

**MINUTES  
CITY COMMISSION CALLED MEETING  
JANUARY 22, 2024**

A Called Meeting of the Cordele City Commission was held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 AM, City of Cordele Courtroom, 501 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Cordele, Georgia with the following present:

Royce Reeves, Sr. – Commission Vice Chair	Vesta Beal-Shephard, Commissioner
Wesley Rainey, Commissioner – via telephone	Isaac Owens, Commissioner
Angela Redding, City Manager	Janice Mumphery, Recording Secretary

**Absent:** Chairman Joshua Deriso, Tommy Coleman, City Attorney

**Staff Present:** Police Chief Jalon Heard.

**Media Present:** Sarah Brown – Cordele Dispatch.

**Call to Order:** Commission Vice Chairman Royce Reeves, Sr. called the Called Meeting to order at 9:00 AM

**Invocation:** There was a silent moment of prayer.

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

**Roll Call:** A quorum was established.

Attendee's Name	Title	Absent	Present
Joshua Deriso	Commission Chairman	✓	
Royce Reeves, Sr.	Commission Vice Chairman Ward 2		✓
Vesta Beal-Shephard	Commissioner Ward 1		✓
Isaac Owens	Commissioner Ward 3		✓
Wesley Rainey	Commissioner Ward 4		✓

**Approval of Agenda** – January 22, 2024: Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the Agenda for January 22, 2024; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; the motion was approved by the Commission.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. To consider Overriding Veto of the Ordinance Establishing the Reduction from Monthly Pay Received by the Chairman and Members of the Commission and Adoption of the Ordinance Establishing the Reduction from Monthly Pay Received by the Chairman and Members of the Commission.  
Commissioner Shephard moved to Override the Veto and Adopt the Ordinance Establishing the Reduction from the Monthly Pay Received by the Chairman and Members of the Commission; seconded by Commissioner Rainey; The Overriding and Adoption of the Ordinance was approved by the Commission.

CORDELE CITY COMMISSION CALLED MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 22, 2024  
PAGE 2

2. To consider Overriding Veto of the Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2023-02 to Provide for a Regulatory Fee for Food Trucks and Adoption of the Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2023-02 to Provide for a Regulatory Fee for Food Trucks.  
Commissioner Rainey moved to Override the Veto and Adopt the Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2023-02 to Provide for a Regulatory Fee for Food Trucks; seconded by Commissioner Shephard; The Overriding and Adoption was approved by the Commission.
3. To consider Renewal of Alcohol License for Odom Pool Room, 412 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Commissioner Shephard moved to approve the Renewal of Alcohol License for Odom Pool Room; seconded by Commissioner Rainey.

Mr. Odom presented a business plan to the Commission for Odom Pool Room as requested by the Commission. Please see below:

1. Food will not be prepared on premises. All food will be pre-packaged.
2. Will hire Police Security for Special Events.
3. Will comply with City Ordinance for hours of operation for on premises consumption.

Commissioner Owens asked about Item #1 on the business plan:  
Commissioner Owens asked for clarification on pre-packaged food.

Commission Vice Chair Reeves responded: He stated, he spoke with Mr. Odom and Mr. Graham; the food that they will be serving, will be pre-packaged food. Vice Chair Reeves stated, he thinks the issue was food being cooked at the Pool Room and they are not prepared to cook at the Pool Room. Mr. Odom will sell sandwiches already wrapped.

Commissioner Owens asked if this will put them in violation, since the food is on the premises. It was clarified with pre-packaged foods, there will be no violations.

Commissioner Owens inquired about Item #2 on the business plan.  
Will hire Police Security for Special Events.

Commission Vice Chair Reeves responded: With Special Events, having a DJ, door charge, etc. It is a Pool Room; it is no different from the Cordele Recreation Palor. This business focus point is to shoot pool.

Commissioner Owens asked, "what will be the Special Events?"

Commission Vice Chair Reeves stated, if they decided to have a party. Vice Chair stated Mr. Odom told him, he will not bring in a DJ.

