

SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF
ALBANY, GEORGIA
GOVT. CENTER – RM 100

PRESENT: Mayor Dorothy Hubbard
Mayor Pro Tem Roger Marietta
City Commissioners: Jon Howard, Bobby Coleman, BJ Fletcher, Bob Langstaff,
Jr., (arrived at approx. 1:05 pm)
City Manager: Sharon D. Subadan
City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Hubbard called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., and, following a moment of silence, she stated that since Hurricane Irma came through Albany yesterday, today's meeting will be abbreviated and will not include Committee of the Whole discussions. She also reminded the audience of the process to address the Commission (Citizen Comments/Speaker Appearance Forms).

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Coleman moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marietta, the motion unanimously carried.

STORM UPDATE

Ms. Subadan explained that AFD Chief/Emergency Management Director Ron Rowe, will provide updates. Chief Rowe introduced Jenna Wirtz, who has been with us since January 22nd and gave a brief update on her qualifications.

Regarding the recent storm, Ms. Wirtz provided information regarding limbs/power lines that are down all over the city/county due to wind gusts of 40 mph as Hurricane Irma approached; reports of trees on power lines, driveways that needs to be clear and stated that there are approximately 200-300 people still without power. Assessments are being made so that the City/County can receive state/federal assistance, adding that this is the first step in making the state/federal agencies aware of damages. She discussed shelters that were opened within the city/county with the Red Cross being the only one remaining open at the Civic Center. She also commented on the hours of volunteer crews and mentioned that Albany will be sending people to help in other areas. In reply to Mayor Pro Tem Marietta, Chief Rowe advised that a crew will be sent to Camden County, which is on the E. Coast.

Using a power point presentation, (copy on file) Phil Roberson, Asst. City Manager, discussed reported power outages, traffic light data, storm debris removal and visiting crews from other areas. In reply to Mayor Pro Tem Marietta, Mr. Roberson explained the process of picking up storm debris.

Commissioner Howard commented on the area around Turner Field and asked when power will be restored. Mr. Roberson stated that they are working diligently to get power restored today if possible. Commissioner Howard asked for additional information on breakers and circuits as it pertains to substations. Mr. Roberson explained that it depends on which substation the lines are fed/connected as to which circuits are used. In reply to Commissioner Howard, Jimmy Norman, Director of Utility Operations, commented on transformers being blown, etc., adding that many times it is not a transformer, but rather a fuse. In reply to Mayor Hubbard, he assured her that when there are other lines that are down, i.e., AT&T, Cable, etc. those companies are notified.

In reply to Mayor Hubbard, Mr. Roberson stated that the river is not expected to flood.

In reply to Mayor Hubbard regarding where people should go for assistance to file homeowner's insurance, etc., Chief Rowe stated that there is a process and currently they are in the preliminary assessment process, adding that he is not aware of state or federal assistance at this time.

Ms. Wirtz stated that in terms of faith-based groups, there are two distribution centers open; she supplied their names and location and advised that they are providing immediate need type items,, adding that this will continue until the assessment is complete.

Commissioner Coleman asked about feeder lines with Mr. Roberson explaining that this pertains to infrastructure, which affects the length of time that power/lights are off.

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Commissioner Howard suggested having a workshop with WALB Chief Meteorologist Yolanda Amadeo facilitating and providing information regarding the recent storms.

Mayor Hubbard thanked City staff for what they have done, and are doing, during the recent storm/hurricane by providing updates/information, etc., which assists citizens in understanding processes.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Commissioner Fletcher moved to approve the following Alcohol License Application, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marietta; the motion carried 5-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

1. Pizza & Daiquiri's; 232 W. Broad Avenue; A. Banks/Agent; Liquor, Beer and Wine Consumption

Mayor Pro Tem Marietta moved to approve the following Alcohol License Application, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the motion carried 5-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

2. Prayoshnam LLC; d/b/a Gillionville Food Mart; 1604 Gillionville Road; C. Patel/Agent; Beer and Wine Package

Commissioner Langstaff moved to approve the following Alcohol License Application/Transfer of Ownership, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion carried 5-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

3. Cheddar's Casual Cafe' Inc., d/b/a Cheddars Scratch Kitchen; 1111 N. Westover Blvd.; D. Williams/Agent; Liquor, Beer and Wine Consumption; Transfer of Ownership from M. Chumbley

Commissioner Fletcher moved to approve the following Alcohol License Application/Transfer of Ownership, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marietta; the motion carried 5-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

4. Harikrishna United LLC; d/b/a Pace Food Mart; 404 S. Slappey Blvd.; C. Patel/Agent; Beer and Wine Package; Transfer of Ownership from R. Aslam

Commissioner Howard moved to approve the following purchase, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion unanimously carried.

