

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MUNICIPAL ANNEX
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and City Council held their regularly scheduled meeting on the date, time, and location stated above.

A list of visitors is attached to these minutes.

PRESENT: Doug Roper, Mayor
Raymond Turner, Mayor Pro-Tem
Cecil Thompson, Councilmember
Jennifer Evans, Councilmember
Bob Dixon, Councilmember
Loyd Mobley, Councilmember

CITY STAFF: Bill Bedingfield, City Manager
Daniel O'Connor, City Attorney
Kellie Murray, City Clerk
Patricia Glover, Finance Director
Tonya Parker, DVA Director
Alexa Britton, CVB Director
Brian Sikes, Fire Chief
James Jermon, Police Chief
Tony Hall, Project Manager, ESG
Scott Strickland, Recreation Director
Billy Ragan, Airport Manager
Chad Phillips, City Marshal

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR DOUG P. ROPER, III, WITH INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY REV. FRANK WILLIAMS, MT. ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH.

Mayor Roper called this meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with Rev. Frank Williams of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church giving the Invocation and leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Councilmember Cecil Thompson made the motion to approve agenda as written with a second made by Councilmember Raymond Turner. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kelly Engle Tippett addressed the Council with concerns of the public warning siren system and provided information of FEMA's hazardous mitigation for inclement weather grant resources.

Rev. Ronald Miller addressed Council with concerns of safety in the community; ensure there is a plan for future use of any sell of land within the city; and, asked Council members to look at various properties within the city to see what can be done to improve.

4. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- Workshop Meeting Minutes dated January 8, 2024
- Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated January 8, 2024
- Executive Session Minutes dated January 8, 2024

Councilmember Raymond Turner made the motion to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda. A second motion was made by Councilmember Jennifer Evans and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

Patricia Glover, Finance Director, presented the summary of finances for January. City Manager Bill Bedingfield presented the 2021-2026 SPLOST Revenue and Projects with an update on all projects listed.

6. TOURISM / CHAMBER UPDATE

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| - Downtown Vidalia Association | Tonya Parker |
| - Vidalia Convention & Visitors Bureau (VCVB) | Alexa Britton |
| - Greater Vidalia Chamber | Michele Johnson |
| - Vidalia Onion Festival | Jake Cleghorn |
| - Sweet Onion Golf Authority | Andy Woodruff |

Monthly updates were provided to the Mayor and Council from Tonya Parker, DVA Director, Alexa Britton could not be present, and Michele Johnson could not be present. Jake Cleghorn discussed road closures, the signing of the festival proclamation, and

traffic control at the festival. Andy Woodruff reported on timber cutting at the golf course, as well as RFQ for clubhouse architect and upcoming pre-bid meeting for irrigation system.

7. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE TO THE DAHLIA EVENT CENTER, LLC, SUBMITTED BY AMANDA HIGGINS. ALL REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET.

Councilmember Raymond Turner made the motion to approve this license, with a second made by Councilmember Jennifer Evans. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

8. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE TO OHOOPEE RIVER BREWING COMPANY, SUBMITTED BY BRADLEY HARRELSON. ALL REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET.

Councilmember Loyd Mobley made the motion to approve this license, with a second made by Councilmember Raymond Turner. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

9. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL OF COIN-OPERATED AMUSEMENT MACHINE LICENSE TO GOVIND SMOKE 2023, LLC, SUBMITTED BY RAMILABEN G PATEL. ALL REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET.

Councilmember Raymond Turner made the motion to approve this license, with a second made by Councilmember Jennifer Evans. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

10. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL OF OCCUPATIONAL TAX CERTIFICATE (BUSINESS LICENSE) TO OPERATE A MEDICAL TRANSPORT BUSINESS (VEHICLE FOR HIRE – NON EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT). ALL REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET.

Councilmember Bob Dixon made the motion to approve this license, with a second made by Councilmember Jennifer Evans. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

11. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL OF ROAD CLOSURES FOR THE 2024 VIDALIA ONION FESTIVAL. ROAD CLOSURES AND DURATION OF CLOSURE IS AS FOLLOWS:

<u>STREET</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIMES</u>
Durden Street	Tuesday, April 22	3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
	Wednesday, April 23	1:00 p.m. through
	through Saturday, April 26	2:00 a.m.
Jackson Street, Meadows Street, Meadows St. Extension	Thursday, April 24	9:00 a.m. through
	through Saturday, April 26	2:00 a.m.

A motion was made to approve road closures for the 2024 Vidalia Onion Festival by Councilmember Jennifer Evans, with a second made by Councilmember Bob Dixon. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE APPROVAL OF QUOTE SUBMITTED BY S. A. BROWN ENTERPRISES FOR 200 BLOCK OF EAST HWY 280 TO INSTALL SEWER LINE AND ABANDON LIFT STATION #5.

