

CITY OF CORNELIA
MINUTES OF MEETING
MARCH 3, 2020

The Cornelia City Commission met in a Workshop Session on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 5 PM at the Cornelia Community House, 601 Wylly Street, Cornelia, GA. Mayor John Borrow called the meeting to order and the following members were present: Commissioners Don Bagwell, Tony Cook, Wesley Dodd, Jr., and Janice Griggs. Also present: City Attorney Steve Campbell, City Manager Donald Anderson, Human Resource Manager Diane Feorino, and City Clerk Janie N. Henderson.

City Manager Anderson went over each item on the agenda and asked if they had any questions. He requested that the agenda be amended to include the 2020 CDBG Resolution and to extend the GEFA Loan# DW15024 Modification.

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to close the meeting and to enter Executive Session at approximately 5:35 PM to discuss Real Estate; seconded by Don Bagwell. Approved 4 – 0.

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to close the Executive Session and open the meeting at approximately 5:55 PM; seconded by Commissioner Bagwell. Approved 4 – 0.

The Mayor and Commission took a 5-minute break prior to the Regular Meeting starting.

Janie N. Henderson, City Clerk/Secretary
to the City Commission

John Borrow, Mayor

CITY OF CORNELIA
MINUTES OF MEETING
MARCH 3, 2020

The Cornelia City Commission met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 6 PM at the Cornelia Community House, 601 Wylly Street, Cornelia, GA. Mayor John Borrow called the meeting to order and the following members were present: Commissioners Don Bagwell, Tony Cook, Wesley Dodd, Jr., and Janice Griggs. Also, present: City Attorney Steve Campbell, City Manager Donald Anderson, Human Resource Manager Diane Feorino, and City Clerk Janie N. Henderson.

Commissioner Bagwell gave the invocation and Mayor Borrow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Manager Anderson requested the agenda be amended by: removing Item 13. Executive Session to discuss Real Estate, he stated it was held during the Workshop Meeting and no action was taken., and adding Item 12(a) 2020 CDBG Application; 12 (b) GEFA Loan DW15024 Modification; and 12(c) Accept Bid to Purchase Tract 1 and Tract 3, 836 Wayside Street. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the March 3, 2020 Agenda with the noted changes requested by City Manager Anderson; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0.

Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the February 4, 2020 Minutes as submitted; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 -0.

Community Development Report – Community Development Manager Jessie Owensby came forward to present the February Report. Commissioner Bagwell had a few suggestions for the next Tacky Prom and Ms. Owensby said those have been noted and they are looking at some other things to continue improving on this event. A copy of her report is made an integral part of these minutes.

City Manager’s Month Report – City Manager Anderson presented his February Report. A copy of his report is made an integral part of these minutes.

Public Forum – No comments were heard.

Old Business – None

Public Hearings – None

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda which included: (1) A Resolution to establish a 5% Franchise Fee for Cable/Video Providers. The companies would pay the fee for the use of the City Right-of-ways. and (2) A Proclamation declaring March 14, 2020 as Mr. Billy Burrell Day in Cornelia. Mr. Burrell will turn 90 years of age; he has been a resident and contributor to Habersham County for the past 55 years and generations of Cornelia Residents have grown up listening to Billy on WCON since 1965.; seconded by Commissioner Bagwell. Approved 4 – 0.

GA Power Proposal – City Manager Anderson stated that we currently do not have lights at the basketball court at Jim Smith Park, so it can't be used after dark. We asked for a proposal from GA Power to install lights at the park and they provided two (2) options. The first option is with zero money up front and a monthly cost of \$378 or the second option is \$11,000 up front cost and a monthly cost of \$156.03. He recommended paying the \$11,000 up front out of the SPLOST Funds and the lower monthly cost. Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve Option 2 from GA Power to install lights at Jim Smith Park and to pay the \$11,000 cost up front out of our SPLOST Funds and \$156.03 per month; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0.

