



CITY OF TOCCOA
CITY COMMISSION
MINUTES • JUNE 18, 2024

Regular Meeting

City Commission/Court Room

5:00 PM

92 North Alexander, Toccoa, GA 30577

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Gail Fry called the regular meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

INVOCATION

Reverend Paul Garrison gave the invocation.

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 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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

REPORTS

Commissioner Hellenga reported another great turnout for the Ida Cox Series with Scoot Teasley on Saturday night in conjunction with the Juneteenth Celebration.

Commissioner Matheson stated it is very impressive that we have had two Saturdays with over 900 people for the concert series.

Commissioner Jamieson made a motion to have any leftover funds from the Greenspace go back into the General Fund to replace the funds used for this project. There seems to be an amount left over and we have pulled from other areas out of our budget to cover these and with this overage at the end of this project we need to pay the City back. Vice-Mayor Carter seconded the motion. Vice-Mayor Carter extended his gratitude to Main Street for all of their hard work selling the bricks and raising the amount of money you did. We wouldn't have to take money from SPLOST for paving and can do other improvements needed down the road. Vice-Mayor Carter

stated there was a good bit of work done by Public Works that will be an offset to the budget as well.

Commissioner Hellenga asked how much money? Commissioner Jamieson stated according to the last figure Becky sent out it was about \$56,000; we took \$26,900 out of SPLOST for paving and reallocated \$30,000 out of other budgets to make up the shortage we originally thought we would have. Vice Mayor Carter stated our match was \$68,000. Mayor Fry stated Public Works had about \$20,000.

Motion was approved unanimously.

City Manager Fredda Wheeler stated she stopped by the pool today and it is being very well used. Families were there at our local pool from Cornelia, Clarkesville and Rabun County. One family stated they bought a season pass they enjoyed it so much. They were very complimentary of the facilities and wanted her to pass on to the Commission and the City of Toccoa how much they appreciate having the pool they can enjoy.

Chief Mize gave an update on the Water Day event for the kids at Whitman Street Park.

Misty Richardson gave an update on the activities planned for the 150th Celebration.

Jeremy Ward gave an update on the Greenspace and will be completed by June 30th, the parking lot will be resurfaced next week. All electrical work and light poles are being installed this work and should be through by Friday.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

- A. Request for Approval of Minutes of May 21, 2024 Work Session
- B. Request for Approval of Minutes of May 21, 2024 Commission Meeting
- C. Request for Approval of Minutes of June 10, 2024 Commission Meeting

II. OLD BUSINESS

III. NEW BUSINESS

- D. Consideration of Alcohol Beverage License Applications

A motion was made by Commissioner Matheson, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson to approve the alcohol license applications for Aisling Bookstore, King Beverage Package Store, The Farmer and The Butcher. Motion carried unanimously.

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

E. Consideration of Appointment to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board

A motion was made by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Commissioner Hellenga to appoint Mae Brown Orr to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board for a three year term. Motion carried unanimously.

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

F. Consideration of Appointments to Toccoa Planning Commission

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Carter, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson to appoint Angie Garland, Kimberly Moavero and Crystal Roesch to the Toccoa Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

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

G. Consideration of Appointment to the Downtown Development Authority

A motion was made by Commissioner Hellenga, seconded by Commissioner Matheson to re-appoint Bryan Westmoreland and Kimberly Moavero and appoint Hayli Brewer to the Downtown Development Authority. Motion carried unanimously.

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

H. Consideration of Building Permit Fee Revisions

A motion was made by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Vice-Mayor Carter to approve the permit fee revision to be based upon square footage. Jeremy Ward stated he would like to add if there is any mechanical, electrical or plumbing renovations that need to occur to a commercial building, he would like to propose \$75 be added to the renovation. Motion carried unanimously.

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

I. Consideration of Moratorium Extension on Licensing and Location of Drug Rehabilitation Centers, Halfway Houses and Drug Dependency Treatment Facilities

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Carter, seconded by Commissioner Hellenga to approve the Moratorium extension on Licensing and Location of Drug Rehabilitation Centers, Halfway Houses and Drug Dependency Treatment Facilities until July 1, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

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

J. Consideration of Repainting and Window Glazing of City Hall

A motion was made by Commissioner Hellenga, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson to approve bid from Quality Painting in the amount of \$15,900 for repainting and window glazing of City Hall. Motion carried unanimously.

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

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Mr. Kherani of Big A Tobacco addressed the Board regarding Vape sold at his store. Mr. Kherani asked the board to reconsider allowing him to sell vape due to him losing revenue. Mr. Kherani stated it should grandfathered protected law in since this was his brothers store.

City Manager Wheeler stated there is no grandfathering in on selling the vape. The moratorium limits any new business when it went into effect. When you admitted there is a change of ownership that is like a new business. When the new owner took over the moratorium was in place and there is no grandfathering in.

Ms. Sameera Kerani stated this business is three years old and the business is still in the family, by brother cannot be here so we wanted to do the right way. We would appreciate it if you could do something.

Vice-Mayor Carter stated he understood the situation and would be fearful it would put the City in a legal situation if we allowed for that exception but not someone else in that similar situation

where there is a change of ownership. Vice-Mayor Carter stated he knows it is a relative but it would still classify in a change of ownership.

V. ADJOURN

Mayor Fry adjourned the meeting at 5:31 pm.



Gail Fry

Mayor
Beth Rider

City Clerk