

**CITY OF METTER
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025
5:30 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the city council was held on Monday, February 10, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall.

Attending the meeting were the following officials:

Mayor Edwin O. Boyd
Councilwoman Victoria Gaitten
Councilwoman Rashida Taylor
Councilman James McKie
Councilman Gregg Stewart
Interim City Manager Scott Wood
City Clerk Angie Conner
Economic Development Director Heidi Jeffers
Public Works Director Cliff Hendrix
Planning Director Teresa Concannon
Finance Manager Cindy Collins

Councilwoman Kilcrease was not present.

Attending the meeting were the following guests:

Allen Thigpen
Lisa Thigpen
Taylor Crosby – Metter Advertiser

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilwoman Gaitten led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Interim City Manager Scott Wood gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- a) Regular Meeting, Monday, January 13, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

Councilwoman Gaitten seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

Guest Comments

There were no comments from the guests.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Conditional Use Permit

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve an application by William Allen Thigpen for a Conditional Use to permit Multi-Family Apartments in the Central Business District (CBD) at the property located at 35 North Lewis Street. The Planning Commission and City Staff are recommending the approval of this application. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Variance

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve an application by William Allen Thigpen for a Variance to reduce the Minimum Dwelling Size from 800 Sq. ft. to 625 Sq. ft., at the property located at 35 North Lewis Street. The Planning Commission and City Staff are recommending the approval of this application. Councilwoman Gaitten seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Public Hearing

Councilman McKie made a motion to set a public hearing on Monday, March 10, 2025, at 5:15 p.m., for public input on the proposal to adopt a Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Special Event Alcohol Permit Application

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve a Special Event Alcohol Permit Application submitted by Crystal Dalgard on behalf of Burlap & Lace Market and Coffee Bar located at 10 North Lewis Street. This will be a Sip & Paint event scheduled for February 25, 2025. Councilwoman Gaitten seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Special Event Alcohol Permit Application

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve a Special Event Alcohol Permit Application submitted by Debra Prince, Canoochee Creek Market to be held at the Metter Depot located at 303 SE Broad Street on April 3, 2025. Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Reappointments

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve a request from Main Street Metter and the Downtown Development Authority of Metter (DDA) to reappoint the following individuals to serve on the DDA Board:

1. Dustin Vernon, term ending 12/31/2030.
2. Ben Parker, term ending 12/31/2026.
3. Pernal Franklin, term ending 12/31/2030.

Councilman McKie seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Bid Approval Associates in Local Government Assistance, Inc.

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve the bid from Associates in Local Government Assistance, Inc. for the administration of the 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for a fee of 6% of the construction costs. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Bid Approval of Parker Engineering

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve the bid from Parker Engineering for engineering related to the 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for a fee of 11% of the construction costs. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

North Rountree Street Closure

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve a request from Rashida Taylor to close North Rountree Street from South Broad Street to North Broad Street on Saturday, June 7, 2025, for the Juneteenth celebration. Councilwoman Gaitten seconded the motion, and the vote was three in favor and one abstention. Councilwoman Taylor abstained from voting.

Temporary Retail Alcoholic Beverage License

Councilman McKie made a motion to approve a request from Hailey Grene DBA Nouria Energy Retail, Inc. located at 1125 South Lewis Street, Metter, Georgia (Enmarket) for a temporary retail Alcoholic Beverage License for beer and wine. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Executive Session

Councilman McKie made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel, pursuant to O.C.G.A. 50-17-02(1). Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

No votes were taken during the executive session.

Open Session

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to open the meeting at 6:52 p.m. Councilman McKie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS FROM CITY COUNCIL

Councilwoman Gaitten gave an update on closing North Lewis Street between the parks during the festival. She stated that the Sheriff's Department is looking into having a detour to close off Hwy. 121 for traffic between the central and east parks during the festival.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The departmental reports were included in the agenda packet for the council's review.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Wood included a management letter in the agenda packet.

Mr. Wood's letter included the following topics:

- City's financial state
- Rural Workforce Housing Grant
- Revised Subdivision Regulations Ordinance
- Fire Station Project (Councilman Stewart to work on drawings to find cost savings)
- Resurfacing of 14 City Streets
- Storm Debris Removal
- Work at Welcome Center Underway
- Animal Shelter (installation of new kennels)
- Personnel Policy Update

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- 2025 Visionary City Award
- Angie Conner Reappointed as District 9 Director of the Georgia Municipal Clerk's Association

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Boyd reported on the following:

- Proclamation for Tremount Temple Missionary Baptist Church – Black History Month
- City of Metter Received GMA's Visionary City Award
- Getting Good Vibes from People about the Downtown Parks

ADJOURNMENT

After no further discussion, Councilman McKie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Councilwoman Gaitten seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Angie Conner, City Clerk