

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
JUNE 29, 2023**

DISCUSSED APPOINTMENTS TO KEEP DOUGLAS BEAUTIFUL BOARD MEMBERS-CONTINUED

Juan Avalos and Darlene Salazar would be significant assets to the Keep Douglas Beautiful Affiliation. Applications are attached for both applicants.

The Commission agreed to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**.

DISCUSSED THE SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION FOR THE TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ON COLUMBIA AVE.

Georgia Henderson, Community Development Director, appeared before the Commission to seek approval of the temporary road closure of Columbia Ave, between W. Bryan St. and W. Ashley St. on July 15, 2023, between 5:00 P.M. and 10:00 P.M.

Mrs. Henderson stated that One Compelling Picture has applied for a special event permit. One Compelling Picture will film production at the Douglas Police Department and the Coffee County Courthouse. As part of the production, a mock protest will be filmed. The mock protest will start at the Douglas Police Department and travel to the Coffee County Courthouse. They have requested a temporary street closure of Columbia Ave, from W. Bryan St. To W. Ashley St. They would like to close Columbia Ave on July 15, 2023, from 5:00 P.M. until 10:00 P.m.

The Commission agreed to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**.

DISCUSSED THE APPROVAL OF THE GEFA LOAN NO. CW2022005 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000,000.00 FOR WASTEWATER PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

Mike Hudson, Utilities Director, appeared before the Commission to seek approval of the GEFA Loan with 50% debt forgiveness.

Mr. Hudson presented the attached letter from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority. Execution of all documents concerning the GEFA Loan No. CW2022005 in the amount of \$3,000,000.00 with 50% debt forgiveness.

The Commission agreed to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**.

DISCUSSED THE APPROVAL OF THE 2023 WATER SYSTEM UPGRADES/PAVING AWARD

Mike Hudson, Utilities Director, appeared before the Commission to seek approval of the bid so necessary projects can be completed.

Mr. Hudson stated that the Bids were received and opened for the above subject project on Thursday, June 15, 2023. A total of two (2) responsive bids were received. Ricketson Construction Company, Inc. was the low bidder with a total base bid + Alternate Base Bid of \$716,366.99.

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The Board of Commissioners held a Work Session on Thursday, June 29, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Tony L. Paulk was presiding over the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson and Commissioners Edwin Taylor, Kentaiwon Durham, Steve Bailey, Mike Gowen, and Cindy McNeill were present.

REVIEW OF JUNE 12, 2023, MEETINGS MINUTES

The first business item presented by Mayor Tony Paulk was to review the minutes from June 12, 2023 (W.S./Reg Minutes) of the Board Commissioners. Mayor Paulk requested that the Commissioners offer any changes so that the City Clerk could correctly record the minutes for historical data.

The Commission's consensus was to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**.

DISCUSSED APPROVAL FOR RESOLUTION FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LWCF FOR UNITY PARK REHABILITATION

Georgia Henderson, Community Development Director, appeared before the Commission to seek permission to accept the terms and conditions of the Land Water Conservation Grant Program.

Mrs. Henderson stated that the City of Douglas was awarded a Land Water Conservation Grant Program to rehabilitate Unity Park, including baseball fields, basketball courts, picnic shelter, playground equipment, wellness park, and general rehabilitation. Other items included in this project are lighting, fencing, bleachers, and shade cloths. We must execute the grant agreement with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to accept the funding award. The attached project agreement contains the terms and conditions of the Land Water Conservation Grant Program.

The Commission agreed to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**.

DISCUSSED APPOINTMENTS TO KEEP DOUGLAS BEAUTIFUL BOARD MEMBERS

Georgia Henderson, Community Development Director, appeared before the Commission to seek approval to appoint Juan Avalos and Darlene Salazar to the Keep Douglas Beautiful Board, with a three-year term ending July 1, 2028.

Mrs. Henderson stated that the Keep Douglas Beautiful Affiliation has been seeking to fill vacant seats on their board. The newly appointed members will serve for three years. Keep Douglas Beautiful's mission is to promote environmental sustainability and educate the community to take action daily to increase safety, reduce litter from our open spaces and waterways, improve recycling efforts, and keep Douglas beautiful. Juan Avalos is a Coffee Middle School teacher involved in other civic organizations such as AmeriCorps, Bike & Build, YMCA, and Coffee Middle School sports. Darlene Salazar is educated with a communication degree and is currently a development/planning/ environmental/ municipal lawyer.

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DISCUSSED THE APPROVAL OF THE 2023 WATER SYSTEM UPGRADES/PAVING AWARD - CONTINUED

ESG Engineering recommends that the City of Douglas enter into an Agreement with Ricketson Construction Company, Inc. to perform the "FY2023 Water System Upgrades" project for \$716,366.99. I have attached all documents relating to this bid for your review.

The Commission agreed to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**.

DISCUSSED THE APPROVAL OF THE AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT

Charles W. Davis, City Manager, appeared before the Commission to seek guidance from the Mayor and Council on the appointment of the Aging Advisory Council position that is vacant.

Mr. Davis stated that Commissioner Edwin Taylor was appointed to the Aging Advisory Council. Due to scheduling conflicts, he cannot attend Aging Advisory Council meetings. Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson has expressed an interest in serving on the Aging Advisory Council in Commissioner Taylor's place. Appointments are for three years. Individuals interested in serving must be at least 60 years old or older, city residents, and willing to attend monthly meetings.

Mr. Davis also stated that Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson is interested in being appointed to the Aging Advisory Council.

The Commission agreed to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**.

GENERAL COMMENTS

No General Comments

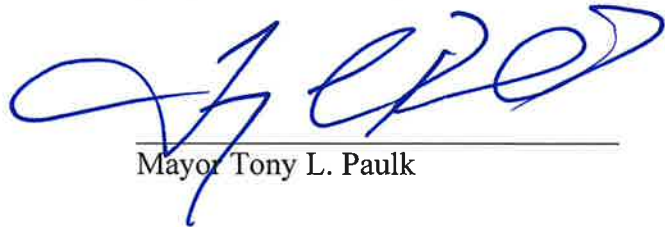
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CITY MANAGER'S UPDATES

Charlie Davis stated that the air condition unit at the Parks and Recreational Department may need to be replaced. Therefore, there may need to be an emergency purchase of \$120,000.00.

ADJOURNMENT

Without further discussion, the work session meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.



Mayor Tony L. Paulk



Wynetta J. Bolder, CMC