

**MINUTES**  
**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA**  
**JUNE 27, 2024**

**A Work Session of the Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Tony L. Paulk was presiding over the meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Gowen and Commissioners Cindy McNeill, Steve Bailey, Tony Paulk II and Edwin Taylor were present.**

**REVIEW OF JUNE 10, 2024 MEETING MINUTES**

The first business item presented by City Manager Charles Davis was to review the Board of Commissioners' 06/10/2024 (Work Session/Regular) Meeting Minutes. Mayor Paulk requested that the Commissioners offer any changes so that the Deputy Clerk could correctly record the minutes for historical data.

It was the consensus of the Commission to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**.

**DISCUSSED FY24 ART CENTER AIR CONDITIONER REPLACEMENT BID**

Nikki Thompson, Purchasing Agent, appeared before the Commission to seek approval to install a new HVAC system at the Art Center.

Mrs. Thompson stated that this bid was advertised on April 25 and May 2, 2024, in *The Douglas Enterprise*. Bids were sent to thirteen (13) vendors with five (5) responding. This project will replace and install fifteen (15) water-source heat pump units and two (2) water pumps at the Art Center. Purchasing Agent Nikki Thompson and Parks and Recreation Director Stevie Young have reviewed the bids and agree to accept the low bid submitted by Stalvey Heating and Cooling, located in Douglas, GA. The grand total is \$215,085.00.

It was the consensus of the Commission to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**.

**DISCUSSED DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY END-OF-FISCAL-YEAR REPORT**

Alyssa Fussell, Administrative Assistant, appeared before the Commission to introduce Megan Rabun with the Douglas Downtown Development Authority.

Mrs. Megan Rabun, Executive Director of the Douglas Downtown Development Authority, presented an end-of-fiscal-year report to the City Commission. The report covered key achievements, financial performance, and strategic initiatives undertaken by the Authority over the past fiscal year. This presentation aims to provide an overview of the progress and impact of the Downtown Development Authority's efforts in enhancing the downtown area and supporting local businesses.

**This item was for informational purposes only and no action was required.**

**DISCUSSED SGRC HOURLY SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR LWCF GRANT**

Alyssa Fussell, Administrative Assistant, appeared before the Commission to seek approval for an Agreement for SGRC Hourly Services for LWCF Grant.

**MINUTES  
WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA  
JUNE 27, 2024**

**DISCUSSED SGRC HOURLY SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR LWCF GRANT  
CONTINUED**

Ms. Fussell stated that this Agreement for Southern Georgia Regional Commission Hourly Services will be for a Land Water Conservation Fund Grant Application to make improvements and add amenities to the Greenway Trail, not to exceed \$4,000. The scope of services for the contract is for the SGRC to complete the pre-application and submit it by the pre-application deadline, which is October 31, 2024, and if applicable, submit a full application by the deadline set by National Park Services and the Department of Natural Resources. To view the entire requisition for request contract, it can be found attached to this agenda item.

It was the consensus of the Commission to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**.

**DISCUSSED AGREEMENT FOR SGRC HOURLY SERVICES FOR RURAL ZONE  
APPLICATION**

Alyssa Fussell, Administrative Assistant, appeared before the Commission for an Agreement for SGRC Hourly Services for the Rural Zone Application.

Ms. Fussell stated that this Agreement for Southern Georgia Regional Commission Hourly Services will be for a Georgia Department of Economic Development and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Rural Zone Application. The scope of services for the contract is for the SGRC to complete the application and submit it by the application deadline, which is August 16, 2024, not to exceed \$7,000. To view the entire agreement for the hourly service contract, it can be found attached to this agenda item.

It was the consensus of the Commission to move this item forward on the **Consent Agenda**

**DISCUSSED RENAMING ROADSIDE PARK AT HISTORIC AIRBASE**

Alyssa Fussell, Administrative Assistant, appeared before the Commission to seek approval to rename Roadside Park to Cadet Park to include a memorial to Charles Loring.

Ms. Fussell stated that upon the recommendation of the Douglas Airbase Preservation and Development Committee, staff is requesting to rename Roadside Park to Cadet Park and to include a memorial named after Charles Loring.

The 63rd Army Air Forces Flying Training Detachment (Primary) at Douglas Municipal Airport in Douglas, Georgia, was part of the Civilian Pilot Training Act of 1939 during World War II. The program trained civilian pilots to serve as contract labor for the military. The 63rd Detachment was originally part of South Georgia College's pilot training program, which began in 1928. In 1941, the college's airport was converted into an army airfield and between 5,000 and 10,000 cadets were enrolled from 1941–1944. The cadets learned basic flying maneuvers, and many went on to fly during the war, winning honors and making the ultimate sacrifice. By the time the program closed in 1944, 9,000 pilots had been certified at the Douglas facility.

