

**CITY OF TIFTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 21, 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. Mayor Smith 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 Hall, and the agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of the Minutes

Council Member Reynolds made the first motion for approval, motion was seconded by Hall, and unanimously approved the meeting minutes from March 17, 2025 and April 7, 2025.

Public Comments

Faith Royal – 602 Branch Street- Ms. Royal expressed concerns about the Astro mosquito spraying and inquired whether local farmers had been informed. She distributed an informational packet outlining the chemicals involved. Following her concerns, she asked if council would reconsider their vote.

Kayla Janes – 36 Waldon Ridge Drive – Ms. Janes spoke in opposition to the mosquito spraying and expressed concerns about the chemicals being used. She raised questions regarding the potential health and environmental impacts and urged the council members to consider alternative chemicals.

Michelle Powers – 2205 Davis Avenue – Ms. Powers spoke in opposition to the mosquito spraying. She urged Council to revise the contract with Astro and use different chemicals.

Marylyn Marshall – 2206 Ridge Avenue – Ms. Marshall presented an alternative mosquito control method to the Council, recommending the use of mosquito bomb buckets. She passed out a hand out from the book "How Can I Help" which mentions a mosquito bomb bucket and other alternatives.

Presentations

Presentation of the James E. Dove Memorial Scholarship Award –

Mayor Julie Smith presented the James E. Dove Scholarship. Michelle Harris, granddaughter of James Dove, was present and congratulated the scholarship recipient Karah Horner. Ms. Horner then spoke on her upcoming college plans and future.

Proclamation Recognizing Georgia Cities Week, April 21-26, 2025

Mayor Julie Smith presented the proclamation, followed by Caroline Abbott, Marketing Director, who reviewed the events the City of Tifton has planned for celebrating Georgia Cities Week.

Resolution Designating Arts in Black as a Festival

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

Ordinance to Amend the City's Flood Ordinance, City Code Chapter 42

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

Resolution Adopting the Revised FEMA Flood Insurance Study Report and Flood Maps

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

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Approving Amendments to the City's Contract with Ryland Environmental

Council Member Reynolds made the first motion for approval of the Resolution, the motion was seconded by Mayor Smith, duly approved by Council Member Hall. Council Member Franks and Council Member Cromer voted in opposition. Resolution passed by a 3 to 2 vote.

Resolution Expanding the City's Enterprise Zone

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

Ordinance Providing for Amendments to the City's Alcohol Ordinance for Catering

Council Member Cromer spoke in opposition of the proposed limit of six catering events per organization and discussed recommended changes with City Attorney Wilmot in regards to questions and changes. Council Member Cromer made the recommendation for allowing twelve (12) Special Event Permits annually. Following discussion, Council Member Cromer Reynolds made the first motion for approval of the Ordinance with the recommended changes of allowing twelve permits per calendar year, the motion was seconded by Franks, and unanimously approved.

Resolution Appointing MGAG Voting Delegates

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

Board Appointments

Tifton Tree Board – Council Member Reynolds made the first motion, seconded by Hall, and unanimously approved the reappointment of Elizabeth McCarty, Al Potts, and Todd Green to the Tifton Tree Board.

Tifton Housing Authority – Recommendation to submit applicants to the Housing Authority Board for appointment recommendation.

Keep Tift Beautiful – Council Member Hall made the first motion to appoint Cantrell Mann-Sears to the Keep Tift Beautiful Board, the appointment was seconded by Reynolds, and unanimously approved.

Financial Report

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

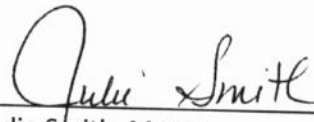
City Manager Report

Larry Lawrence, gave a summary on upcoming events, projects, and updates for the City of Tifton.

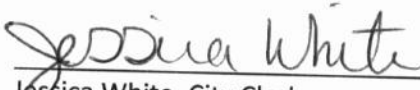
Mayor & Council Comments

City Council and Mayor provided closing comments.

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



Julie Smith, Mayor



Jessica White, City Clerk