

CITY OF CORNELIA
MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2015

The Cornelia City Commission met in a Workshop Session on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 5:30 PM in the Conference Room at City Hall. Mayor James C. Irby, Jr. called the meeting to order with the following members present: Commissioners Tony Cook, Wesley Dodd, Jr., and Janice Griggs. Commissioner Don Bagwell was absent. Also present: City Attorney Steve Campbell, City Manager Donald Anderson, Jr., City Planner Jeff Barron, Human Resource Manager Diane Feorino, Public Utilities Director Keith Ethridge, and Secretary to the City Commission Janie N. Henderson.

City Manager Anderson introduced Duncan Hughes, Director of the Soque River Watershed Association, and explained he is going to give us a presentation on Storm Water Runoff. Mr. Anderson said in 2011 we started talking about the need to charge a fee for storm water runoff because we were and still are having issues with its' infiltration into our sewer system. He noted that correcting these problems will be very expensive. Mr. Hughes gave a slide presentation showing the damages to local streams from storm water runoff and the dangers of oil and grease from roadways, pesticides from lawns and sediment from construction sites to name a few. He also showed examples of a couple of projects that were done right. We are considered an MS4 by the EPA and there are 6 elements of the program outlined as "minimum control measures" and the city will eventually have to comply with these measures, currently it is voluntary. Mr. Hughes said the Post-Construction Runoff Control is very important and can be addressed now. Public Utilities Director Keith Ethridge said we have got to start separating the storm water from the sanitary sewer it is a real issue. City Manager Anderson gave the recent heavy rain as an example and how much the volume into our Wastewater Treatment Plant increased. The Commissioners asked if there are any grant funds available to help and he said there are, but they is a \$400,000 grant limit with a 40% local match.

Sign Ordinance – City Manager Anderson noted there are a few changes that have been made since the ordinance was posted. Attorney Campbell noted that Attorney Jenkins recommended that these language clarifications be made and that they do not change any of the substance of this ordinance. No comments have been received.

Creation of Overlay District – No changes have been made since ordinance was posted and no comments have been received.

City Manager Anderson went over the other agenda items. He noted that he would like to amend the agenda to include the request of Alston Ridge Homeowner's Association.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:55 PM and the Mayor and Commissioners proceeded to the Municipal Court Room for the Regular Meeting.

Janie N. Henderson, Secretary to the
City Commission

James C. Irby, Jr., Mayor

CITY OF CORNELIA
MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2015

The Cornelia City Commission met in Regular Session on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Court Room. Mayor James C. Irby, Jr. called the meeting to order with the following members present: Commissioners Tony Cook, Wesley Dodd, Jr. and Janice Griggs. Commissioner Bagwell was absent. Also present: City Attorney Steve Campbell, City Manager Donald Anderson, Jr., City Planner Jeff Barron, Human Resource Manager Diane Feorino, and Secretary to the City Commission Janie N. Henderson.

Mayor Irby gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda – Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the amended agenda by adding item 12 (b) Alston Ridge Homeowners Request; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve the August 27, 2015 Minutes as submitted; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the September 1, 2015 Minutes as submitted; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Public Forum – No comments were heard.

Ordinance 08-15-02, Sign Ordinance – City Manager Anderson said there were some language changes as follows: 1108.14 and 1108.15 “North Main and Level Grove” were added; Table 11.1, 6,7,9 and 10 and Table 11.2, 3, 4 and 6 “(content of sign not regulated by this ordinance)” wording is added. Attorney Jenkins recommended this language be added for clarification. No comments have been received. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to adopt Ordinance 08-15-01, amending the Zoning Ordinance for the Purpose of amending the Sign Regulations for the City of Cornelia; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Ordinance 08-15-03, Creation of Overlay Districts – City Manager Anderson said the ordinance has been posted and no comments have been received. Commissioner Cook made the motion to adopt Ordinance 08-15-03, Amending the Zoning Ordinance to create Overlay Districts; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Public Hearing for the Millage Rate – City Attorney Campbell opened the Public Hearing for discussion of the 2015 Millage Rate and he asked for anyone speaking in favor of the millage rate. City Manager Anderson explained that we received notice from the Habersham County

Tax Assessor's Office that for tax year 2015 we have an inflationary increase of \$1,752,378. When we enter our figures into the State Rollback Form it tells us we have to set our millage rate at 8.41 or it is going to be considered an increase in millage rate due to the inflationary increase. We are proposing that our millage rate stay the same as last year 8.5 and we will still be short \$22,871 in property tax revenue over last year. We are recommending the millage rate be the same as last year 8.5 mils. There were no further comments in favor or against the proposed rate. City Attorney Campbell closed the Public Hearing.

Consent Agenda - Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda which included: City Manager's Monthly Report, Approve the Appointment of Neil Reams to the Downtown Development Authority Board to replace Curt Robinson who recently resigned, and approve the Agreement with Habersham County to give our Police Department enforcement jurisdiction along several stretches of Historic 441; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Ordinance 10-15-01, Amendment to Animal Control Ordinance – City Manager Anderson stated that Commissioner Bagwell had requested that we consider an ordinance change to deal with the problem of people tethering their domestic animals. The animals are being tethered and left unattended which is very dangerous to the animal. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to post Ordinance 10-15-01, Amendment to the Animal Control Ordinance; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

HEMC request to purchase Appalachian Broadband Technologies – City Manager Anderson explained that in February 2014 the city entered into an Agreement with Appalachian Broadband Technologies, LLC. to provide high speed internet to the businesses and residents of Cornelia. The company has since gone out of business and based on our contract we have the first right of refusal to purchase their system that has been installed in Cornelia. This would mean that the city would be getting into the high speed internet business. HEMC has approached the city about purchasing ABT System and continuing to provide the service to Cornelia businesses and residents and we are not interested in getting into the high speed internet business. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to waive our option and first right of refusal to purchase the system installed by ABT; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Alston Ridge Homeowner's Association – City Manager Anderson stated that Wallace Armstrong, President of the Alston Ridge Homeowner's Association, has requested a Speed Limit be posted for their neighborhood. They are requesting that a 10 MPH Speed Limit be posted. Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve to post the 10 MPH Speed Limit for Alston Ridge neighborhood; seconded by Commissioner Dodd. Approved 3 – 0.

Cornelia City Commission – Minutes of Meeting
October 6, 2015
Page 3 of 3

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:15 PM;
seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Janie N. Henderson, Secretary of to the
Commission

James C. Irby, Jr., Mayor