City Manager Bill Bedingfield advised the total cost of this project will be \$19,160.00 and will include one (1) additional manhole. The fund source will be SPLOST. Councilmember Loyd Mobley made the motion to approve this project at cost of \$19,160.00, with a second made by Councilmember Cecil Thompson. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

13. ACKNOWLEDGE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER TO THE FRANKLIN STREET WATER/SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. THE 2” WATER MAIN APPROVED OCTOBER 10, 2023, AT A COST OF \$28,810.00 WILL BE REVISED TO APPROVE THE 6” WATER MAIN AT A COST OF \$51,785.00. TOTAL COST OF PROJECT WILL BE REVISED FROM A COST OF \$85,850.00 A COST OF \$108,825.00.

Councilmember Raymond Turner made the motion to accept this change order, with a second by Councilmember Jennifer Evans. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

AIRPORT COMMITTEE MET ON JANUARY 24, 2024

NOTE: Recommendation of Committee will need a first and second motion to approve due to Mayor serving as a committee member.

14. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL TO PURCHASE 5,000 GALLON JET REFUELER TRUCK FOR THE VIDALIA REGIONAL AIRPORT AT A COST OF \$277,017.50.

	Skymark Refuelers	Westmor Fluid Solutions	Garsite Refuelers
Deposit Y/N	Y-20% w/final 80% upon shipment	Y-25% w/final 75% upon shipment	Y-25% w/final 75% upon shipment
Quote Valid	30 days	30 days	30 days
Base Price	\$264,900.00	\$295,000.00	\$278,321.00
Options	\$7,550.00	included in above	\$5,008.00
Freight	\$3,500.00	\$8,000.00	\$5,500.00
Radio + Antenna	\$1,067.50	\$829.95	\$829.95
	\$277,017.50	\$303,829.95	\$289,658.95
Lead time	180 days	Q4 2024	March 2024

RECOMMENDED VENDOR: Skymark Refuelers
FUND SOURCE: SPLOST

City Manager Bill Bedingfield advised a plan would be put in place for airport to reimburse for cost of refueling truck. Also, the sale of the old truck will reduce the cost of the vehicle. Councilmember Cecil Thompson made the motion to approve the recommended vendor, Skymark Refuelers, at a cost of \$277,017.50. The second was made by Councilmember Bob Dixon. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

STREET & SANITATION COMMITTEE MET ON JANUARY 31, 2024

NOTE: To approve recommendation of Committee only a second motion is needed. The Committee recommendation is considered the first motion.

15. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL OF REVISED SOP FOR LIMBS AND LEAVES / BROWN GOODS / WHITE GOODS PICK UP BY ESG.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve an actual cost of \$300.00 for exceptionally large debris piles requiring multiple pickups completed in one day. The procedure of one pickup per residence, at no additional cost, will continue.

The Committee recommendation to approve revisions submitted by ESG is the first motion. Councilmember Loyd Mobley made a second motion. This motion passed unanimously.

WATER & SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING MET ON FEB 8, 2024

NOTE: The Committee recommendation will need a motion and second to approve due to Mayor serving as a committee member.

16. DISCUSSION / APPROVAL OF COST-TASK RATE SCHEDULE TO REPAIR DAMAGED PROPERTY SUBMITTED BY ESG.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Committee recommendation approves this cost-task schedule for damaged property.

City Manager Bill Bedingfield advised the cost schedule submitted does not include cost of any materials needed to make repairs. This schedule is for labor and equipment costs only. Councilmember Bob Dixon made the motion to approve the submitted cost schedule with a second made by Councilmember Jennifer Evans. This motion passed with a unanimous vote.

17. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

- Brian Sikes, Fire Chief
- James Jermon, Police Chief
- Tony Hall, ESG Project Manager
- Scott Strickland, Recreation Director
- Billy Ragan, Airport Manager

- Chad Phillips, City Marshal

Fire Chief Brian Sikes could not be present. Monthly reports were presented to Mayor and Council.

18. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Request approval to move \$50,000 in General Fund for the purpose of Derelict Property. Funds would come from Fund Balance – Account 100/1500.57.9000.

A motion was made to approve the request to move \$50,000.00 in General Fund from Fund Balance for derelict property. Councilmember Raymond Turner made the motion, with a second made by Councilmember Bob Dixon. This motion passed unanimously.

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION PER O.C.G.A. §50-14-4 FOR THE PURPOSE OF REAL ESTATE PER O.C.G.A. §50-14-3(b)(1)(D) and PERSONNEL PER O.C.G.A. §50-14-3(b)(2).

Councilmember Loyd Mobley made the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Personnel and Real Estate. A second was made by Councilmember Bob Dixon. This motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Loyd Mobley made the motion to exit Executive Session and return to regular session with a second made by Councilmember Bob Dixon. This meeting returned regular session.

Upon returning to regular session, Councilmember Bob Dixon made the motion to accept the bid from Rentnomo, LLC for the purchase of Truman Street property, Parcel No. V18 179. A second was made by Councilmember Raymond Turner. This motion passed by a unanimous vote.

