



CITY OF TOCCOA
CITY COMMISSION
MINUTES • APRIL 8, 2024

Regular Meeting

City Commission/Court Room

5:00 PM

92 North Alexander, Toccoa, GA 30577

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Gail Fry at 5:00 pm.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Reverend Paul Garrison.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Terry Carter	Vice Mayor	Present	
Gail Fry	Mayor	Present	
Evan Hellenga	Commissioner	Present	
Ron Matheson	Commissioner	Present	
Michelle Jamieson	Commissioner	Present	
Fredda O. Wheeler	City Manager	Present	
John Dickerson	Attorney	Present	
Beth Rider	City Clerk	Present	

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Hellenga, seconded by Vice-Mayor Carter to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Evan Hellenga, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Terry Carter, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Carter, Fry, Hellenga, Matheson, Jamieson

REPORTS

Commissioner Hellenga stated it is good to see activity on the Green Space.

Mayor Fry stated last week she attended the Airport Authority meeting and they are moving along working within budget. The runway expansion project bid has been accepted. They have someone to cut the grass to continue to make it look good, we have a very active airport. They do a great job and one that our community can be proud of.

Commissioner Matheson stated March 28th he attended the Georgia Mountain Regional Commission meeting in Dawsonville. They had representatives from WGI talking about Brownfield. Commissioner Matheson stated this was his first introduction to Brownfield Programs. Commissioner Matheson stated it has touched our City; the building where CK

Morgan is located was a gas station decades ago and qualified. It is a great way to repurpose a used property.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Request for Approval of Minutes of March 25, 2024 Commission Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Matheson, seconded by Vice-Mayor Carter to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

II. OLD BUSINESS

III. NEW BUSINESS

B. Proclamation: Celebrating the 150TH Anniversary of the City of Toccoa

Mayor Fry read the Proclamation for the 150th Year Anniversary for the City of Toccoa. Misty Richardson updated the board regarding the 150th Year Celebration with all of the events planned for the year.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Carter, seconded by Commissioner Matheson. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Carter, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Ron Matheson, Commissioner
AYES:	Carter, Fry, Hellenga, Matheson, Jamieson

C. Consideration of Brick Installation Quotes for the Tugalo Street Greenspace

City Manager Fredda Wheeler stated we received three bids for the brick paver installation at the Tugalo Street Greenspace. The first quote was from TriScapes in the amount of \$13,503.12; second quote from Foothills Stone in the amount of \$25,900.00; and the third quote from Horizon Landscape, LLC in the amount of \$29,375.00. Ms. Wheeler asked the commissions approval for TriScapes in the amount of \$13,503.12. Ms. Wheeler stated this expense is built into the budget for the Greenspace and will be paid by the brick sales fund.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hellenga, seconded by Vice-Mayor Carter to accept TriScapes bid. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Evan Hellenga, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Terry Carter, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Carter, Fry, Hellenga, Matheson, Jamieson

D. Consideration of Streetlight Quotes for the Tugalo Street Greenspace

City Manager Fredda Wheeler stated on March 13th we had a bid opening for 13 street lights for the Tugalo Greenspace. Our original plan was to increase our monthly payment to

Georgia Power which is the current system for all other street lights in the amount of \$1,632.93 per month. We received bids from Henry Hayes Electrical in the amount of \$38,450.00; Foothills Electrical - \$34,619.00; and Georgia Power - \$88,000.00. Foothills Electrical was the low bidder. Ms. Wheeler stated since their bid, the manufacturer has run out of the pole and base and will be out of stock for the foreseeable future. We have found another option that very closely matches the existing poles and bases. Ms. Wheeler recommended the Commission approve the contract be awarded to Foothills Electrical for the purchase, installation of 13 light heads, poles and bases for \$13,619.00. Ms. Wheeler stated the original bid for \$34,619.00 will be decreased by \$8,000.00 due to a reduction in shipping cost; in addition Dillon Long has donated \$13,000.00 toward this project, the ending amount for this bid will be \$13,619.00 for the installation and purchase of 13 light heads, poles and bases.

After discussion of the base of the pole and the design, Jeremy Ward stated Henry Hayes submitted something more sleek, modern and square and could not match the exact poles that we currently have downtown. Mr. Ward stated this was the closest one we could find and a very similar match and the cost is reasonable.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hellenga, seconded by Commissioner Matheson to award bid to Foothills Electrical in the amount of \$13,619.00. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Evan Hellenga, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Ron Matheson, Commissioner
AYES:	Carter, Fry, Hellenga, Matheson, Jamieson

E. Consideration of Georgia Power Agreement

City Manager Fredda Wheeler stated the Lake Yonah Water Withdrawal Agreement between Georgia Power and the City of Toccoa expired December 31, 2023. Ms. Wheeler stated we have been working with staff, elected officials on the local and State level, attorneys and officials at Georgia Power to craft a new agreement that all parties could agree on. Ms. Wheeler highlighted some key points to the agreement; the term of the agreement will be January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2034. Georgia Power grants to the City of Toccoa a non-exclusive license to withdraw up to but not exceeding a maximum daily volume of 6,000,000 gallons per day for processing to potable water. The amount of the storage fee for each calendar year for the term of this agreement is \$166,943.70. Ms. Wheeler stated another component of the price will be an annual rate and it shall be calculated based on the actual amount of water withdrawn and the cost of replacing that lost energy with another fuel source. Ms. Wheeler stated in addition to that an administrative fee will be based upon a fixed rate. This payment will not be due until the end of 2025. This year's payment will be due at the end of 2024 and would reflect the usage of 2023 and follow previous schedule.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hellenga, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson to approve with typo changes. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Evan Hellenga, Commissioner
SECONDER: Michelle Jamieson, Commissioner
AYES: Carter, Fry, Hellenga, Matheson, Jamieson

F. Consideration of Ping's Grill Lease Agreement

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Carter, seconded by Commissioner Matheson to extend lease for two years. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Terry Carter, Vice Mayor
SECONDER: Ron Matheson, Commissioner
AYES: Carter, Fry, Hellenga, Matheson, Jamieson

G. Monthly Financial Report

RESULT: PRESENTATION

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Recognition of Visitors Wishing to Speak on General Items. (Limit 3 Minutes)

V. ADJOURN

Gail Guy

 Mayor
Dawn Rider

 City Clerk