, also has a section dealing with noise; Section 18, 12-1: It says, make an unreasonable loud and unnecessary noise.

All are misdemeanor and will receive citations, normally, it is not an arrest.

8. PUBLIC WORKS – Steve Fulford Reported.

Presently taking bids on Solid Waste Disposable Contract. Bids are due by the end of July. Cemetery and Parks are down a tractor. Recommending to purchase a new tractor.

Commissioner Rainey requested Steve Fulford to bring a list of priorities for paving streets and a list of sidewalks. Last five years of LMIG contracts.

Commission Chair Deriso stated, it will also be good to highlight in different colors, the streets that have been paved within the last ten years in City.

9. UT&C – Debbie Wright Reported.

Water Treated	almost 99,000,000 gallons
Year to Date	661,000,000 gallons

- Did receive the ARPA Grant in the amount of \$10,000,000 – sewer rehab, mostly on the Westside.
- 11th sample for Cyanide and Heptachlor were non-detected.
- We have a busy month in June for Toxicity Testing, it is required annually by our NPDES Permit. Also, the DMR-QA Study for the wastewater lab is underway. This is required annually by EPA. Results for this test are still pending.
- 2022 Water Shed Assessment Report was due June 30, 2023, it was done on time and delivered to EPD.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Consider and Approve Agreement with Albany State University for use of Campus Facilities for FY 2023-2024.

Background: City Manager Angela Redding stated this agreement is with ASU for use of the campus for Department Head Meetings on the first Monday of each month. Commission Vice Chair Reeves moved to approve the Agreement; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission.

2. Consider and Approve Alcohol License Renewal. No exceptions noted. Dollar General – Store #2386, 402 S. 7th Street, Cordele, GA, 31015, Beer and Wine Consumed Off Premises. The license was approved by Chief Jalon Heard on June 29, 2023. Commission Vice Chair Reeves moved to approve the Alcohol License Renewal; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission.

3. Consider and Approve the Second Reading of an Ordinance Designating Certain Public Streets in the City of Cordele for the Combined Use of Motorized Carts and Regular Vehicular Traffic; and for Other Purposes. Commission Vice Chair Reeves moved to approve the Second Reading of an Ordinance; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission.

Discussion:

City Manager Angela Redding reemphasize that included in the Ordinance is the destination of streets and destination of streets are being worked on that golf carts will be able to travel on, and just a reminder that ATVs are prohibited, according to State Law. Also, requirements that will have to be met, in terms of the vehicle, as well as a driver's license. Commission Chair Deriso stated the streets should be listed in the Ordinance, on which Motorized Carts and Regular Vehicular Traffic is allowed before the Ordinance is approved. Commissioner Owens moved to rescind the motion to approve the Second Reading of an Ordinance; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission. There will be a Second Reading of this Ordinance, once the streets are listed in the Ordinance.

4. Consider and Approve the Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Article XII of Chapter 2 of the City Code of the City of Cordele; Removing All References to Ethics Tribunal and Replacing Them With Hearing Officer; Repealing All Ordinances In Conflict Herewith; and For Other Purposes.

Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Article XII of Chapter 2 of the City Code of the City of Cordele; seconded by Commissioner Rainey.

Discussion:

Commissioner Owens asked who will select the Hearing Officer?

City Attorney Tommy Coleman stated, he can give them a list or it can be advertised in the newspaper, but the City Commission will select the Hearing Officer.

Commission Chair Deriso stated: "this whole thing occurred, previously in the City Charter, the Chairman got to make two appointments, the Governing Body was in error with putting two peoples on the Ethics Committee that resided outside the City, making them not qualified to be on the Ethics Committee. Once I highlighted that, this governing body decided to go with a new process, actually paying a lawyer to come in and do what we already had a process for. This is to remove the Chairman's authority to have two people sit on the Ethics Committee like every other Chairman before myself. So, this whole process is another play at politics, instead of moving forward and progressing, in the original purpose we should move in. But, for the record, I say this whole process is convoluted by political play and stripping power from the Chair in the first place. It continues to show that this Governing Body has no respect for the majority of the people of the City of Cordele voted for."

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: "The truth of the matter is Chair...you are not going to sit here and say what you want to say...as long as you are telling the whole truth."

Commission Chair Deriso: "That is the truth...you can go to the Meeting Minutes and look at what happened."

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: "You sit here and be telling lies."

