

**CITY OF TIFTON
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
FEBRUARY 17, 2025
5:30 PM
TIFTON CITY HALL**

Attendees

Mayor Julie Smith
Vice Mayor Josh Reynolds
Council Member Michael Franks
Council Member Lester Cromer, Jr.
Council Member M. Jay Hall

Larry Lawrence, Acting City Manager
Rob Wilmot, City Attorney
Jessica White, City Clerk

Call to Order

Mayor Julie Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Council Member Michael Franks offered the prayer and led the pledge.

Approval of the Agenda

Council Member Reynolds made the first motion for approval of the agenda, motion seconded by Cromer, and the agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of the Minutes

Council Member Reynolds motioned for approval, the motion was seconded by Hall, and unanimously approved the meeting minutes from January 21, 2025 and February 3, 2025.

Public Comments

Michelle Powers, 2205 Davis Avenue – Spoke on the proposal for spraying for mosquitos and the danger it brings to beneficial insects, food sources for other wildlife, and the community. Ms. Powers questioned the product being used and asked the Council to review the chemical dangers before making a decision.

Nelson Kunes, 15 Eagle Drive - Mr. Kunes spoke on behalf of Stafford Kunes Investments in support of their zoning application. He mentioned they are considering developing a multi-family apartment complex in the future on the 5.96 acres located on Carpenter Road and also present to answer any questions on the application.

Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of 6.4 Acres on Old Omega Road to the Urban Redevelopment Agency

Council Member Cromer made the first motion for approval of the Resolution, the motion was seconded by Reynolds, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Amending the FY2025 Budget for Main Street

Council Member Hall made the first motion for approval of the Resolution, the motion was seconded by Reynolds, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Amending the FY2025 Budget for Mosquito Control

Acknowledging citizen concerns, Council Member Cromer suggested the item be postponed until March to further review the proposed chemicals to be used by Astro for controlling mosquitos. A

motion was made by Council Member Hall to postpone the item until March, the motion was seconded by Cromer, and unanimously approved.

Ordinance Amending the City's Retirement Plan for a Retroactive Technical Correction

Council Member Reynolds made the first motion for approval of the Ordinance, the motion was seconded by Hall, and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance to Rezone 5.96 Acres Located on Carpenter Place, Map & Parcel 0046 057, from WLI (Wholesale Light Industrial) to RP (Residential Professional) for Development of a 72 Unit Apartment Complex - Zoning Application PP24-0046

Council Member Franks made the first motion for approval of the Rezoning Ordinance, the motion was seconded by Hall, and unanimously approved.

Ordinance to Rezone 0.23 Acres Located at 212 W. 13th Street, Map & Parcel T032 042, from R-8 (Residential) to NC (Neighborhood Commercial) for Construction of a Daycare - Zoning Application PP24-0047

Council Member Cromer made the first motion for approval of the Rezoning Ordinance, the motion was seconded by Reynolds, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Opting-In to the Provisions of HB581 and Ratifying the City's Decision to Implement the Statewide Floating Homestead Exemption

Council Member Hall made the first motion for approval of the Resolution, the motion was seconded by Reynolds, and unanimously approved.

Financial Report

Larry Lawrence, CFO, presented the Monthly Financial Report and briefly reviewed.

City Manager Report

Mr. Larry Lawrence gave an update on upcoming events for the City of Tifton.

Mayor & Council Comments

City Council and Mayor provided closing comments.

Executive Session for Legal and Personnel Matters

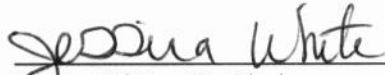
Council Member Reynolds made the first motion to go into executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters. The Motion was seconded by Council Member Hall, and unanimously approved. The meeting closed to executive session.

Resolution Providing for Executive Session

Council Member Hall motioned for approval of the resolution, motion seconded by Cromer, and unanimously approved.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.


Julie Smith, Mayor


Jessica White, City Clerk

AT A MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TIFTON
HELD ON February 17, 2025
A MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council member Josh Reynolds makes the following motion:

1. That City Council now enters into executive session as allowed by O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4 and pursuant to advice by the City Attorney, for the purpose of discussing the following:

(check all that apply)

- ☒ Legal Matters.
- ☒ Personnel Matters.
- ☐ Real Estate Matters.

That each member of this body, in open session, at the conclusion of such executive session, and consistent with the provisions of City of Tifton Resolution No. 99-66, either:

1. Execute the Affidavit, the form of which having been previously approved; or
2. Vote upon the Resolution, the form of which having been previously approved, to be followed by the execution of the above-referenced Affidavit by so many members of this Council that so desire,

all of which is in compliance with O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4; thereby this body, by appropriate form of either Affidavit or Resolution/Affidavit, ratifying the actions of the Council taken in executive session and confirming that the subject matters of the closed session were within exceptions permitted by the Open Meetings law.

Council member M. Jay Hall seconds the motion.

Motion Approved

Those voting in favor of the motion for closure:

Council Members: All

Those voting against the motion for closure:

Council Members: None

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before the undersigned attesting officer, duly authorized to administer oaths in the State of Georgia:

Present

Absent

✓

Julie B. Smith

✓

Josh Reynolds

✓

Michael Franks

✓

Lester Cromer, Jr.

✓

M. Jay Hall

Who, after being duly sworn, deposes and on oath states the following:

1. I am a member of the Tifton City Council and I was present at a meeting of the City Council held on the 17th day of February, 2025.

2. That it was my understanding that O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4(b) provides as follows:

When any meeting of an agency is closed to the public pursuant to subsection (a) Of this Code section, the chairperson or other person presiding over such meeting shall execute and file with the official minutes of the meeting a notarized affidavit stating under oath that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law and identifying the specific relevant exception.

3. The subject matter of the closed meeting or closed portion of the meeting held on the 17 day of February, 2025, which was closed for the purpose(s) of :

- ☒ Legal Matters
☒ Personnel Matters
☐ Real Estate Matters

As allowed by O.C.G.A., Title 50, Chapter 14, was devoted to matters within those exceptions and as provided by law.

4. This affidavit is being executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-4(b) that such an affidavit be executed.
5. This affidavit is likewise executed by the following members of the City Council present at such executive session in support of open and honest government and in compliance with City of Tifton Resolution 99-66.

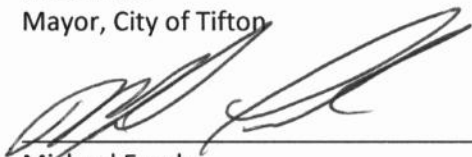
This 17th day of February, 2025.



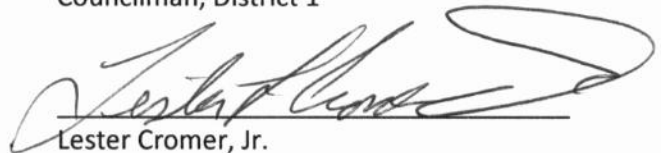
Julie Smith
Mayor, City of Tifton



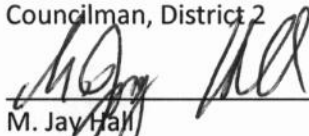
Josh Reynolds
Councilman, District 1



Michael Franks
Councilman, District 2

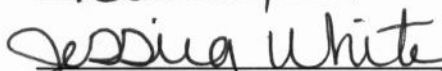


Lester Cromer, Jr.
Councilman, District 3



M. Jay Hall
Councilman, District 4

Sworn to and subscribed before me
By all City Council members
on this 17th day of
February, 2025.


Notary Public

