

CITY OF CORNELIA

MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING

APRIL 4, 2017

The Cornelia City Commission met in a Workshop Session on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 5:30 PM in the Conference Room at City Hall. Mayor Irby called the meeting to order with the following members present: Commissioners Tony Cook, Wesley Dodd, Jr., and Janice Griggs. Commissioner Bagwell and City Attorney Campbell were not present. Also present: City Manager Donald Anderson, Jr., Human Resource Manager Diane Feorino, and Secretary to the City Commission Janie N. Henderson.

Chase West, Carter & Sloope Engineers, was present to give an update on the Water Meter Installation Project and the Water Plant and Reservoir Projects. He advised that we received 3 bids for the Water Meter Installation Project and UWS, Inc. was the low bidder in the amount of \$207,070. He said since there was such a big difference in the bids he contacted them and asked them to double check their figures, which they did and they said they are correct. Approximately 6 months ago Carter & Sloope worked with them on a job in Canton and there were no issues and are currently working with them in Blairsville and there have been no issues. He advised that we received 5 bids for the Water Plant and Reservoir Project and Heavy Constructors, Inc. was the low bidder in the amount of \$20,555,347. This represents a reduction of \$4,179,663 from the original low bidder on October 3, 2016. The current bid puts the project \$2,126,554 over the original 2010 budget. He said they have identified some other items that will help reduce this amount. City Manager Anderson advised that we have an application in to GEFA for an additional \$3 million for the project. Their Board meets in May at which time they will review the additional funding request at the 1.4% interest rate of the original loans.

City Manager Anderson introduced each item on the agenda and further explanation was given if needed.

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to close the meeting and enter into Executive Session at approximately 6 PM to discuss Personnel and Real Estate; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to close the Executive Session and open the meeting at approximately 6:10 PM; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

City Manager Anderson went over some of the items that he has on the agenda for the April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Retreat.

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

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Janie N. Henderson, Secretary to the  
City Commission

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James C. Irby, Jr., Mayor

City of Cornelia

MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING

APRIL 4, 2017

The Cornelia City Commission met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 7 PM in the Municipal Court Room. Mayor Irby called the meeting to order with the following members present: Commissioners Tony Cook, Wesley Dodd, Jr., and Janice Griggs. Commissioner Don Bagwell and City Attorney Steve Campbell were not present. City Manager Donald Anderson, Jr., Community Development Manager Jessie Owensby, Human Resource Manager Diane Feorino, and Secretary to the City Commission Janie N. Henderson.

Ward 4 Resident Ignatius Sterghos gave the invocation and Mayor Irby led the Pled of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda - Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve the agenda and remove Item# 17, Executive Session; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. City Manager Anderson stated that an Executive Session was held during the Workshop to discuss Personnel and Real Estate matters, but no action was taken. Approved 3- 0.

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the March 7th, 2017 Regular Commission Meeting Minutes as submitted; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Commissioner Griggs made the motion to approve the March 16th, 2017 Called Commission Meeting Minutes as submitted; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Community Development Report - Community Development Manager Jessie Owensby presented her report outlining things accomplished for March and highlighting upcoming events. She stated she now has 25 Pro Teams for the BBQ Festival and everything is ready to go. A copy of her report is made an integral part of these minutes.

Public Forum – Ignatius Sterghos, a resident of Ward 4 said he wanted to thank the city for the donation of the facility for the Veteran’s Jamboree.

Ordinance 03-17-01, Amendment to the Minimum Development Regulations - City Manager Anderson advised that the Ordinance has been posted and we have received no comments from the Public. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to adopt Ordinance 03-17-01, amending the Minimum Development Regulations; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 -0.

Agreement with U.S. Forest Service for Chenocetah Tower – City Manager Anderson said we have verified that the agreement does not require us to adopt the Federal Texting and Driving Policy, it is recommended but not required. Our insurance company, GIRMA has come back and agreed to provide the insurance coverage. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to remove the U.S. Forest Service Agreement from the table; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the U.S. Forest Service Agreement for Chenocetah Tower; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the Consent agenda, which includes: (1) City Manager’s Monthly Report., (2) Fire Protection Agreement with Town of Mount Airy which includes 451 buildings at \$88.43 per building for a total of \$39,881.93 annually., and (3) Special Event Application for the Veteran’s Jamboree.; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Ordinance 04-17-01, Method for Special Assessments for Improvements – City Manager Anderson stated that this creates a method for doing Special Assessments for improvements to streets, and water and sewer lines. An example of where we would use this is if an entire street/neighborhood requested that we pave the road or install infrastructure, then we could assess the individual property owners for the cost of the work. Commissioner Cook made the motion to post Ordinance 04-17-01, Method for Special Assessments for Improvements; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Resolution closing a portion of Second Street – City Manager Anderson explained this is abandoning our interest in the unopened section of Second Street between Cox Street and the Railroad Property. The street is no longer a part of the municipal street system and we have no utilities located within the right of way. The right of way is 60 feet wide and 180 feet deep as depicted in the attached survey by Russell Cheek dated February 23, 2017. Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve the Resolution closing an unopened section of Second Street between Cox Street and the Railroad property; seconded by Commissioner Dodd. Approved 3 – 0.

Mulching Equipment for the Skid Steer – City Manager said in the past we have budgeted to have a contractor keep our water and sewer easements cleared. Staff has suggested that with the correct equipment we can begin doing this in house and save that \$20,000 to \$30,000 per year. We need a diamond rotary mulcher which will attach to our skid steer tractor. We received 3 proposals for this equipment and James Short Tractors was the low bidder of \$21,777. We recently sold our old tractor and some other equipment and made \$28,000 on the sale of these items and this will be used for the purchase. Commissioner Griggs made the motion to approve the purchase of the mulching equipment for the skid steer from James Short Tractors for \$21,777; seconded by Commissioner Dodd. Approved 3 – 0.

Water Meter Installation Project – City Manager Anderson stated that we had 3 contractors bid on this project and the low bid was UWS, Inc., in the amount of \$207,070. Carter & Sloope have checked all of their references and recommend the contract be awarded to UWS, Inc. Commissioner Cook made the motion to award the Water Meter Installation Project to UWS, Inc. in the amount of \$207,070; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Bids for Water Treatment Plant & Reservoir Project – City Manager Anderson stated that we had 5 companies bid on the projects with the low bidder being Heavy Constructors, Inc. in the amount of \$20,555,347. This represents a reduction of \$4,179,663 from the original low bidder on October 3, 2016. The current bid puts the project \$2,126,554 over the original 2010 budget. We have had many discussions with GEFA regarding an increase to our current loans for this project and based on these discussions we have an application into them for an additional \$3 million for the project. The GEFA Board meets in May and if approved it will be at the 1.4% interest rate of the original loans. Carter & Sloope have reviewed the bids and they are recommending the contract be awarded to Heavy Construction, Inc. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to award the Water Treatment Plant & Reservoir Project Contract to Heavy Constructors, Inc. in the amount of \$20,555,347; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

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Speed Zone Ordinance – City Manager Anderson advised that the attached is the list of streets and their posted speed limits that our Police Department is allowed to run radar on. We must approve the list every year and no changes have been made from last year. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the GDOT Speed Zone Ordinance; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

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

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

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James C. Irby, Jr., 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).
- ( x ) 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.

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James C. Irby, Jr. Mayor, City of Cornelia

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_

\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_.

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Notary Public