City Manager Angela Redding: We need to look at the Ordinance regarding 'security for places that is serving alcohol.' I think one (1) of the requirements states if fifty (50) percent or fifty-five (55) percent of the business comes from alcohol, then they are required to have security. Ordinance states, "If fifty (50) percent or more of the gross amount comes from the sale of alcoholic beverages, they should provide security between the hours of 8:00 PM and closing."

CORDELE CITY COMMISSION CALLED MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 22, 2024  
PAGE 3

At the last meeting it was stated that the sale of alcoholic beverages at Odom Pool Room was thirty (30) or thirty-five (35) percent, I think this was supposed to be in writing. We do need something in writing stating the percentage of alcohol consumption, as far as, the need for security.

For Special Events: I think the City has a Special Event Permit. That will be for any Special Events, they will need to complete and get a permit.

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: I think in the last meeting, it was stated thirty (30) percent for the sale of alcoholic beverages.

City Manager Angela Redding: The Commission did ask for something in writing to show that percentage.

Commissioner Shephard: The Commission needs to do what was stated in the last meeting regarding Mr. Odom bringing the percentage; this will cover the City, as well.

Commission Owens: This will cover Mr. Odom as well. If they know where they are, this will keep them from coming back to this point now because they will have it in writing.

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: Vice Chair Reeves stated he is pretty sure Mr. Odom and Mr. Graham can have this information to the Commission this afternoon in writing. We have held their license long enough. If Mr. Odom can give his word to get the percentage to the City Manager Angela Redding by this afternoon, Vice Chair Reeves stated he thinks it is a good time to grant Mr. Odom his license.

City Manager Angela Redding: City Manager Angela Redding asked about the nephew managing the Pool Room.

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: Vice Chair stated the nephew is no longer at the Pool Room. Mr. Odom and Mr. Graham have agreed to pay the fines. Mr. Odom and Mr. Graham are waiting on the Deputy Municipal Clerk to pay the fines.

Police Chief Jalon Heard: Chief Heard stated he does not have a personal issue with Odom Pool Room. He has voiced his concerns with the Commission and has backed it up with numbers, stats and video. Those are by far obvious concerns for the safety of the public.

Commissioner Rainey: Commission Rainey asked if most of the incidents took place in the parking lot and not in the Pool Room?

Chief Heard: Chief Heard replied, it was a back and forth with them, whether or not they were being responsible for what is going on, on their premises.

Commissioner Shephard: Commissioner Shephard asked if Odom Pool Room will have other security besides the City off duty officers during the time of operation, somebody on the parking lot. Will there be someone else in the parking lot when the City off duty officers are not on duty, Friday or Saturday night, someone on the premises?

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: Commission Vice Chair stated, this is the purpose of the Special Event Permit. But for them to have security during the hours of operation that Pool Room open up at different hours.

Commission Shephard: Commissioner Shephard wanted to know about security when there is a crowd in the parking lot (outside).

Mr. Graham: Mr. Graham stated, when the Pool Room was managed by Mr. Odom and himself, he controlled everything outside.

City Manager Angela Redding: City Manager Angela Redding did emphasize to Mr. Odom and Mr. Graham; if they are having a Special Event to come in and get a Special Event Permit.

Commissioner Shephard: Commissioner Shephard stated she supports Mr. Odom; she also wants everybody protected.

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: Vice Chair Reeves stated that the Commission stand with the Chief of Police on the concerns and the safety of the citizens.

City Manager Angela Redding: City Manager Angela Redding stated that the Business Plan will be revised to add the percentage.

Commission Vice Chair Reeves: Vice Chair stated that Mr. Odom will come in to get a Special Event Permit when they are hosting a Special Event, hire two (2) Police Officers from 10:00 PM until 1:00 AM (it is a four (4) minimum for security).

Commissioner Rainey voted aye; Commissioner Shephard voted aye; Commission Vice Chair Reeves voted aye; Commissioner Owens abstained.  
The Alcohol Renewal License for Odom Pool Room was approved by the Commission.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION: (For Personnel, Litigation, Real Estate): No Executive Session.
5. ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Shephard moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 AM; seconded by Commissioner Owens; the motion was approved by the Commission.