

CITY OF CORNELIA  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
AUGUST 11, 2020

The Cornelia City Commission met in a Workshop Session on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 5 PM at the Cornelia Municipal Building Conference Room, 181 Larkin Street, Cornelia, GA. Mayor John Borrow called the meeting to order and the following members were present: Commissioners Wesley Dodd, Jr., Tony Cook and Janice Griggs. Commissioner Bagwell was absent. Also, present: City Attorney Steve Campbell, Community Development Manager Jesse Owensby, City Manager Donald Anderson and City Clerk Janie N. Henderson.

Mary Beth Horton, President of the Habersham County Chamber of Commerce, gave her 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Hotel/Motel Tax Report. She also provided progress reports for their Web Redesign and the Gateway Signage they have been working on. A copy of the report is made an integral part of these minutes.

City Manager Anderson updated everyone on the CARES Act Funding. He noted the city is illegible to receive \$245,144. There is a Resolution on the agenda tonight for action, which authorizes the Mayor to accept the funds.

Resolution to Establish an Entertainment District was discussed, and 3 different maps were provided for review, which outlined the areas being considered. Community Development Manager Jessie Owensby stated that Brownies by Faith had expressed interest in being included in the District. Everyone agreed to include anyone that wanted to be at this time.

City Manager Anderson went over the other items on the agenda and provided additional information if needed.

Mayor Borrow asked if we need to cancel the Big Red Apple Festival this year. The pros and cons were discussed, and different opinions were given. No final decision was made but will be added to the agenda for action.

The meeting was adjourned at 6 PM and everyone moved to the Court Room.

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

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John Borrow, Mayor

CITY OF CORNELIA  
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AUGUST 11, 2020

The Cornelia City Commission met in Regular Session on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 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 Wesley Dodd, Jr., Tony Cook and Janice Griggs. Commissioner Don Bagwell was absent. Also, present: City Attorney Steve Campbell, Community Development Manager Jessie Owensby, City Manager Donald Anderson and City Clerk Janie N. Henderson.

Commissioner Cook gave the invocation and Commissioner Dodd led the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Manager Anderson requested the agenda be amended to add the Big Red Apple Festival discussion whether to cancel or not to New Business. Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve the August 11, 2020 Agenda with the addition of the Big Red Apple Festival to cancel or not to New Business; seconded by Commissioner Dodd. Approved 3 – 0.

Commissioner Griggs made the motion to approve the June 23, 2020 Joint SPLOST Meeting Minutes as submitted; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 -0.

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the July 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes as submitted; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve the July 21, 2020 Called Meeting Minutes as submitted; seconded by Commissioner Dodd. Approved 3 – 0.

Community Development Report – Jessie Owensby came forward to present her July Report. A copy of her report is made an integral part of these minutes.

City Manager's Monthly Report – City Manager Anderson presented his July Report. A copy of his report is made an integral part of these minutes.

Public Forum – No comments were heard.

Ordinance 07-20-01, Amendment to Chapter 6 – City Manager Anderson advised that the ordinance has been posted and we received no comments from the Public. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to adopt Ordinance 07-20-01, Amending Chapter 6 to allow for the creation of Entertainment Districts within the City; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Public Hearings - None

Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda which included Appointing Perry Rettig to the Library Board, and adopt the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute documents for the Coronavirus Relief Fund Act; seconded by Commissioner Dodd. Approved 3 – 0.

Agreement with Carter & Sloope – City Manager Anderson stated this agreement will be for the design, bidding, and construction observation for the Hampton Inn Lift Station Replacement Project. Their cost will be \$147,200. The project is needed because the existing lift station was constructed in the mid 1900's and is at full capacity. The project is in the 2020 SPLOST Budget. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the Engineering Agreement with Carter & Sloope for the upgrade to the Hampton Inn Lift Station for \$147,200; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Sludge Pump for the Water Plant – City Manager Anderson said the sludge lagoons at the Water Plant have not been cleaned out since 2012 because we have been discharging the sludge into the sewer system. They need to be cleaned out prior to the new Water Plant going online, which will no longer discharge the sludge. We budgeted \$25,000 to purchase the necessary equipment to clean the lagoons and keep them cleaned out. The only quote we could get was from Templeton & Associates in the amount of \$17,114.58. Commissioner Cook made the motion to purchase the Sludge Pump for the Water Plant from Templeton & Associates for \$17,114.58; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Resolution to Establish an Entertainment District – City Manager Anderson explained this Resolution establishes an Entertainment District in the Downtown Area. Three maps showing different proposed areas was also provided. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to adopt the Resolution and Map 1 amended to include the area on Irvin Street which includes Brownies by Faith; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

GTIB Loan – City Manager Anderson said we have been approved for a \$500,000 Loan from the Georgia State Road & Tollway Authority to help with Phase 2 of the Level Grove Sidewalk Project. The terms of the loan are \$500,000 at 1.56% with a 10-year payback. He said he and Attorney Campbell spoke to our Bond Attorney Ken Pollock and verified that this will not affect our Bonds for the Municipal Complex. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to approve the GTIB Loan from the Georgia State Road & Tollway Authority for Phase 2 of the Level Grove Sidewalk Project for \$500,000 and to authorize Mayor Borrow to execute the documents; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Big Red Apple Festival – Mayor Borrow stated that the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Red Apple Festival is coming up on September 26, 2020 and we need to decide, do we still have a festival. City Manager Anderson said the Cumming Festival has been canceled for this year. A couple of residents were present, and they asked them their opinion and they both said they didn't think it was a good idea to have the festival this year. Commissioner Griggs said with the predictions that there is going to be a rise in the virus, and not being able to enforce people to wear mask, it's not a good idea to have it, little risky. Commissioner Cook said he's made bad decisions before, but best to cancel this year. Commissioner Dodd said too many unknowns. City Attorney Campbell said there are little directions on what to do and decisions are a real challenge. Commissioner Dodd made the motion to cancel the Big Red Apple Festival for this year; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Commissioner Dodd made the motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:40 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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John Borrow, Mayor

