

CITY OF CORNELIA
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 7, 2022

The Cornelia City Commission met in a Workshop Session on Monday, March 7, 2022, at 5 PM in the Cornelia Municipal Building Conference Room, 181 Larkin Street, Cornelia, GA. Mayor, John Borrow, called the meeting to order and the following Commissioners were present: Tony Cook, Janice Griggs, Jeff Wilson, and Don Bagwell. Also, present: City Attorney, Steve Campbell, via zoom, City Manager, Donald Anderson, Human Resource Director, Diane Feorino, IT Director, Jeremy Dundore, and City Clerk, Debbie Turner.

Faith Bryan from Georgia Mountains Regional Commission presented an update on the Redistricting map. City Manager Anderson said that he met with Faith and her office, and they had made some modifications. Faith said that Ward 1 now has a population of 1128, Ward 2 is 1158, Ward 3 is 1133 and Ward 4 is 1119. Faith explained that Ward 2 is a little high due to Fieldale being out of the city on the map, knowing that Fieldale is in the city and after adding it in that one block added 17 points. There will be a final map for the April meeting. Mayor Borrow asked Faith about the issue of challenging the census numbers, she explained that she had some issues getting the correct 911 addresses but that has been corrected and she will have a comparison in an email of the numbers that the Habersham County has for the city versus what the census has.

City Manager Anderson informed the Mayor and Commission that Evan Boyd who is working on an Eagle Scout Project to beautify the Chenocetah Tower entrance will be at the Commission meeting. Mr. Boyd will be asking the city commission to fund his project and he will complete the work.

City Manager Anderson went over the other items on the agenda that includes three public hearings, Mayor Borrow will open the Public Hearings for any comment. The consent Agenda items were discussed as well as new business.

At 5:40 PM Commissioner Bagwell made a motion to move into executive session for Real Estate, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. Real Estate was discussed but no action was taken. At 5:50 PM Commissioner Wilson that the motion to end the executive session, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

The Mayor and Commission adjourned the workshop at 5:50 PM.

Debbie Turner, City Clerk

John Borrow, Mayor

CITY OF CORNELIA
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The Cornelia City Commission met in Regular Session on Monday, March 7, 2022, at 6 PM in the Cornelia Municipal Building Court Room, 181 Larkin Street, Cornelia, GA. Mayor John Borrow called the meeting to order and the following members were present: Commissioners Don Bagwell, Tony Cook, Jeff Wilson, and Janice Griggs. Also, present: City Manager, Donald Anderson, Human Resource Director, Diane Feorino, IT Director, Jeremy Dundore, and City Clerk, Debbie Turner.

Commissioner Griggs gave the invocation and Commissioner Wilson lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Borrow explained that the agenda was amended to include executive session for real estate. He said that this was covered in the workshop and no action was taken. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0

Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the February 1, 2022, minutes as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

City Manager, Donald Anderson gave his monthly report, he explained that we are looking into a GEFA loan to cover a mandate by the EPD. The mandate will require us to create a database of materials of all water service lines in the city. Carter & Sloope has estimated the cost to be \$15,000.00. All lead service lines will need to be replaced by October 2024. Mr. Anderson said we celebrated Arbor Day by planting a Dogwood tree at the Dogwood Park. A bench was placed inside the Dog Park in honor of David Kerby who was a regular at the Dog park, the bench was purchased by Mr. Kerby's sister. Mr. Anderson reported that our new website will go live next week and there will be an interactive app that will allow residents to report concerns to the city. The Community Development dept. completed the annual survey and the DDA held their awards ceremony. The annual calendar for 2022 was released and the first event will feature the Neal McCoy concert on May 21st. A copy of his report is made an integral part of the minutes.