Ordinance 03-20-01, False Alarms – City Manager Anderson said this is a proposed Amendment to Chapter 24 of the Municipal Code to address False Fire Alarms. Responding to a false alarm is a waste of our Fire Resources and could potentially delay the response to an actual emergency. He noted that from May 2019 until December 2019 we responded to 71 False Alarms. The fines proposed were discussed during the workshop meeting and suggested changes will be made and reviewed by the City Attorney prior to the Ordinance being posted. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to post Ordinance 03-20-01, Amendment to Chapter 24 of the Code of Ordinances concerning False Alarm Calls; seconded by Commissioner Bagwell. Approved 4 – 0.

Proposals for Water Tank Inspection – City Manager Anderson advised that the EPD requires us to have our water tanks inspected every five (5) years. The 2020 Budget has funds allocated to this project. We have received two (2) bids to complete these inspections. The low bidder is a company called Liquid Engineering in the amount of \$16,355. He noted one of the benefits now is the contractor uses a drone to assist in the inspection, so the tanks don't have to be drained. Commissioner Bagwell approved the proposal for the Water Tank Inspections from Liquid Engineering for \$16,355; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0.

CDBG 2020 Resolution – City Manager Anderson said the CDBG Application for 2020 is to assist with replacing the water and sewer lines and storm water drainage, paving and sidewalks as necessary in the Oak Grove Trailer Park, Galloway Street Apartments, and Sunshine Circle Apartments. The resolution and the attached acknowledgements are: The Language Action Plan, Certificate of Assurances, and the Civil Rights Compliance Certification which must accompany our application as well. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to adopt the Resolution for the FY 2020 CDBG Grant Application and approve the other necessary paperwork to complete the application process; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0.

GEFA Loan DW15024 – City Manager Anderson advised that this is the GEFA Loan that was used for our Water Meter Replacement Project and the left over loan proceeds that we didn't use for that project were approved for the installation of emergency generators at our Hazel Creek Water Pumping Station and our Utilities Maintenance Shop. The original loan is set to expire in April we need to extend the loan period to October 2020 in order to complete this part of the project. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the Second Modification of the GEFA Promissory Note and Loan Agreement #DW15024; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0.

Tract 1, 836 Wayside Street – City Manager Anderson explained that this property was given to the City by the Mortgage Company. The property had been neglected the owner and he has passed away, so family members didn't want to do anything, so the mortgage company decided to donate to the city instead of cleaning it up. The City spent \$18,205.90 on cleaning the property up and then decide to advertise and sale. He advised that we received one sealed bid for purchase of the property from Don Higgins for \$16,000 for Tract 1. Commissioner Bagwell made the to accept the bid of \$16,000 from Don Higgins for Tract 1, 836 Wayside Street; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0.

Tract 3, 836 Wayside Street – City Manager Anderson explained this is the same property just a different Tract. He advised that we received one sealed bid for purchase of Tract 3 from Don Higgins for \$11,500. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to accept the bid of \$11,500 from Don Higgins for Tract 3, 836 Wayside Street; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0.

Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:30 PM; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0.

Janie N. Henderson, City Clerk/Secretary to
City Commission

John Borrow, Mayor

AFFIDAVIT OF PRESIDING OFFICIAL(S) FOR A CLOSED PUBLIC MEETING

While in Regular Session, the motion was made to enter into an Executive Session to discuss certain matters in a closed session.

() To discuss with council pending and/or potential litigation, settlement claims, administrative proceedings or other judicial actions, which is exempt from the Open Meetings Act pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-2(1).

(X) A meeting to discuss the purchase, disposal of, or lease of property; authorize the ordering of an appraisal related to the acquisition or disposal of real estate; enter into a contract to purchase, dispose of, or lease property subject to approval in a subsequent public vote; or enter into an option to purchase, dispose of, or lease real estate subject to approval in subsequent public vote, which is excluded from the Open Meetings Act pursuant to Section 50-14-3(b)(1)(C).

() A meeting discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee, which is excluded pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3(b)(2).

() Discussion in Executive Session of Records that are otherwise protected from disclosure under the Open Records Act as pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-3- (b)(4).

 X The subject matter of the Executive Session of the Regular Session was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law.

 Because of events occurring during the closed session, I am unable to affirm the subject matter of the Executive Session of the Regular Session was devoted to only matters within the exceptions provided by law.

John Borrow, Mayor, City of Cornelia

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
 3rd day of March , 20 20 .

Notary Public

