

FEBRUARY 16, 2010

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

PRESENT Mayor Willie Adams, Jr.
Mayor Pro Tem Chris Pike
City Commissioners: Jon Howard, Dorothy Hubbard, Roger Marietta,
Bob Langstaff, Jr., and Tommie Postell (arrived at
8:41 a.m.)
Asst. City Manager: James L. Taylor
City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

CITY CLERK'S ARCHIVAL PROJECT UPDATE

Sonja Tolbert, City Clerk, advised that Tommy Gregors from Thronateeska Heritage Center will give a power point presentation to update the Commission on the archival of City records.

Mr. Gregors gave a brief introduction on what is being done with City records including ordinances, resolutions, and commission minutes; he then turned the meeting over to Cathy Flohre, Archivist, who presented the power point presentation (copy on file).

Mayor Adams thanked Mr. Gregors for his assistance in archiving the City's records.

Commissioner Hubbard asked about backup of files. Mr. Gregors explained the process that is in place.

Representing Georgia Power, Jay Smith presented the City of Albany with a check in the amount of \$565,000 for franchise fees, which is 4% of gross revenues of customers inside the City of Albany. He thanked the Commission for the partnership they have with the City of Albany.

CITIZEN APPEARANCE

Bo Johnson, President of Rails to Trails, (which has been in business since 1997) gave an update of the railroad that comes into Albany from Sasser, Ga. He mentioned a law that enables municipalities to step in and rail bank/preserve a corridor for future transportation use. He discussed problems encountered with Lee County Commissioners and Lee County land owners adding that time has passed and there are new land owners, new elected commissions and the political will of Lee County is changing. He asked that the Commission consider the rail line as their board (which includes doctors) is in support of this project. He said their bills, including taxes and legal expenses due to challenges from landowners, short line railroads and Lee County has resulted in an outstanding debt of \$100,000 with Heritage Bank and that they are approaching municipalities with the prospect of becoming custodians of the rail. He added that their group will work with the municipalities in developing trails, which will include grant monies, etc. He discussed the proposal to Dougherty and Lee Counties, which is to prorate the

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outstanding debt based on acreage. Albany's portion of the corridor, runs under Jefferson Street Bridge, by Palmyra Hospital, across Slapppy, behind Trans Power under HWY 19 bypass, adjacent to Grand Island, etc., into Lee County, is 30% or \$30,000. He again asked that a deal be structured and advised that he met with the Lee County Commissioners last week.

Mayor Adams stated that this will be referred to staff to bring back a recommendation. He asked how Slapppy will be crossed. Mr. Johnson stated that it will be bridged with ramps and/or rail cross arms, depending on the traffic. He added that Ledo and Slapppy are the two main arteries. In reply to Mayor Adams, Mr. Johnson stated that it will be approximately \$1.0 million for the bridge. He discussed the development, being done in sections, in which matching funds are available. He said his organization will assist with fundraising. He asked that the City of Albany and Lee County take control of the corridor. Mayor Adams asked if there is urgency to assist with the Heritage Bank loan. Mr. Johnson stated that there is no urgency and that Lee County's portion is approximately \$70,000. Mayor Adams asked about grants being explored and if assistance is needed in grant writing. Mr. Johnson stated that they paid consultants to assist them years ago and they have a base of people to assist with finding funds. Mayor Adams asked Mr. Johnson to make his presentation to City staff so that they can come back with a recommendation.

Commissioner Hubbard asked that a listing of benefits be included in the presentation to staff so that she can share this information to her constituents who ask. She asked if they have received funds from grants over the years. Mr. Johnson stated that they have not applied for grants and listed the funding they have received.

Commissioner Postell asked if there is a community with the project in force within the State of Georgia. Mr. Johnson mentioned Moultrie, Woodbine, Athens, and areas in Atlanta.

Mayor Adams asked if this will encourage tourism. Mr. Johnson stated that it will and expanded on his suggestions that include transitional zones, bike trails, etc.

KADB UPDATE

Executive Director Judy Bowles stated that she will give her annual update and discussed information as noted (copy on file). She reported that there were over 25,000 volunteers donating over 113 thousand hours, which equates to approximately \$4.0 million if the City was paying for the services. She showed a map of the area where trash was picked up in each of the city wards. She mentioned the third place national award she received in December and the first place Georgia award she received on behalf of KADB and the citizens in Albany.

Mayor Adams congratulated Ms. Bowles on the awards and thanked her for all that she and the volunteers do for the City.