Mayor Borrow opened the Public Forum, Evan Boyd from Scout Troop 582 came forward to ask the commission to fund his Eagle Scout Project. He said he wants to beautify the entrance of the Chenocetah Tower with landscaping at a cost of \$5,181.00. He said that he is from Loganville but would like to do his project here as his dad Marty Boyd has helped the city with completing a lot of projects. He will do all the planting with help from volunteers. He requested that City Manager, Donald Anderson be the beneficiary Representative for the project which

will allow him to sign off on the paperwork. Mayor Borrow commended him on wanting to do his project here as well as being in the scouting program. Mr. Lovell came before the commission in reference to the new hotel being built and said they hoped to break ground in about 90 days. He said he wanted to personally thank the Mayor and Commissioners and special thanks to Donald Anderson, Mayor Borrow, Charlie Fivish and Wade Rhodes for all their help with the project. He said Cornelia has been the best place he has ever worked with and asked if anyone had any questions. Mayor Borrow thanked him for coming and said we look forward to seeing it completed. Mayor Borrow closed the Public Forum.

Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the Eagle Scout Project, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. Approved 4 – 0

Mayor Borrow opened the Public Hearing for a Speed Bump on Grand Avenue. Kenneth Brookshire from 574 Grand Ave. He said there are children that play in the area and the cars go fast on the road. He said there is a speed limit sign posted on Grand Ave. of 25mph but not on Sunrise Circle. Mr. Brookshire is requesting a speed bump be placed on his road. Mayor Borrow closed the Public Forum. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the speed bump, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. Approved 4 – 0

Mayor Borrow opened the Public Hearing for a conditional use for a package store at 148 Habersham Hills Circle. Mr. Brijesh came forward stating that he owns a package store in Athens and showed some renderings of what the package store would look like here. No comments were heard for against the package store. City Manager Anderson stated the planning board had recommended approval on February 17th. Mayor Borrow closed the Public Hearing. Commissioner Wilson made the motion to approve the conditional use, seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0

Mayor Borrow opened the Public Hearing to request a rezoning of Parcels 114c085, 114c084 and 114c084B to R-2. James Irvin came forward to represent the Doris Reeves trust. He said the property is currently zoned B-2 and would like to rezone it to R-2 to allow for a multi-family 3 duplex units. The planning board heard the request on February 17th and recommended approval. Louie Cody came forward with some renderings of what the duplexes would look like. The Mayor and Commissioners felt it would vastly improve the look of the area. There were no public comments for or against the rezoning request. Mayor Borrow closed the Public Hearing, Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve the rezoning request from B-2 to R-2, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

Consent Agenda: Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioners Wilson. Approved 4 – 0

Recommendation for painting at the Wastewater plant. City Manger explained that we budgeted for 6 buildings to be painted as well as some of the piping. Mr. Anderson stated that we received one bid from Llamas coatings for \$46,900.00. Buildings will be pressured washed and painted, basins will be sand blasted and coated with an epoxy. The piping will be pressured, and rusted areas cleaned and coated. Commissioner Cook made the motion to award the bid to Llamas coating, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

Proposal for Grant Writing and Administration: City Manger Anderson explained that the Department of Community Affairs now requires us to solicit for grant writing and Administration each year. He said that we prepared the RFP and it was emailed to 10 approved firms and advertised in the newspaper as well as our website. We received one proposal from Carter & Sloope. Mr. Anderson said we used them in 2021 and received a \$750,000 grant. Commissioner Wilson made the motion to approve Carter & Sloope for the Grant Writing and Administration for 2022, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

Proposal for Trailer Mounted Pump: City Manager stated that we budgeted for a trailer mounted pump due to ongoing issues from lift stations failing. He explained that we spent \$150,000 in renting pumps in 2021. Carter & Sloope prepared the RFP and we received one bid from Goforth Williamson, Inc. in the amount of \$106,000.00. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to award the bid from Goforth Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

Quote for Street Sweeper: City Manager Anderson said we received one quote from Jet-Vac in the amount of \$146,832.41 for a street sweeper. Mr. Anderson explained the need for the sweeper to keep curb and gutter clean as well as streets and parking lots. He said we are bringing in employees twice a week just to clean up the downtown and are having to pay overtime. This quote was bid out through a state contract so to don't have to request bids. Commissioner Wilson made the motion to award the bid to Jet-Vac, seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0

Commissioner Cook made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 PM, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 - 0

Debbie Turner, City Clerk

John Borrow, Mayor

STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY HABERSHAM

CITY OF CORNELIA, GEORGIA

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

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

(x) 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).

() 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

Notary Public