

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
NOVEMBER 23, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on Monday, November 23, 2020, at 7:27 p.m. at the C. E. Weir Center with Mayor Tony L. Paulk presiding and Mayor Pro-Tem Cindy McNeill, Commissioners Mike Gowen, Edwin Taylor, Kentaiwon Durham, Olivia Pearson, and Bob Moore were present.

CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Tony L. Paulk called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

INVOCATION (COMMISSIONER BOB MOORE)

Interim Fire Chief Casey Wright gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Tony L. Paulk led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

The **MOTION** carried (6-0) to approve the order of the agenda made by Mayor Pro Tem Cindy McNeill and seconded by Commissioner Edwin Taylor.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 9, 2020 WS/REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
2. APPROVAL OF DECLARING EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS
3. APPROVAL OF THE 2020 LMIG BID
*FUNDING: 2020 LMIG FUNDS \$192,322.80 SAFETY ACTION PLAN FUNDS \$52,797.00
CITY FUNDS (100-4200-54.1402 \$136,216.96*
4. APPROVAL OF THE STREET & DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO GEORGE DRIVE
BID *FUNDING: 2021 LMIG FUNDS \$65,00.00 CITY FUNDS HIGHWAY & STREETS
BUDGET \$22,192.55*
5. APPROVAL FOR THE PHOTO DOCUMENTARY, GIS, HEADSTONE IMAGING
TRANSCRIPTION, DATA INTEGRATION FOR THE CEMETERY *FUNDING:
GENERAL FUNDS (LEGACY MARK \$24,670 PROPOSAL PLUS TRAVEL EXPENSE)*

The **MOTION** carried (6-0) to approve all **Consent Agenda Items** listed above, as discussed in the Work Session, was made by Commissioner Olivia Pearson and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cindy McNeill.

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WORK SESSION ITEMS

APPOINTMENT TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Georgia Henderson, Community Development Director, appeared before the Commission to publicize the Historic Preservation Commission's vacancy for two weeks, or until applications to serve are received. Mr. Chris Trowell, which will expire on December 31, 2020. He has expressed an interest in being reappointed. The new appointee will serve through December 31, 2023. At that time, an agenda item will come back before Mayor and Commission for an approved appointment.

APPOINTMENTS TO DOUGLAS COFFEE COUNTY LAND BANK AUTHORITY

Georgia Henderson, Community Development Director, appeared before the Commission to publicize the Douglas Coffee County Land Bank Authority (LBA) for two weeks, or until applications are received (one application received). Mr. Dennis Josey, which will expire on December 31, 2020. At that time, an agenda item will come back before Mayor and Commission for an approved appointment.

APPOINTMENTS TO AIR BASE PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Georgia Henderson, Community Development Director, appeared before the Commission to appoint Erin Day to fill the term of Tourism Professional on the Air Base Preservation and Development Committee, with a new term expiring on December 31, 2022.

The **MOTION** carried (6-0) to approve of Erin Day to fill the term of Tourism Professional on the Air Base Preservation was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham.

APPOINTMENTS TO AIR BASE PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (ANNOUNCEMENT)

Georgia Henderson, Community Development Director, appeared before the Commission to publicize one expiring term (Stanley Lott) vacancy for two weeks or until applications are received. At that time, an agenda item will come back before Mayor and Commission for an approved appointment.

Mayor Tony Paulk removed himself from the meeting, and Mayor Pro Tem Cindy McNeill conducted the meeting.

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**PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE SHREE GANESHAY 915 –A S. GASKIN AVENUE,
LLC’S ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE APPLICATION**

Jerome Adams, City Attorney, appeared before the Commission to conduct a public hearing regarding the alcoholic beverage license application for Shree Ganeshay.

Mr. James Perry, residing at 1305 S. Pearl Avenue to express his concerns about allowing an alcoholic beverage license issued at 915 A South Gaskins Avenue.

Mr. Michael Newton appeared before the Commission stating that Commissioner McNeill commented that she would keep them away from it and wouldn't let them go up there to buy nothing if it was her people.

Mayor Pro Tem McNeill requested the following statement be placed on the record. “You have the right to address your family like I do mine, and if you want to keep them away from it or your church members, I said we can't control what people buy. Rather it's the food they eat that's not good for them or what they drink or where they shop. The only people we can control are our people meaning my family.”

Mr. Newton continued to express his concerns regarding the alcoholic beverage license at 915 A South Gaskin Avenue.

Dr. Lewis Logan, Pastor of Gaines Chapel Church, appeared to express his concerns regarding the issuance of an alcoholic beverage license located at 915 A- South Gaskin Avenue.

Mrs. Latorya Edwards, 600 N McDonald Avenue, also appeared to express her concern regarding the issuance of an alcoholic beverage license located at 915 A- South Gaskin Avenue.

City Attorney Jerome Adams appeared before the Commission stated that this concludes the public hearing. Upon recommendation from the staff, the store's location meets all the school/Church's measurement requirements required by state law and city ordinance. This matter was ready for action.

Commissioner Pearson stated that according to information provided by City Marshall Rodger Goddard, indicate the City should not grant an alcohol license to an establishment within 100 feet of a church.

Mr. Goddard stated that by the city/state law to sell distilled alcohol, not malt beverages and wine on establishment within 100 yards of a church.

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**PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE SHREE GANESHAY 915 –A S. GASKIN AVENUE,
LLC’S ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE APPLICATION-CONTINUE**

The **MOTION** to approve Shree Ganeshay 915 N. Gaskin Avenue, LLC Commissioner Bob Moore made alcoholic beverage license for retail sales, off-premises consumption beer, and wine. City Attorney Jerome Adams stated that a motion seconded was not needed and only customary. Mayor Pro Tem McNeill and Commissioner Moore voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Pearson, Durham, Gowen, and Taylor voted against the motion. **(2-4)**

STAFF COMMENTS


No comments

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Paulk did not return to the meeting. Therefore Mayor Pro Tem Cindy McNeill entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Olivia Pearson made a **MOTION** at 7:52 p.m.

Motion carried 6-0

Tony L. Paulk, Mayor


Wynetta J. Bolder, CMC