5. Hydraulic Bucket Machines; National Joint Powers Alliance Contract
Total expenditure \$143,943.39

Commissioner Howard moved to approve the following purchase, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marietta; the motion unanimously carried.

6. Well #13 Pump House Construction; Dukes, Edwards & Dukes, Inc.
Total expenditure \$79,879.00

Commissioner Fletcher asked if HB 611 applies to Mr. Dukes – elected officials prohibited from bidding on items for local governments. She said this is an ADICA bid and not a City bid and asked for clarification. Mr. Davis explained that HB 611 deals with state contracts; Commissioner Fletcher asked if there were any problems in the past with Mr. Dukes. Yvette Fields, Director of Central Services, stated that Mr. Duke has done a few city projects and there were no issues with him no completing the work, however, there was an issue with Dougherty County, but the project was completed.

Kimberly Allen, Buyer, explained that this is not an ADICA project.

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APPOINTMENTS

1. One joint City/County appointment to Southwest Georgia Regional Commission to fill an unexpired term ending December, 2017

Commissioner Langstaff moved to appoint Matthew Reed, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion unanimously carried.

2. Two appointments to Community Development Council to fill unexpired term ending June, 2018

Commissioner Howard moved to appoint Brenda H. Tiller and Angereen Rainey, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher; the unanimously carried.

3. One appointment to Albany Utility Board to fill an unexpired term ending January, 2019

Mayor Pro Tem Marietta stated that he spoke with Commissioner Postell who said he is unable to attend the meeting this morning due to storm damages and moved that the Utility Board appointments be on the next agenda (Sept. 26), seconded by Commissioner Fletcher; the motion unanimously carried.

4. One appointment to Albany/Dougherty Planning Commission to fill an unexpired term ending January, 2020

Commissioner Howard move to table this appointment to the next meeting as well, seconded by Commissioner Coleman; the motion unanimously carried.

ORDINANCES

Ms. Subadan advised that the following three ordinances are being deferred to the next agenda (September 26, 2017), as well as the resolution for employees group health plan.

Commissioner Howard asked Judge Weaver to provide a spreadsheet on the current fines versus the fines that he imposes i.e., the new fines going into effect.

AN ORDINANCE NO.

Amending Section 24(1) of the City Charter so as to provide for a maximum fine of \$1,000

AN ORDINANCE NO.

Amending Section 1-17(b) of the City Code to increase the penalty for violations of the Code or any ordinance(s) by a fine not to exceed \$1,000

AN ORDINANCE NO.

Amending Section 36-8 of the City Code so as to add a new provision regarding violations

RESOLUTIONS

Commissioner Langstaff moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Howard, the motion unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION NO. 17-R156

Authorizing submission of application for a 2017-2018 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Formula Grant (JAG); authorizing execution of Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding Agreement between the City of Albany and Dougherty County

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The City Clerk stated that the next item has been moved to the next meeting (September 26, 2017)

A RESOLUTION NO.

Approving the 2018 Public Employees Group Health Plan

Mayor Pro Tem Marietta moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Howard; the motion unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION NO. 17-R157

Authorizing execution of an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation for Local Government Lighting Project for Westover Blvd. Extension

In reply to Mayor Pro Tem Marietta, Ms. Subadan agreed that for the most part this is something the City has to do since it is part of the overall plan for the Westover extension; she briefly discussed the lighting process.

David Hamilton, Transportation Director, discussed information as noted (copy on file) regarding the approximate \$1.1 million FAA Grant, adding that the grant will fund two safety projects at the airport.

Commissioner Howard clarified that the local match is 10%/\$25,000; Mr. Hamilton agreed. In reply to Commissioner Howard, Mr. Hamilton stated that construction will begin next year with the upgrades lasting 20-25 years.

Commissioner Langstaff moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Howard; the motion unanimously carried.

A RESOLUTION NO. 17-R158

Authorizing submission of a grant application to the Federal Aviation Administration re: safety projects at Southwest Georgia Regional Airport

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Hearing no comments, Mayor Hubbard asked if the City Manager had an update; Ms. Subadan replied in the negative.

Commissioner Marietta commended staff for being prepared during the emergency.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

MAYOR

ATTEST

CITY CLERK