

MINUTES
TOCCOA CITY COMMISSION
August 10, 2009

The City Commission of the City of Toccoa met in Regular Session at City Hall on Monday, August 10, 2009, at five o'clock P.M. with Mayor Ron Seib presiding.

The invocation was given by Pastor Paul Garrison followed by the Pledge Of Allegiance to the Flag.

On roll call the following were present:

Mayor Ron Seib
Vice Mayor Bob Troup
Commissioner David Austin
Commissioner Janice English
Commissioner AJ Pavliscsak
City Manager Billy Morse
City Attorney John Dickerson
City Clerk Fredda Wheeler

Motion by Commissioner Pavliscsak, seconded by Vice Mayor Troup and unanimously carried to approve the Agenda as presented, a copy of this Agenda being attached as Exhibit "A."

Under Reports the following comments were heard:

City Clerk Wheeler announced that steps are being taken to conduct a Hotel/Motel Audit as recommended by Georgia Municipal Association. Also, a Delinquent Property Tax Sale is scheduled for October 6, 2009.

Commissioner English expressed her pride in the cooperation shown between the City and County. This was demonstrated with the opening and success of the Farmer's Market. She also offered words of congratulations to the Chamber of Commerce on achieving a 4-Star rating Achievement Award.

Vice Mayor Troup reported that he had received a call from a citizen that offered words of praise for the workers in the Solid Waste Department.

Commissioner Pavliscsak reported that certain individuals had been wading in the fountain at Paul Anderson Park. He encouraged everyone to refrain from such activity because of the potential risk due to the presence of electrical wires in the fountain. He also gave an update on a meeting he attended with officials of the Georgia Department of Transportation. The Georgia 17 Coalition is still working on getting a 4-lane highway between Toccoa and Savannah.

Commissioner Austin invited everyone to take part in a walk sponsored by Kickin' It. The organization raises funds to assist those that cannot afford to pay for a mammogram here in Stephens County. The walk will take place September 26, 2009 at 8:00 A.M. and specifically requested that the entire Commission attend.

City Manager Morse reported:

1. The City's engineers are reviewing the bids for the water plant surge tank and will be making a recommendation after consulting with the engineer from Habersham County.
2. He will be meeting on August 11, 2009, with the City of Lavonia to discuss options for possible collections of bill payments and office space at City Hall in Lavonia.
3. The Downtown Development Authority will be meeting this week to begin the process of surveying downtown merchants in regards to 2-hour parking limitations.
4. MGAG is assisting in the process of refinancing the Natural Gas Bonds.

Mayor Seib called on Reverend Garrison to give an update on the Clothes Ministry at Hill Street Baptist Church; there was a ribbon cutting at that new facility attended by Commissioners English and Pavliscsak. Recognized Jason Dean as a patriot of our country; he will be going to Afghanistan with the Army Reserves. He also reminded the community how important the Highway 17 4-lane extension is to this area.

Mayor Seib next recognized any visitors who wished to speak.

Morris Wheeler - 2670 Rock Creek Road

Mr. Wheeler requested, on behalf of AmVets Post 600, that the parking limitations be extended at the "horseshoe" on Broad Street. Motion by Commission Pavliscsak, seconded by Commissioner Austin and unanimously carried to allow parking until 11:00 P.M. on Thursdays, 1: 00 A.M. on Fridays and 12:00 Midnight on Saturdays.

Joe Wilkes - 478 S. Broad Street

Mr. Wilkes requested that the right-of-way be cleared from Owens Street to Avon Street to prevent collection of tires and other debris. The matter was remanded to staff for further study and any possible recommendations.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Pavliscsak, seconded by Vice Mayor Troup and unanimously carried to approve the following Consent Agenda items as submitted:

- A. Request for Approval of Minutes of July 6, 2009 Joint City Commission/County Commission Meeting.
- B. Request for Approval of Minutes of July 27, 2009 City Commission Meeting.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- C. Second Reading: Consideration of Amendments to the Street and Sidewalks Ordinance. Motion by Vice Mayor Troup, seconded by Commissioner Pavliscsak and unanimously carried to adopt the Ordinance as amended.
- D. Consideration of Natural Gas Capacity Release. Motion by Commissioner Austin, seconded by Vice Mayor Troup and passed by a margin of 4 to 1 (Commissioner Pavliscsak opposed) to authorize the release of 4,000 decatherms per day (Dth/d) of natural gas.

- E. Discussion of Tentative Tax Millage Rate for 2009. Motion by Vice Mayor Troup, seconded by Commissioner Pavliscsak and passed by a margin of 4 to 1 (Commissioner English opposed) to tentatively approve the Tax Millage Rate of 7.19.
- F. Consideration of Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Toccoa and the Stephens County Board of Commissioners Regarding the Conducting of Elections for the City of Toccoa. Motion by Commissioner Austin, seconded by Commissioner Pavliscsak and unanimously carried to accept the agreement as presented.
- G. Monthly Financial Report. City Manager Morse gave the following report:
- Cash on hand - \$253,295
 - Cash forecast - should be about same as July
 - General Government - 3% of taxes have been collected
 - Grant Fund - Wellness Grant of \$10,000
 - Water Fund - 9% of Revenue and 10% of Expenses
 - SPLOST - Not a lot of activity going on at this time
 - Gas Sales - Cost is down considerably
 - Solid Waste - On target, with 8% of Revenue and 6% of Expense
 - Emergency Fund - \$498,525.05 as of July 31, 2009.
 - GCIC had \$14,361.00 of Revenue and \$9,945.61 in Expenses.
- H. Consideration of Annual Extension of Inmate Work Detail Contract. Motion by Commissioner Austin, seconded by Commissioner Pavliscsak and unanimously carried to renew the agreement for another year. The cost for the year is \$39,500.00.
- I. Recognition of Visitors Wishing to Speak:
There were no persons present who wished to be heard.

III. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Seib.

Mayor

Fredda Wheeler, City Clerk