

CITY OF CORNELIA
MINUTES OF MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2020

The Cornelia City Commission met in a Called Session on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 2 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, and Janice Griggs. Commissioner Wesley Dodd, Jr. was not present. Also, present: City Attorney Steve Campbell, City Manager Donald Anderson, and City Clerk Janie N. Henderson.

Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve the October 19, 2020 Agenda; seconded by Commissioner Bagwell. Approved 3 – 0.

Ordinance 10-20-1, Reduce Right-of-way – City Attorney Campbell explained that some of our City Streets have odd rights-of-way and this ordinance clears some of that up. The Reeves have a potential buyer and they have found some discrepancies when surveying the property, which this will address those issues. He said there has been a 1936 document found recorded that reduced some of the street right-of-way, but not all of them. He noted these are greater than anywhere else in the City. The reduction of right-of-way width of Oak Street from 80-feet in width to 60-feet from its intersection with Front Street Southward to its intersection with Foreacre Street, and providing that the center line of said street shall remain the same, and the reduction of the right-of-way width of Summit Street from 80-foot in width to 60-feet from its intersection with Front Street Southward to its intersection with Foreacre Street and the center line of said street shall remain the same. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to adopt Ordinance 10-20-1, Reducing the Right-of-way on Oak Street, Front Street, and Summit Street as stated; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Public Hearing on Millage Rate – City Attorney Campbell opened the Public Hearing. City Manager Anderson explained the proposed millage rate is the same as the previous 9 years. He explained it is considered a .004% increase and because of the rollback formula we are required to use, it is considered a rate increase. No comments were heard from the public. Mayor Borrow stated that we have 2 more public hearings scheduled for Thursday, October 29, 2020 at Noon and 6 PM. City Attorney Campbell closed the Public Hearing.

Sale of Surplus Property located on Oak Street and Front Street – City Attorney Campbell explained the Reeves Family would like to purchase .46 acre of city right-of-way located on Front and Oak Street. He said nothing can be built on the property because its a long narrow strip that makes up the .46 acre. Under OCGA 36.37.6 since we are the adjacent landowners, we can sell them this property for Fair Market Value. The offer for the property is \$7,500. Commissioner Cook made the motion to approve the sale of the .46 acre as noted on the map to the Reeves Trust for \$7,500; seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 3 – 0.

Purchase of Property at 184 Wells Street – City Manager Anderson explained that our engineers have recommended we purchase the property in order to make the repairs to the street as a result of the damage from Hurricane Delta. He said by purchasing the property we can demolish the building and save \$40,000 on a retaining wall, which would be required to protect the building in the future. He has spoken to Herbert Head and he has agreed to sell us the property for \$40,000 that it would cost to build the wall. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the Contract Agreement to purchase the property located at 184 Wells Street from Herbert Head for \$40,000; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Proposals for Storm Damage Repairs – City Manager Anderson said Hurricane Delta dumped over 10 inches of rain on us October 10th and 11th and as a result we had some damage to several areas of town. We have made most of the repairs in house, but the damage to Irvin Street and Wells Street are beyond our capabilities. We requested separate bids for each street because ideally we will hire two different contractors, so the work can be completed and the streets opened back up as soon as possible. Our Engineer Chase West recommends the proposal of \$304,900 from Wilcorp Inc for both streets, since they have stated they can complete both in 20 working days. Commissioner Griggs made the motion to approve the proposal from Wilcorp Inc for Contract 1-Wells Street Culvert for \$134,750 and Contract 2-Irvin Street Culvert for \$170,150, paid out of Stormwater Fund; seconded by Commissioner Bagwell. Approved 3 – 0.

Habersham Hardware Encroachment on Front Street – City Attorney Campbell said the Easement is allowing an existing chain link fence and block wall that is encroaching on the right-of-way at the Southwest intersection of Front Street and Summit Street to stay. The fence and wall have been there since 1994. The Easement authorizes the Mayor to sign the document on behalf of the City. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to authorize Mayor Borrow to sign the Easement for the property located at the Southwest Intersection of Front Street and Summit Street to the Paul J. Reeves Trust, The Doris Reeves Trust, and Doris Reeves, individually for the sum of \$1.00; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 2:40 PM; seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 3 – 0.

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).

(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 6TH day
of October 20 20.

Notary Public