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Commissioner Hubbard also commended Ms. Bowles for the awards she received and asked if there is a calendar of upcoming activities to share with her constituents. Ms. Bowles stated that she will send a calendar and advised that it is posted on the website. She mentioned the Arbor Day planting of trees event that is scheduled for Saturday in the 100 block of Ingleside at 9:30 a.m.

COMMISSION QUARTERLY EXPENSE REPORT

Mayor Adams advised that this is for informational purposes only

TRAVEL

Mayor Pro Tem Pike moved to approve the following, seconded by Commissioner Howard.

1. Commissioner J. Howard – 2010 GMA Mayors’ Day Conference, Atlanta, GA; Jan. 22-26, 2010 - \$1,401.25
2. Commissioner D. Hubbard – 2010 GMA Mayors’ Day Conference, Atlanta, GA; Jan. 22-26, 2010 - \$1456.00
3. Mayor Pro Tem Chris Pike – 2010 GMA Mayors’ Day Conference, Atlanta, GA – Jan. 22-25, 2010 - \$1,400.50
4. City Clerk S. Tolbert – 2010 GMA Mayors’ Day Conference, Atlanta, GA; Jan. 22-24, 2010 - \$1,064.00
5. City Clerk S. Tolbert – 2010 IIMC Conference, Reno, NV; May 23-27, 2010
6. Asst. City Clerk S. Kelly – 2010 GMA Mayors’ Day Conference, Atlanta, GA; Jan. 22-24, 2010 – \$1,067.00
7. City Manager A. Lott – 2010 Mtg. with Legislative Delegation, Atlanta, GA; Feb. 24-25, 2010
8. City Manager A. Lott – 2010 Mtg. with Legislative Delegation, Washington, DC; March 3-5, 2010
9. City Manager A. Lott – 2010 GCCMA Spring Conference, Athens, GA; March 24-26, 2010

Commissioner Hubbard asked about the legislative delegation dinner in Atlanta and whether or not Mayor Adams was informed or invited. Mayor Adams stated that he was invited, but that he has a conflict and cannot attend.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion unanimously carried.

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PUBLIC SAFETY MATTERS

GRANTING PERMISSION FOR OUTDOOR EVENT INCLUDING OUTDOOR CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR DOWNTOWN MARKET AND ENTERTAINMENT

Commissioner Langstaff moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Marietta.

In reply to questions from Commissioner Postell, Chief License Investigator Walter Norman discussed information as noted on page 15.

Commissioner Hubbard asked if the 1:00 a.m., ending time is in line with the time that he set or an extension of the time normally granted. Chief Norman stated that to include clean up extends it over one hour. Mr. Davis clarified that the exemption applies to open container and noise. Commissioner Hubbard asked who pays the cost to clean up. Chief Norman replied that the event organizer is responsible.

Mayor Adams asked if some type of refundable deposit should be required to clean up in case an organizer defaults. He asked for a cost to clean up and to consider the refundable deposit. Mr. Taylor stated that the site in question is private property, but he can be cited by Code.

Commissioner Postell stated that 30 minutes is allocated for clean up as noted in the agenda item.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

GRANTING PERMISSION FOR AN OUTDOOR EVENT INCLUDING OUTDOOR CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES RE: MARDI GRAS

Commissioner Postell moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Hubbard; the motion carried 5-1-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no and Mayor Pro Tem Pike abstaining.

GRANTING PERMISSION FOR AN OUTDOOR EVENT INCLUDING OUTDOOR CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES RE: ALBANY HARLEY DAVIDSON

Commissioner Postell moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Marietta, the motion unanimously carried 6-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

ALCOHOLIC LICENSE TRANSFER

Commissioner Postell asked for clarification on the following:

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1. Parshavnath, Inc., d/b/a R&M Grocery, 707 W. Highland Ave., transfer beer package from R. Rogers to M. Shah

Chief Norman discussed information as noted on page 21 regarding the transfer of the alcohol license. Commissioner Postell asked if an investigation was carried out and if this is legitimate. Chief Norman stated that there is no open investigation on the owner.

Commissioner Marietta moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Postell, the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICATIONS

1. Another Place, 1502 E. Broad Ave., J.B. Pelham, III, Agent, Consumption

Responding to questions, Chief Norman discussed information as noted on the application on page 25. Questions pertained to the zoning and grandfathering in as listed on page 28. Chief Norman advised that this was authorized during an old zoning and the ordinance changed, but they were allowed to remain/grandfathered in. In reply to Commissioner Marietta about whether this had to do with being close to a church, Chief Norman explained the process.