20. ADJOURN

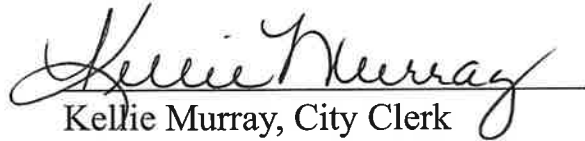
Motion to adjourn made by Councilmember Loyd Mobley with a second made by Councilmember Cecil Thompson. This motion passed unanimously, and this meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

AFFIRMATION

We affirm that these minutes are correct and true to form as presented to the Mayor and City Council on March 11, 2024.



Doug P. Roper, III
MAYOR



Kellie Murray, City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - PLEASE SIGN IN

DATE OF MEETING: MARCH 11, 2024

NAME	ADDRESS
Charles [unclear] BEIRNIE NELSON	VIDALIA
Billy Eagan Chad Phillips Avery Woodruff	VRA CA SOGA
Salome J. Bussard [unclear]	MEMC. MCDAC
Paige Alexander Tanya Parker Cody [unclear] Janice O'Neal Rev. Ronald Miller Rosemarie Rhoads	SOS DVA SOS ESG
Ken [unclear] Kathy Hilt Hughes Graham Cathy Gibson	Vidalia Radio Station CV Mosley VPD
Tracy [unclear] Alex [unclear] Dulcie Evans TOW [unclear] MATT COLEY Lash Clements Blenda Green Wyle [unclear]	Miss [unclear] Vidalia CVB Chamber ESG VID. Vidalia Vidalia vidalia
Lynne Dean Lillie Turner Gennie [unclear] Bernistine McCrae [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]	Vidalia Borden St. Vidalia Co. Vidalia Co. Vidalia Co. Vidalia Vidalia Vidalia VIDALIA

CITY OF VIDALIA


EXECUTIVE SESSION AFFIDAVIT

- (1) Pursuant to my duties as Mayor, I was the presiding officer of a meeting of the Vidalia City Council held on the **11th** day of **MARCH, 2024**. A portion of said meeting was closed to the public.
- (2) I am competent to make this Affidavit and have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.
- (3) It is my understanding that **O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b)** provides as follows: When any meeting of an agency is closed to the public pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section, the person presiding over such meeting or, if the agency's policy so provides, each member of the governing body of the agency attending such meeting, shall execute and file with the official minutes of the meeting a notarized affidavit stating under oath that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law and identifying the specific relevant exception.
- (4) The subject matter of said meeting, or the closed portion thereof, was devoted to matters within exceptions to public disclosure provided by law. Those specific relevant exceptions are identified as follows: **[Circle relevant item(s)]**
 - A. Meeting to discuss or vote to authorize the settlement of a matter covered by the attorney-client privilege as provided in **Georgia Code Section 50-14-2(1) and 50-14-3(b)(1)(A)**. The subject discussed was _____
(Identify the case or claim discussed).
 - B. Meeting to discuss or vote to authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of or lease property as provided in **Georgia Code Section 50-14-3(b)(1)(B)**.
 - C. Meeting to discuss or vote to authorize the ordering of an appraisal related to the acquisition or disposal of real estate as provided in **Georgia Code Section 50-14-3(b)(1)(C)**.
 - D. Meeting to discuss or vote to enter into a contract to purchase, dispose of, or lease property subject to approval in a subsequent public vote as provided in **Georgia Code Section 50-14-3(b)(1)(D)**.
 - E. Meeting to discuss or vote to enter into an option to purchase, dispose of, or lease real estate subject to approval in a subsequent public vote as provided in **Georgia Code Section 50-14-3(b)(1)(E)**.
 - F. Meeting to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee as provided in **Georgia Code Section 50-14-3(b)(2)**.
 - G. Meeting to interview one or more applicants for the position of the executive head of an agency as provided in **Georgia Code Section 50-14-3(b)(2)**.
 - H. Pursuant to the attorney-client privilege and as provided by **Georgia Code Section 50-14-2(1)**, a meeting otherwise required to be open was closed to the public in order to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the agency or any officer or employee or in which the agency or any officer or employee may be directly involved and the matter discussed was _____
[Identify the matter only].

- I. Staff meeting held for investigative purposes under duties or responsibilities imposed by law as provided by **Georgia Code Section 50-14-3(a)(1)**.
- J. Meeting to consider records or portions of records exempt from public inspection or disclosure pursuant to **Article 4 of Chapter 18 of Title 50 of the Georgia Code** because there are no reasonable means to consider the record without disclosing the exempt portions.

This Affidavit is executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of **O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b)** and is to be filed with the official minutes for the aforementioned meeting.

This 11th day of March, 2024





BY: CITY OF VIDALIA

 Mayor Doug P. Roper, III, Presiding Officer

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the above indicated date.

Stephanie Michelle Buser
 Notary Public, State of Georgia
 Commission Expires 10/26/27



(Although the same is not mandatory, the following parties concur with the accuracy of this Affidavit)


John R. Turner




Cecil Thompson
John Raymond Turner
Jennifer Evans
Loyd Mobley
Bob Dixon

NOTE: This form is to be used on all meetings of the City of Vidalia when four (4) or more council members are present.