

CITY OF CORNELIA
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 3, 2022

The Cornelia City Commission met in a Workshop Session on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at 5 PM in the Cornelia Municipal Building Conference Room, 181 Larkin Street, Cornelia, GA. Mayor, John Borrow, called the meeting to order and the following Commissioners were present: Tony Cook, Janice Griggs, Mark Reed, and Don Bagwell. Also, present: City Attorney, Steve Campbell, City Manager, Donald Anderson, Human Resource Director, Diane Feorino, IT Director, Jeremy Dundore, and City Clerk, Debbie Turner.

City Manager Anderson went over the items on the Agenda. Mr. Anderson said we would have the second reading of Ordinance 04-22-01 that was discussed at last month's meetings. He explained that the ordinance would establish the fees for the fire department, it has been posted and no comments for or against have been heard. Commissioner Bagwell said that if he was right, that the fire department would have discretionary rights to send in the information. Mr. Anderson confirmed that saying we would use our own discretion and if they are uninsured, we would not send the information in. The Public Hearings were discussed, Mr. Anderson said there is a petition for a speed bump on Elrod Street. Mayor Borrow said he would really like to investigate some other options, He said that speed bumps provide issues for emergency vehicles and aesthetically they don't look good, however if that is the best option then we may have to have one installed. Mr. Anderson said that one option might be to drop the speed limit from 30mph to 25mph, He said traffic counters were set up for a 7 day-period and 16% of the cars were traveling over the speed limit. There was a lot of discussion on what options there were and Mayor Borrow and the Commissioners agreed they would like to look at all the options. Mr. Anderson went over the CDBG grant and if we receive the grant the target areas would be Edward St., Wood St., Foster St., and Hoyt. Mr. Anderson said the biggest problem in the areas are the constant sewer backups on Wood St. He said Gabe Morris from Carter & Sloope would be in the meeting to discuss the grant and answer any questions. All of the other items were discussed on the agenda.

Commissioner Reed said that he had spoken with VFW located here in in Cornelia and they are looking for a building to have a possible satellite location here. They would like to have a Primary Care Clinic that would partner with VFW hospital in Augusta. He asks that if anyone knew of a place, they could rent to please let him know.

Commissioner made a motion to adjourn the workshop and move into executive session, seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0. No action was taken, Don Bagwell moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mark Reed.

Debbie Turner, City Clerk

John Borrow, Mayor

CITY OF CORNELIA
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 3, 2022

The Cornelia City Commission met in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 03, 2022, at 6 pm in the Cornelia Municipal Building Courtroom, 181 Larkin Street, Cornelia, GA. Mayor, John Borrow, called the meeting to order and the following members were present: Commissioners Don Bagwell, Tony Cook, Mark Reed, and Janice Griggs. Also present: City Attorney, Steve Campbell, City Manager, Donald Anderson, Human Resource Director, Diane Feorino, IT Director, Jeremy Dundore, and City Clerk, Debbie Turner.

Mayor Borrow gave the invocation and Commissioner Cook led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to Approve the Agenda with the addition of adding the purchase of property that was decided on during the executive session, seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 -0

Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the March 7th minutes as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

Mayor Borrow recognized Jeff Wilson for his service for the 6 months he served as Ward 1 Commissioner. Mr. Wilson was not present to accept the award.

City Manager, Donald Anderson, gave his monthly report, he said a story from WCHM reporting that we had excess chlorine in our drinking water. The story was incorrect in that there was one 1 resident had complained about a chlorine odor in his water. Mr. Anderson explained that the water was tested and came in at 1.2 mg/l. The new plant has a monitor that tracks the chlorine levels in every drop of water that leaves the water plant making sure it is 2 mg/l or less. Mr. Anderson reported we hired 3 new firefighters and 2 new police officers; however, they are all inexperienced and are at the academies. One of the firefighters is being paid through an internship by Work Source Georgia for the first 12 weeks. He reported that we are still down 1 police officer as well as two in the public works dept. Mr. Anderson said he, Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief had traveled to Wisconsin to look at our two new fire trucks. One has already been delivered and the other one should be here this week. Mr. Anderson said that the trucks are equipped with a Haas Alert System which will alert motorists on their GPS devices to pull over. Mr. Anderson gave an update on the Evan Boyd Eagle Scout project; it has submitted and is waiting on approval. A copy of his report is made an integral part of the minutes.