Commissioner Postell moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Hubbard; the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

Commissioner Hubbard moved to approve the following, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Pike; the motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Howard voting no.

2. T&T Variety Store, 1209 E. Residence; T. L. Whitehead, Agent; Beer package

PROPOSED INCENTIVE PAY PLAN FOR APD RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

Chief John Proctor discussed information as noted on page 29 pertaining to the proposed pay plan for APD.

In reply to Commissioner Howard regarding the signing bonus, Chief Proctor clarified the process, advising that a Georgia Certification will still start employees at entry levels; however, they will consider any education, which may give a person a higher starting salary. He advised that the department is short approximately 43 officers and many are promotional positions. He added that that he will look at filling lower level positions as they restructure and reduce supervisory ranks.

Mayor Adams asked about paying for academy training and whether the City should be reimbursed if the employee leaves after a short employment with the City. He asked if the officer should reimburse the City or how would we go about recouping the charges.

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Chief Proctor stated that there is a Georgia Statute that can be pursued and the amount can be substantial. Mayor Adams asked Chief Proctor to look into whether people are leaving prematurely. Chief Proctor stated that he will consult with the City Attorney's Department.

Regarding the signing bonus, Commissioner Hubbard asked how this relates if a person leaves and comes back. Chief Proctor stated that it is not intended for those who leave and come back and that they will monitor and administer appropriately. Commissioner Hubbard asked about the three-year limit for staying and if it is standard practice for other departments. Chief Proctor stated that he spoke with Athens, Columbus, and Lawrenceville, Ga., who all have three years. He added that some cities in Florida range from two-four years, but three years is the average.

Commissioner Marietta stated that this is a great idea and mentioned the criminal justice programs at Albany State, Albany Tech and Darton, etc. He asked about recruiting from that perspective. Chief Proctor stated that the recruitment process has been revised and they are looking at this.

Three Commissioners raised their hands in response to Mayor Adams' question as to how many had seen the vehicle tracking system. Mayor Adams encouraged those who have not seen the program to do so as it shows where the cars are located, how fast they are going, etc., which are impressive.

Commissioner Postell stated that this is a good idea. He then moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Hubbard.

Commissioner Hubbard questioned monitoring and sustaining the program. Chief Proctor stated that it will be monitored and when the program is no longer needed, it will go away, hopefully within 18 months. He added that most police departments rarely have and maintain full staffing.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Adams advised that Commissioner Langstaff's father just passed due to a heart attack and that he had to leave the meeting. He then asked for a moment of silence.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Commissioner Marietta asked to bring back the Brick House alcohol license at the night meeting. Mr. Davis noted the items he will need. Mayor Adams stated that the night meeting might be too quick to bring back next week.

Commissioner Howard stated that the Commission cannot sit back and continue allowing this type activity to go on. He suggested having the hearing next week if at all possible. Mayor Adams agreed, adding that staff will bring it back properly.

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Commissioner Postell asked Ms. Tolbert to research the minutes on Brickhouse and provide it to the Commissioners.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FY 2006-2008 ACTION PLAN SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS AND PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS

Senior Planner Shelena Hawkins discussed information as noted on page 35 pertaining to the action plan and proposed use of funds.

Mayor Adams questioned The Council on Aging ramps and asked if there is any relationship between these funds and the Ramp Builders organization. Ms. Hawkins explained that the City provides equipment and materials and the Ramp Builders provide services.

Commissioner Howard expressed concern on advertising and asked if the ads should be larger or put in the legal portion of the paper. He mentioned the 108 loan to MacGregor and asked if money is being recouped. Mayor Adams stated that the Payroll Development Authority is responsible for the loan in the amount of \$750,000 and will continue payments until the building is sold. If the PDA goes into default the City would then become responsible. Ms. Hawkins stated that the City is responsible to make payments to HUD. Commissioner Howard asked if there is collateral for future loans. Latoya Cutts, CD Director, stated that going forward they will have personal guarantees. She explained that the money is shown in the budget to cover HUD requirements. Mayor Adams clarified additional information pertaining to the jobs that were to be created by the PDA and there was no collateral available. Mr. Davis added that there are two bonds and explained the security deed/foreclosing process if the City has to pay. In reply to Commissioner Howard about the Section 108 Hilton loan being in good standing, Ms. Cutts stated that it is.