Commission Chair Deriso: "how is it a lie, sir, it is in the records." You all did not vote to put Mary Beal Shephard and Minister Ruby Jackson on the Ethics Committee, and they were not qualified because they lived outside the City, those are facts?"

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: "I have not placed anyone on the Ethics Committee. You research it and bring it back."

Commission Chair Deriso: "I have already researched it. Every Chairman before got to place people on the Ethics Committee."

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: "You wanted to place people on the Ethics Committee to listen to the Ethics Complaint that was filed against you?"

Commission Chair Deriso: "I said they can recuse themselves to hear my complaints."

After a discussion on the matter. The motion was approved by the Commission.

5. Consider and Approve the Second Reading of an Ordinance Establishing Procedures for the Development of an Agenda; Repealing All Ordinances In Conflict Herewith; and For Other Purposes.

Commissioner Rainey moved to approved the Second Reading of an Ordinance; seconded by Commissioner Shephard.

Discussion:

Commissioner Owens inquired about Section 3-1: If a matter is voted on and defeated, a member who voted against the matter may make a motion for reconsideration.

Section 3-2: If the matter was not voted on or tabled it shall not be placed on the agenda absent an affirmative vote of four Commissioners.

“When we talk about tabling a motion or tabling anything, that means that we are tabling it for future discussion?”

City Attorney Tommy Coleman: Yes, it is.

Commissioner Owens: “The wording conflicts, doesn’t it?”

City Attorney Tommy Coleman: “Yes, sir, actually, every Commission uses the term “tabling” incorrectly, it is tabling to fix it, instead of saying, we are not voting on it, so you would need to say, we will refer it to the next meeting or future meeting. “Table” means something different from what we use, we use it that way by Robert Rules. We can change it; however, you want it.”

Commissioner Owens: “Is the wording, standard wording?”

City Attorney Tommy Coleman: “This is completely your policy.”

The Second Reading of an Ordinance was approved with a 3/1 vote. Commission Vice Chair Reeves – aye; Commissioners Shephard and Rainey – aye; Commissioner Owens – nay.

6. Consider and Approve the First Reading of an Ordinance Amending the Zoning Code of the City of Cordele to provide for the principal building main door entryway to face a public street; to provide that the chassis of a Manufactured Home be parallel to a City Street; Repealing all Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and For Other Purposes.

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

City Attorney Tommy Coleman stated, a Public Hearing will have to be scheduled before the Second Reading of the Ordinance.

7. Consider and Approve the Request from Kayla Marie Smith for a Variance to locate a New Single-Wide Manufactured Home at Block 105, Lots 6 and 7, 510 East 5th Avenue, City of Cordele, Crisp County, Georgia. The Zoning Classification of this Property is (R-4), Multi-Family Residential District.

Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the request for a variance to locate a New Single-wide Manufactured home at 510 East 5th Avenue, City of Cordele, Crisp County, Georgia; seconded by Commission Vice Chair Reeves; the motion was approved by the Commission.

8. Consider and Approve a Resolution Providing for the Adoption of a Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Commissioner Shephard moved to approve a Resolution Providing for the Adoption of a Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024; seconded by Commission Vice Chair Reeves.

Discussion:

Commission Chair Deriso: “This budget is very disappointing, out of all the departments, Community Development has been cut, which shows our values and what we plan on doing. Community Development was the only department that received a decrease. I understand that

part of that was due to moving a position, but if we want to see our City and our Community develop, the first thing we do not want to do, is make disinvestment in Community Development. The motion was approved by the Commission.

9. Consider and Approve a Resolution to Authorize and Direct an Officer of the City to Execute one or more Lease Supplement for a Lease or Leases under the GMA Direct Leasing Program; to Designate such Leases as Qualified Tax-Exempt obligations; to provide an effective date; and For Other Purposes.

Background: City Manager Angela Redding: “During the budget process, there was a discussion regarding the need for a new Ladder Truck. Our current truck is 33 years-old, I was asked to reach out to GMA regarding a lease and the documents are before you. The first payment under this lease will be due June 2024.

Commission Vice Chair Reeves moved to approve a Resolution; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved by the Commission.

10. Consider and Approve the Fire Apparatus Contract Agreement with W.S. Darley & Co. for the Purchase of a Ladder Truck.

Commission Vice Chair Reeves moved to approve the Fire Apparatus Contract with W.S. Darley & Co.; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; the motion was approved by the Commission.

