

CITY OF CORNELIA
MINUTES OF MEETING
June 7, 2022

The Cornelia City Commission met in a Workshop Session on Tuesday, June 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, Mark Reed, and Don Bagwell. Also, present: City Attorney, Steve Campbell, City Manager, Donald Anderson, Human Resource Director, Diane Feorino, IT Director, Jeremy Dundore, Jessie Owensby, Community Development Manager and City Clerk, Debbie Turner.

City Manager Anderson went over the items on the Agenda, Mr. Anderson stated that ordinance # 05-22-01, amending the Ward Map has been posted and no comments for or against has been made. Mr. Anderson gave an update on the Elrod Street speed bump request that was tabled from the May meeting. Mr. Anderson said he asked Habersham County to install a temporary sign (your speed is) coming from Chase Road, Commissioner Cook said that he had spoken with a deputy, and he said the speeding has slowed down. Mr. Anderson said that he has looked at a moveable Radar sign, Commissioner Bagwell said it is an expensive sign. Mr. Anderson said that he and Mayor Borrow both think it is expensive but with it being movable he thinks it would be worth the cost. After a lot of discussion, the consensus is that the speeding has improved. City Manager Anderson explained Ordinance # 06-22-01, Urban Camping ordinance and how it would help to deter people from sleeping on park benches and public spaces as well as bathrooms. Commissioner Bagwell said that we need to do everything possible to have the people that panhandle removed from our city. City Attorney Steve Campbell said how do you define it and how do you enforce it, by hiring more officers. Commissioner Bagwell said that he thinks that we need to have a legal way to remove these people. After discussing it everyone seemed to agree that this is a problem everywhere not just Cornelia.

The Mayor and Commission adjourned the workshop at 5:40 pm.

Debbie Turner, City Clerk

John Borrow, Mayor

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The Cornelia City Commission met in Regular Session on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 6 PM at 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, Mark Reed, and Janice Griggs. Also, present: City Attorney Steve Campbell, City Manager Donald Anderson, Community Development Manager Jessie Owensby, Human Resource Director Diane Feorino, IT Director Jeremy Dundore, and City Clerk Debbie A Turner.

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

Commissioner Reed made the motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0.

Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the May 3, 2022, Minutes with one correction to Ordinance # 05-22-01 in Ward 3 population, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0.

Community Development Monthly Report – Ms. Owensby came forward to present her monthly report. Ms. Owensby reported that she ordered and placed decals for the entertainment district, met the new Summer Fellow, student from Carl Vinson, and that she had attended the Neil McCoy concert and had taken photos. Ms. Owensby said that she met with Andrew Clyde and received a tour of the train museum. Lindsey gave him some of the history of the Depot, also we were featured in his newsletter. Ms. Owensby introduced Colby Moore as the new Main Street Director for the City of Clarkesville. Ms. Owensby said she has known him for 25 years and looks forward to a good working relationship with him and the City of Clarkesville. A copy of her report is made an integral part of the minutes.

City Manager Donald Anderson gave his monthly report, he said that Garrett Paving has completed this year's paving project of Berry St., Wells St., and Dover Street. Mr. Anderson said that the garbage truck was back from it being repaired and that we should be able to get back to a normal schedule. Mr. Anderson stated that we hosted the Coosa-North Georgia Water Council on May 18 in the courtroom and a lot that attended were very excited about not having to drive as far and commented on how nice our new building is. The Cornelia Hospitality & Tourism had the annual Music Festival featuring Neal McCoy, the crowd was estimated to be over 3,500. He thanked the city staff and volunteers for making it a success. Mr. Anderson said that Evan Boyd, with the help of some other boy scouts and volunteers from Carter and Sloope completed the planting project at the entrance of Chenocetah Tower and that it looks great. His report is made an integral part of the minutes.

Public Forum:

Polly Shed from 500 Hoyt Street came to address the Mayor and Commissioner's about the speeding on her road, she is requesting a speed bump on her road. Ms. Shed explained that when Wayside Street was closed (City Project) the traffic had been excessive due to cars speeding on her road. Ms. Shed said her mailbox along with her neighbor's mailbox was knocked down more than once. She said that their road is basically used as a cut-through. Ms. Shed said that they have lived there for 41 years and would like for her grandchildren to be able to play in the yard, but right now it is too dangerous. Mayor Borrow said that they appreciate her coming forward and that this is a big problem with a lot of streets in town. He said that they are working on ways to try and resolve the issue and there is something on the agenda tonight that might help. Ms. Shed also stated that she would like to see the old bridge taken out and that it is dangerous to even cross it with another car coming.

Old Business:

Ordinance # 05-22-01, Ordinance Amending Ward Map, City Manager Anderson explained that this is a Home Rule ordinance to amend the charter for reapportionment of the electoral districts pursuant to the 2020 Census. Ward 1 – 1,128, Ward 2 – 1,158, Ward 3 – 1,133 and Ward 4 – 1,133. Commissioner Cook made the motion to adopt Ordinance # 05-22-01, Seconded by Commissioner Bagwell. Approved 4 – 0

Request for a Speed Bump on Elrod Street, City Manager Anderson said the request was tabled from the May meeting to try and find an alternate solution. He said that after the County placed a sign on their portion of the road and we have placed speed limit signs and Children playing signs, it seemed to have helped with the speeders. Mr. Anderson said that he has done a lot of research on radar signs, and we received quotes from a company called Radarsigns, one is for a 13" sign for \$4,105 and 26" sign for \$6,450. Mr. Anderson said that since the signs are moveable they can be placed in different locations as requests come in from other citizens for speed bumps. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the 13" sign for \$4,105., seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

Public Hearings:

None

Consent Agenda:

Appointment to the Library Board, Jessica Herrin's term expires this month, but she agreed to serve for another term. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to appoint Jessica Herrin to the Library Board for another term, seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0

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New Business:

Ordinance # 06-22-01, Urban Camping Ordinance, Mr. Anderson explained that we are having more and more people camping in public parks and public restrooms, this ordinance would make it unlawful to camp or sleep in public spaces. Commissioner Cook made the motion to post the ordinance for public comment, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

The Mayor and Commission adjourned the regular meeting at 6:35 pm.

Debbie Turner, City Clerk

John Borrow, Mayor