Commissioner Marietta asked for clarification on those seeking CHODOs, i.e., commercial homebuilders. Ms. Hawkins explained the certification requirement and the process. In reply to Commissioner Marietta on whether or not Community Development is reaching out to those wanting to be CHODOs, Ms. Hawkins stated that a workshop was held in January for those seeking to become CHODOs.

Mayor Pro Tem Pike asked if CHODOS are required to be trained. Ms. Hawkins stated that it is now required.

Commissioner Hubbard asked for information on the boundaries for the strategic plan areas and information on how low to moderate income is calculated. She referenced the minutes from the meeting that included comments and asked how many people were at

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the meeting. Ms. Hawkins stated that she will provide the sign in sheet, but there were approximately 30 people, which is substantially more in attendance than at prior meetings. Commissioner Hubbard complimented staff for their job in making sure the public is aware.

Commissioner Postell asked if others besides the Albany Herald are used for advertising programs. Ms. Hawkins replied in the affirmative. Commissioner Postell suggested radio and TV announcements, etc., to spread the word. He then moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Howard; the motion unanimously carried. Ms. Cutts introduced Ms. Brooks, a new employee at Community Development.

PUBLIC FUNCTIONS MATTERS

MATTERS FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION ON MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 22, 2010, 8:00 P.M., ROOM 100; GOVERNMENT CENTER BUILDING
222 PINE AVENUE

The Clerk began reading the following. Mayor Adams advised that since these are for information only, there is not a need to read.

1. Zoning Case #10-003 – Janet Woodward/Owner; Terry Thomas and Kurt Jurado/Applicant; request to rezone property located at 1906 N. Slappey Blvd., from C-2 to C-3. PC approved 8-0 **conditional** – WARD 2
2. Zoning Case #10-006 – Bonnie Sharp/Owner; Beverly Espy/Applicant; request to rezone property located at 2112 Palmyra Rd., from C-1 to C-2 PC approved 8-0 **conditional** – WARD 2
3. Zoning Case #10-007 – Eugene and James Cline/Owners; SOWEGA Autism Resources, Inc./Applicant; request to rezone property located at 1509 W. 3rd Ave., from C-5c to C-5c PC approved 8-0 **conditional** – WARD 3
4. Special Approval Case #10-008 – Eugene and James Cline/Owners; SOWEGA Autism Resources, Inc./Applicant; request to allow the operation of a school of autism in the C-5c District at property located at 1509 3rd Ave. PC 8-0 approved **conditional** – WARD 3

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION APPLICATIONS:

Mayor Pro Tem Pike moved to approve the following, seconded by Commissioner Marietta; the motion unanimously carried.

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1. Certificate of Appropriateness Case #10-001 – Nitram Properties/Tony Martin; Owner/Applicant, request to rehab building located at 422 Pine Ave. WARD 3 (HPC approved 5-0)

Mayor Pro Tem Pike moved to approve the following, seconded by Commissioner Hubbard; the motion unanimously carried.

2. Certificate of Appropriateness Case #10-004 – Mary Young-Cummings(d) and Demetrius Young – Owner/Applicant request to rehab property located at 307 Whitney Ave. (HPC approved 5-0) WARD 3

Commissioner Marietta moved to approve the following, seconded by Commissioner Postell; the motion carried 5-0-1 with Mayor Pro Tem Pike abstaining due to having a business relationship with the applicant.

3. Certificate of Appropriateness Case #10-012 – Dougherty County/Owner; Café Management Group, LLC/Applicant request to add a wall sign to property located at 114 N. Jackson St. (HPC approved 5-0) WARD 3

Commissioner Hubbard moved to approve the following, seconded by Commissioner Postell; the motion unanimously carried.

4. Certificate of Appropriateness Case #10-013 – Phoebe Putney Hospital, Owner/Applicant request to replace roof on property located at 521 W. 2nd Ave. (HPC approved 5-0) WARD 2

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Howard Brown, Planning Director, discussed information as noted (copy on file) regarding walls and fences, which were recently vote on by the Planning Commission. Mayor Adams asked if this is on the agenda. Mr. Brown stated no, but a few months ago the Commission discussed this and sent it to the Planning Commission for a recommendation. Ms. Tolbert clarified that this is under items for the next agenda and will be on the Monday night's agenda. She added that information is being distributed to the Commission today from the Planning Commission meeting. Mayor Adams asked what caused it to happen like this. Ms. Tolbert explained that the Planning Commission meeting ran overtime last week and the agenda packet was complete when the information was provided. In reply to Mayor Adams on whether the item is time sensitive, Mr. Brown explained that Commissioner Langstaff sponsored the item. Mayor Adams stated that since it is not time sensitive, is not on the agenda and the Commission has not had time to review, this is not the appropriate time to consider and asked that it be brought back properly.