11. Consider and Approve Award of the Cordele Gateway Project I-75 Interchanges, Exit 99 & 101 Landscape Maintenance Project to Southern Landscape Solutions.

Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the Award of the Cordele Gateway Project; seconded by Commission Vice Chair Reeves;

Discussion:

Steve Fulford stated, there were five bidders, the low bidder was Bembry lawn Services at \$75,000, but they do not have the State licenses required to handle this job. The next lower bidder was Southern Landscape at \$110,500 annually. We are recommending that the Contract be awarded to Southern Landscape, with proper State License. Waldrip Lawn Care - \$128,892 annually, Warren Pine Straw - \$119,900 annually, Cutting Edge Premier lawn - \$242,980 annually.

The motion was approved by the Commission to award the contract to Southern Landscape.

12. Discussion of relocating the Confederate Monument.

Commissioner Owens moved to discuss relocating the Confederate Statue; seconded by Commission Vice Chair Reeves.

Discussion:

Commissioner Owens stated, the last time this came up, we were wondering where were we going to relocate it, we have not gotten any follow up from that.

City Manager Angela Redding stated, that we were waiting on the decision from the Supreme Court. There was a request regarding the referendum, which the General Assembly delegation sent back, because of the State Law that had been passed that it could not go on the ballot.

There was no motion to relocate the Confederate Monument.

It was noted that the vote to move the Confederate Monument had been rescinded.

13. Discussion to move the City to a four (4) day work week.

Background: Commission Chair Deriso, as research keep going, most places say that when employees a better work balance, it is essential. But when you are trying to attract people to a City (we cannot compete with pay all the time) some of the other things we can do is offer them an extra day off.

Commissioner Shephard moved to discuss the City going to a four (4) work week; seconded by Commissioner Owens.

Discussion:

Commissioner Shephard: For clarification, are we saying thirty-two hours pay week with benefits or are saying 32/40. Work thirty-two and get paid for forty.

City Manager Angela Redding stated, during Department Heads Meeting, a four-day work week was discussed. Listening to Department Heads and looking at the work load that we have, it was discussed at this time, we do not see that we can go to a four-day work week. It was discussed, we need to look at, how we can make it work. But whatever this Governing Body approve, we will make sure it is implemented.

Commission Chair Deriso: Inquired about a position in Community Development.

City Manager Angela Redding: The position is for a City Planner. We can keep the position and advertise for a City Planner.

14. Discussion of acquisition of A.S. Clark property for the city to generate revenue through the spaces of the auditorium, gymnasium, and cafeteria as rental money and the 12+ acres of land for future housing developments with CBDG and other funds.

Background: Commission Chair Deriso stated, Dr. Whitest has been reaching out to the City of Cordele regarding assisting with A. S. Clark. A. S. Clark is a historical site, a historical school building. I think it will be an advantage to the City to acquire it and use it for future development. Commissioner Owens moved to discuss this item; seconded by Commissioner Shephard.

Discussion:

Commissioner Shephard: "Is it for sale?"

Commission Chair Deriso: "Yes"

Commissioner Shephard: "Are we talking about funds for 2024, 2025; how are we talking about financing A. S. Clark?"

Commission Chair Deriso: "I am talking about a larger commitment to that area."

Commissioner Shephard: "Do you know the price of the property?"

Commissioner Vice Chair Reeves: "We can discuss this, once we have all the information."

15. Mayor form of government for discussion.

There was no motion made to discuss this item.

16. Discussion of a "Equity in Lending" Ordinance.

Background: Commission Chair Deriso stated, "Equity in Lending" is to make sure Banks are not discriminating. Other Cities have passed this Ordinance. Make sure they are not

discriminatory against loans and interest rates towards people. The Banks will give us a report to make sure they are not discriminating in loaning money.
Commissioner Owens moved to discuss this item; this motion failed for a lack of a second.

17. Discussion of hiring a Small Business Development Manager.

Background: Commission Chair Deriso stated he put it on the Agenda because he thinks it is needed. Especially, after sitting in Entrepreneur Friendly. I think the City would definitely benefit from such a person.

Commissioner Owens moved to discuss this item; this motion failed for a lack of a second.

