

CITY OF WHIGHAM
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 9, 2023

The Whigham City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at the Whigham City Council Chambers with Mayor Trey Gainous presiding. Gainous called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and Robert Porter opened the meeting with a prayer and led the Pledge to the Flag.

Those present were: Mayor Trey Gainous, Mayor Pro Tem Jim Sellers, Jimmie Laing, Joel Singletary, Andrew Walden, Robert Porter, Police Chief Tony Black, Utilities Director Josh Ausburn, Lynn Reynolds and Dena Howell (with Peanut Butter & Jesus) and City Clerk Rachel Jenson.

Agenda Adoption

A motion was made by Robert Porter to adopt the agenda. Jim Sellers seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes Adoption

A motion was made by Jim Sellers to adopt the minutes from the March meeting. Joel Singletary seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Public Participation

Peanut Butter and Jesus

Lynn Reynolds and Dena Howell with the group "Peanut Butter and Jesus" presented the concept of PB& Jesus that is actively ongoing in Cairo. The group there usually serves about 300 sandwiches/bags. A bag consists of a sandwich, drink, and a Christian tract to pass out to local kids. The group is interested in bringing the idea to Whigham. The Cairo group meets every other Saturday and are not affiliated with any specific church. The ladies asked for the City to point them in the right direction as far as where in Whigham would be a good place to start. Mayor Gainous thanked the ladies for coming and explained that they were unable to provide personal information, specific streets or specific numbers, but their mission would be welcome in Whigham. The Council members all agreed the City would welcome to group to reach out to citizens and a good place to start would be at the school and also at the Cairo Housing Authority. Chief Black told the representatives of the group to let the Police Department know if they could help and Ausburn let them know they were welcome to reach out to his wife, whom is a teacher at Whigham School and could probably suggest some locations.

Reports

Utilities: Ausburn reported they had changed out water meters which was a lengthy process, done some downtown beautification work for the Volunteer group, and had purchased some of the equipment the Council approved with SPLOST funds, including a hydrovac, excavator and tractor).

PD: Chief Black reported that the new officer, Daniel Carr, started and would be taking radar certification as soon as he could.

City Hall: City Clerk Jenson reported that the Mayor and Council had some ethics forms in their folders that would need to be completed by the end of May so the Clerk could file them electronically.

Unfinished Business

Capital City Bank building

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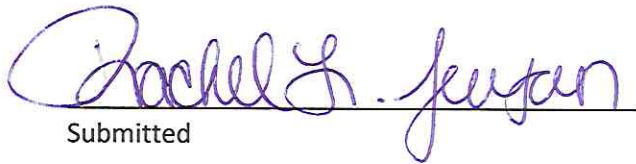
Mayor Gainous informed the Council he had a phone meeting with Raymond James and also with CCB to find the best route for the City to finance.

New Business

Unclean Lots

Mayor Gainous informed the Council there were several locations throughout the City that had been pointed out for falling under the Unclean Lots Nuisance Ordinance, but the Chief and Council were the ones to authorize the letters to be sent to the tenants. The list had been compiled as a second step to the Condemned Buildings process that was ongoing. The City Clerk and Ausburn stated several owners that had received letters had responded, whether by phone or by beginning work at the locations. Chief Black stated he did not have a problem with the letters coming from him, he just requested photos be taken so he can compare when the 60 day grace time was up. Jenson stated they had taken photos and she would get them printed and to the Chief.

With no other matters to tend to, a motion to adjourn was made by Jim Sellers. Robert Porter seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.


Submitted


Approved