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PUBLIC WORKS MATTERS

WESTOVER SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION

Bruce Maples, Engineering Director, discussed information as noted on page 142, and showed a map of the area. He explained the sewer installation and asked the Commission to approve.

Commissioner Marietta moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Postell; the motion unanimously carried.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE MATTERS

ACCEPTANCE OF FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION PROPOSED GRANT OFFER FOR FEDERAL FY 2010 (PART A)

Yvette Aehle, Airport Director discussed information as noted on page 146.

Commissioner Howard moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Hubbard.

Commissioner Hubbard asked if we are ahead of schedule. Ms. Aehle stated that the project is on time and discussed the referendum on SLOST VI funding.

Commissioner Marietta reported that the Aviation Commission unanimously approved the grant at their meeting last night.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Adams advised Chief Proctor that DCA received monies for Americorps. Chief Proctor stated that he will look into this.

CURRENT BIDS

Commissioner Howard moved to approve the following, seconded by Commissioner Postell; the motion unanimously carried.

1. Van Purchase, Getaway Marketing, Bradenton, FL

Total expenditure	\$42,918.00
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Commissioner Marietta moved to approve the following, seconded by Commissioner Postell.

In reply to Commissioner Howard about the price differences, Angela Calhoun, Buyer, explained that one is for a three-bedroom home while the other is a four-bedroom home.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion unanimously carried.

2. Infill Houses:

JVS Assoc., Inc., Albany, GA Lump sum expenditure \$123,600.00

James Unlimited, Albany, GA; Lump sum expenditure \$92,000.00

LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMISSION (MEAG TRUST)
RECOMMENDATIONS

Commissioner Postell stated that the Committee met yesterday and voted to allocate \$1.2 million for WG&L and the City of Albany, which equates to \$1 million for WG&L and \$200,000 for city public safety. He advised that WG&L needs funding for repairs and roof replacement and that the committee decided to allocate the funding, which leaves a balance of \$1,486,969.47 in the fund balance. He commented that the City controls WG&L and protects their interests as well as the interests of the citizens. He explained that the \$200,000 is dedicated to the Gang Task Force for public safety for a person to occupy the office as a secretary/gang task force member to coordinate records and daily information along with the purchase of two additional automobiles. He stated that the City Manager provided the total cost. He asked the Commission to accept the recommendation for the allocation of the funds and so moved, seconded by Commissioner Hubbard.

Regarding the \$200,000 Mayor Pro Tem Pike stated that he attended the meeting yesterday and that he was surprised at the request for \$200,000 as this was the first he had heard of it. He expressed concern about the \$200,000 for the purchase of new cars and said he felt the process should be discussed on the allocation of the funds. He asked if the request should come from the Commission or from the Long Term Financial Planning Commission.

Commissioner Postell told Mayor Pro Tem Pike that he was not here during the process time in which the City Commission established the Committee. He explained that the Committee makes recommendations to come before the City Commission for approval. Explaining the process, he said that the LTPC makes recommendations to the City Commission and advised that he was in discussion with the City Manager, APD Deputy Chief Clark and Chief Proctor. Mayor Pro Tem Pike again discussed his concern about the process and authorizing the purchase of vehicles. He suggested that the money to purchase vehicles and hire additional staff should have come to the Commission first with a recommendation then going to the LTPC. He stated that this is circumventing the

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governing body of the City of Albany with the Commission learning of the request through the newspapers.

Mayor Adams asked Mr. Davis to respond to the concern of the money being put into a fund by the committee and if there was a request from WG&L or the City, the request would be made to the committee and then the committee would decide on whether the request was legitimate. He asked if the process was put in writing. Mr. Davis stated that Commissioner Hubbard lead the discussion on guidelines at the meeting yesterday.

Commissioner Hubbard stated that she was also concerned about no guidelines being in place prior to spending the monies. She said she asked if there was discussion on other ways of doing this at the meeting and that she voted for this due to current economic times and not wanting to pass the burden on to ratepayers. She advised that there will be no further request for funding distributions until guidelines are in place, which will be brought forward at the next meeting. Mayor Adams explained that this was an emergency, and agreed that in the future, before action is taken, guidelines should be established. He added that when the organization was created, requests from WG&L and the City were to be put in writing, justified and presented to the LTPC to make a decision on the request for funds.