Public Forum- No comments heard

Old Business: Ordinance #04-22-01, Establishing Fire Dept Rates for Services

Mr. Anderson said this ordinance is to establish migration rates for some Emergency and Non-emergency calls. He said he would like to point out that the rates are set by the state and not the city. The ordinance has been posted and no comments have been heard for against. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Reed. Approved 4 – 0

City Attorney, Steve Campbell opened the Public Hearing for a request for a speed bump on Elrod Street. Marcus Davenport from 516 Elrod Street, came forward in favor of the speed bump. Mr. Davenport said that they are new residents in the neighborhood and have noticed a lot of traffic and a lot of people speeding. Mr. Cook asked if the speeders were more uphill are downhill. He said downhill for sure. Mr. Davenport said that Police cars have started sitting there more often and are making some stops. City Attorney closed the Public Hearing, Commissioner Cook told Mr. Davenport that we would like to investigate some other options but that the issue is being discussed. Mayor Borrow ask Mr. Davenport to leave his phone number so that he can be updated on what is being discussed. Commissioner Reed made the motion to table the speed bump, seconded by Commissioner Bagwell. Approved 4 – 0

City Attorney, Steve Campbell opened the Public Hearing for the CDBG Pre-award Hearing, Gabe Morris with Carter & Sloope came forward to explain the application process. Mr. Morris said the application deadline is due June 3rd and has a lot of State and Federal regulations. He said their office is working on the application and the target areas is Edward St., Wood St. between Foster, and Hoyt St. The area does qualify for the low to moderate income level and The CDBG grant will be requesting assistance with Water and Sewer funding in addition the city will match funding for street drainage and sidewalk improvements. Mr. Morris said we will be applying for a \$850,000. Grant with the city matching that at a cost of 1.7 million and the grant is counted a point system, this includes the city matching funds as well as the need for the improvements in the area. City Manager Anderson asks Mr. Morris to explain to the Mayor and Commissioner why he recommends that we ask for \$850,000 instead of the full 1 million. He explained that to be for competitive for the grant we would be looking at about \$12,000 per person versus \$10,000 per person for a water project which makes it much more competitive. He said that going for the 1 million might lower our chances of receiving the grant. The department of Community Affairs oversees the CDBG grants, and they make more

requirements every year, He said they are just trying to stay on top of things. City Attorney closed the public hearing. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to authorize Carter & Sloope to move forward applying for CDBG funds, seconded by Commissioner Reed. Approved 4 - 0

Consent Agenda: Proclamation for Municipal Clerks Week
Commissioner Grigg made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0

New Business:

Ordinance # 05-22-01

City Manager said this is a Home Rule ordinance to amend the Charter for the purpose of reapportionment of the electoral districts pursuant to the 2020 Census. Based on the proposed map the population per ward will be Ward 1 – 1,128, Ward 2 – 1,158, Ward 3 – 1,333, and Ward 4 – 1,133. Commissioner Cook made the motion to post for public comment, seconded by Commissioner Bagwell. Approved 4 – 0

Agreement with Fire Recovery USA, LLC, this agreement would propose to collect mitigation fees for the fire department. The company will reimburse us 78% of the total collected and this agreement can be canceled at any with 30 days' notice. Commissioner Reed made the motion to enter into the agreement with Fire Recovery USA, LLC seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

Budget Adjustment to Re-Build RAS Pump at the WWTP -The RAS pump re-build was budgeted for 2021, the work was not completed until March of 2022. The budget will need to be amended for \$15,629.42. Commissioner Cook made a motion to amend the budget, seconded by Commissioner Griggs. Approved 4 – 0

Engineering Agreement with Carter & Sloope- This agreement will be for Carter & Sloope for engineering the 2022 CDBG Grant. The total amount of the agreement is \$268,700 if we receive the grant if not, we will be responsible for \$6,000. For the preliminary Engineering report. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Reed. Approved 4 – 0

Bids for Janitorial services-Mr. Anderson explained that we received three bids for cleaning services for the Municipal building. The low bidder was Pam's Cleaning Service LLC in the amount of \$2,548. Per month. References were checked and come highly recommended.

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Commissioner Griggs made to motion accept Pam’s Cleaning Service in the amount of \$2,548., seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 – 0

City Attorney, Steve Campbell said we would need to Amend the Agenda to purchase property that was discussed in Executive Session for litigation. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to amend the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Reed. Approved 4 - 0

City Manager explained that the property is located between Main Street and Moss St. Map & Parcel # 089B-101. The property will be used for Flood Control and will be purchased with Storm Water Fees in the amount of \$28,000.00. Commissioner Reed made the motion to purchase the property, seconded by Commissioner Cook. Approved 4 - 0

Gabe Morris with Carter and Sloope asked Mr. Anderson if he would sign the agreement to administer the CDBG Grant.

City Attorney, Steve Campbell said we would need to amend the agenda, with consideration for Carter & Sloope to Administer the CDBG Grant. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to Amend the Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Reed. Approved 4 – 0

Mr. Anderson stated that this agreement is for Carter & Sloope to write and administer the CDBG Grant in the amount of \$100,400. If is broken down into three different items, grant writing in the amount of \$15,000, Surveys is \$13,400. And if successful \$72,000. Commissioner Bagwell made the motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Reed. Approved 4 – 0

The regular meeting was adjourned at 6:45

Debbie Turner, City Clerk

John Borrow, Mayor