Loring, who was one of four airmen to receive the Medal of Honor for combat in Korea. In May 1942, he became an aviation cadet, and trained at Douglas. He was commissioned as a pilot in December

**MINUTES  
WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA  
JUNE 27, 2024**

**DISCUSSED RENAMING ROADSIDE PARK AT HISTORIC AIRBASE CONTINUED**

1942. He also flew combat missions and was killed in action November 22, 1952, while leading a flight of four F-80 jets on a close support mission near Sniper Ridge in North Korea. Charles Loring had been promoted to major only two months before his death. Besides the nation's highest award, he also earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and 12 Air Medals in combat in two wars

It was the consensus of the Commission to move this item to the **Consent Agenda**.

**DISCUSSED THE DECLARATION ACTION FOR THE GREAT(EST) AMERICAN CLEANUP FOR KEEP DOUGLAS BEAUTIFUL**

Alyssa Fussell, Administrative Assistant, appeared before the Commission to seek approval to execute The Declaration Action For The Great(est) American Cleanup in support of Keep Douglas Beautiful.

Ms. Fussell stated that Keep Douglas Beautiful, a Keep America Beautiful Affiliate, since 2022, has worked to fulfill its mission to promote environmental sustainability and educate the community to take action every day to increase safety, reduce litter from our open spaces and waterways, improve recycling efforts, and keep Douglas beautiful. Through the years, we have participated in the Great American Clean Up, Clear Your Clutter, Park Beautification Events, Plogging, and working with the local schools to spread education about litter and waste. With the support of the Mayor and Commission, we are excited to take on the Great(est) American Clean Up challenge by organizing more community cleanups to inspire our citizens of all ages to work together to remove litter from our streets, parks, waterways, and public spaces; Organize 2 reduce, reuse, recycle experiences in which we champion and act toward responsible waste disposal and resource conservation among our citizens; and Hold 1 event to celebrate our progress and achievements to help America look her best for her 250th Anniversary celebration. By declaring our support for The Great(est) American Cleanup with Keep America Beautiful, we intend to make the City of Douglas a shining example of environmental stewardship and community engagement as we work together to make our community cleaner, greener, and more beautiful for generations to come.

It was the consensus of the Commission to move this item to the **Consent Agenda**.

**DISCUSSED 2024 LMIG SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING RECEIVED**

Mike Hudson, Utilities Director, appeared before the Commission to seek approval for S&S Asphalt and Concrete to install 83 ADA ramps to satisfy the 2024 LMIG Supplemental Grant.

Mr. Hudson stated that an application was submitted for the LMIG-2024-26164-SUP for funds totaling \$251,041.00 on 4/29/2024 and our application was approved on 5/01/2024. The funds were deposited into our account 10 days later. We will be asking for the approval to let S & S Asphalt install the 83 ADA Ramps (\$149,400.00) because he has the asphalt and concrete contract and has a line item in that contract for this task. We used his pricing in our budget we presented to GA DOT. The remaining dollars in this project will be used for additional paving projects (we will bring back the bid on that when bedded out). I have attached a copy of the budget that we submitted to Ga DOT.

**MINUTES  
WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA  
JUNE 27, 2024**

**DISCUSSED 2024 LMIG SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING RECEIVED CONTINUED**

It was the consensus of the Commission to move this item to the **Consent Agenda**.

**DISCUSSED BACON COUNTY WORK DETAIL CONTRACTS FOR PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS & RECREATION**

Mike Hudson, Utilities Director, appeared before the Commission to seek approval of the agreement for work details from the Georgia Department of Corrections.

Mr. Hudson stated that the agreement includes two (2) work details that are utilized from the Bacon County Prison System. One detail is utilized by the Public Works Department with the other detail being utilized by the Parks & Recreation Department. Mr. Hudson stated that there has been no increase in the price of the agreement and the terms are the same. The total for the contract is \$98,634.

It was the consensus of the Commission to move this item to the **Consent Agenda**.

**DISCUSSED REPAIR OF THE 85HP PUMP AT THE T&T LIFT STATION**

Mike Hudson, Utilities Director, appeared before the Commission to seek approval to make necessary repairs to the 85HP pump at T&T Lift Station.

Mr. Hudson stated that this particular pump has been sent to WACO Electrical for evaluation. WACO has sent a repair quote of \$23,448.00 (new pump is \$80,000.00). We are requesting approval to have the pump repaired.

It was the consensus of the Commission to move this item to the **Consent Agenda**.

**GENERAL COMMENTS**


There were no general comments

**CITY MANAGER'S UPDATES**

There were no updates.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, the work session meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Tony L. Paulk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristi L. Pope, CMC