Commissioner Marietta stated that he is looking at WG&L and how they handle their finances. He said they are getting over \$244,000 per month in MEAG funds, which are separate from the long-term account and it appears they are using the funds to buildup their reserves. He suggested this is enough to take care of fixing the roof and agreed with Commissioner Hubbard in use of the funds. He said he is against it and is in favor of tabling until the guidelines are in place as this is not a good use of funds. Mayor Adams asked about the elevators. Commissioner Marietta stated that the elevators are important for disabled people, but the ADA law was passed 20 years ago and this is not an emergency.

Commissioner Howard stated that elected officials have to do a better job of informing each other prior to reading information in the newspapers. He said he is in favor of the increase to public safety and he has concerns about the leaking roof. He commented on the Commission's fiduciary responsibility to citizens and suggested that if it is voted for this time without the guidelines, we are not good stewards of the money and his vote is no until the guidelines are in place. He said he will feel more comfortable when the committee meets to set the guidelines as his constituents say this is taxpayer's money and they should get a rebate.

Commissioner Hubbard stated that she felt the same way, but was told yesterday that if it is not approved, the ratepayers will have to pay. She said the question was asked if there was a discussion on other possibilities regarding the \$200,000 monthly funds WG&L is getting and whether this or a portion of it could be used. She said she was told that there was not a discussion. She added that she wanted to have discussions on possible other ways to fund the emergency and again was told that the ratepayers will have to pay for

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the emergency. Mayor Adams stated that a function of the committee is to evaluate the validity of the request and to answer questions, i.e., where the \$200,000 is going. Commissioner Hubbard said she asked what WG&L would have done without the money in case of emergency and was told that at this point it would be passed on to the ratepayers. Mayor Adams stated that he voted two times last year to not increase rates.

Commissioner Postell stated that when the meeting was held yesterday, he was informed that WG&L had asked Mayor Adams, as Chairman, to assist with the elevators and roofing to make the building safe. He advised that he went to Mr. Edwards for clarification and that he is not for taking the money out for non-emergency issues. He agreed that he also does not want the ratepayers to bear an increase. He commented on Georgia Power, Mitchell EMC and not knowing who is on whose line, etc. He said he is concerned for the safety of WG&L employees at the building and does not want anyone to be injured.

Mayor Adams stated that Commissioner Postell was elected as chairman and asked how long it will take to come up with the guidelines and then have a called meeting to move the process forward. Commissioner Postell stated that there are two people from WG&L and three from the City and that they meet quarterly. Mayor Adams asked again about having a special called meeting.

Commissioner Howard stated that he will go along with the emergency for WG&L; his concern is about the \$200,000 for public safety.

Mayor Adams suggested separating the two issues and bringing the cars back later. Commissioner Postell agreed adding that the gang task force is the number one priority of the City Commission.

Commissioner Howard stated that he cannot say how many cars there are, how many employees there are in the gang task force, etc., and suggested the department come back with a detail on the functions, i.e., are more cars needed or can we utilize the cars we have.

Discussion followed on whether or not Mayor Pro Tem Pike was making a substitute. He then moved to approve the \$1.0 million minus the \$200,000 for the gang task force, seconded by Commissioner Howard.

Commissioner Postell asked when the gang task force will come back for consideration. Mayor Pro Tem Pike stated that it could be at the next meeting. Commissioner Postell reminded Mayor Pro Tem Pike that the LTFP Committee did not have to come to the Commission to ask for permission.

Mayor Pro Tem Pike asked Mayor Adams if the WG&L Board discussed requesting the \$1.0 million, with Mr. Edwards being authorized to ask for approval; Mayor Adams replied in the affirmative.

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Commissioner Marietta stated it was his impression that the cost of the emergency was \$600,000 for the roof and elevators. He said he is unsure how the remaining \$400,000 would be used. Mayor Pro Tem Pike stated that it would be used for purchasing trucks. Commissioner Marietta asked to make a substitute motion for the \$600,000 for the emergency. Mayor Pro Tem Pike replied that his motion is to honor the request because it was voted on by the WG&L Board.

Mayor Adams stated that the substitute motion will be taken first, which is to award \$1.0 million to WG&L. Hearing no further discussion, the motion unanimously carried approval.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Commissioner Hubbard asked to conduct discussion to assess the activities and costs associated with the gang task force.

Commissioner Howard mentioned the Broad Avenue underpass and contacting Georgia Railnet to determine what they will do to help improve it since it is an eyesore that should be painted, especially to remove the lead-based paint.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

SONJA TOLBERT
CITY CLERK