18. Discussion of placement of Community Development Manager under Community Development Dept.

Background: Commission Chair Deriso stated he put this item on the Agenda and the reason is, I believe that a Community Development Manager should be placed under Community Development Department. Based on job duties, it makes better sense and it aligns with what he/she will be doing.

There was no motion made to discuss this item.

19. Discussion to reallocate William Parks funds to funding playgrounds, outdoor skating rink, and a food truck park on the Westside near 13th Street and 24th Ave. (by old Nance store).

Commissioner Owens moved to discuss this item; seconded by Commission Vice Chair Reeves; the motion was approved by the Commission to discuss this item.

Discussion:

Commission Vice Chair Reeves asked if the property is for sale?

Commission Chair Deriso stated from a City perspective, yes, it is always for sale, if you have a compelling interest to develop economically.

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: Do you know who owns the property?

Commission Chair Deriso: No, I do not know who owns the property.

20. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – City Manager Angela Redding Reported.

Delinquent Business (Occupation Tax) License Renewals Occupation Tax expire at the end of the year and become delinquent if not paid by April 1st. Any occupation tax not paid by April 1st is subject to penalties. After June 1st, the business owner will receive a summons to appear in Municipal Court for nonpayment.

Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Reports

Staff submitted reports due to DCA by June 30, 2023, to remain in compliance with state reporting requirements. Cities listed as noncompliant on DCA's website are ineligible to apply for certain grants.

RFP - Residential and Commercial Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services

A Pre-Proposal Conference was held on Wednesday, June 28th at the Public Works Department. Several contractors attended the Pre-Proposal Conference. Proposals for

Residential and Commercial Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services are due no later than 2:00 p.m. EST, Monday, July 31, 2023.

Advance Disposal (Waste Management) Annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustment

The city has been notified of the annual scheduled and contracted Consumer Price Index adjustment of 4.5% effective July 1st, which increase residential rates for garbage and yard waste. Advance Disposal rental fee for use of the city facility on 11th Avenue East will increase by the Consumer Price Index adjustment of 4.5%.

City Dumpster Location

A flyer containing information on the new dumpster location days of operation and hours was included in June utility bills.

GDOT (Georgia Department of Transportation)

GDOT has approved the City's application for additional LMIG Funding for the FY 2023 LMIG Safety Action Plan. The funds are for safety improvements. The award is \$300,000 with a local match of 10%, the local match will come from TSPLOST, we are able to have a 10% match, because we do have a TSPLOST in the Community, otherwise it would be 30%. The funds are for signing and marking, raised pavement markers, raised flashing beacons at the railroad trestle at 6th and 9th Avenues, pedestrian hybrid beacons and other safety improvements.

GMA Convention

The City Commission and City Manager attended the GMA Convention in Savannah. The Vice Chairman served as the flag bearer and was the voting delegate at the Convention. Commissioner Shephard, Commissioner Rainey and City Manager Angela Redding received training awards at the Convention. The City also received a Civility Award.

SAILPLANE DINNER

Commissioner Shephard and City Manager Angela Redding attended the Sailplane Dinner, which is held during the Annual Gliding Competition.

JUNETEENTH EVENT AT THE LIBRARY

Commissioner Shephard and City Manager Angela Redding read to children on June 16th at the library and participated in their Juneteenth event.

NOTE: City Manager Angela Redding made a clarification on the budget. She stated that it was mentioned about a negative amount and the City had to use general funds to balance the budget, but also in addition to Community Development there were nine (9) other departments that had a deduction from their budget. Looking at everything that is in the budget, revenues, expenditures, the general fund was utilize to balance the budget.

Commission Chair Deriso inquired about an Agenda item being removed from the Agenda (Comments from the Governing Body).

Commission Chair Deriso asked if one person can decide what goes on and off the Agenda, is this how it works?

City Manager Angela Redding stated, “no” this is not the way it works.

The Commissioners send information and ask for it to be placed on the Agenda, if it is an item not involving an ongoing investigation, then the items are placed on the Agenda. City Manager Angela Redding stated, it was asked how was “Comments from the Governing Body” placed on the Agenda and she replied, I placed it on the Agenda because normally comments are made from the Governing Body, so there was a request for it to be removed and it was removed.

A discussion regarding the Agenda, turned into a disagreement; upon this, there was a motion made to adjourn the Meeting.

- 21. ADJOURNMENT:** Commissioner Shephard moved to adjourn the Meeting at 11:25 AM; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved by the Commission.

APPROVED