



Sammy Rich, *City Manager*
Patrick Eidson, *Assistant City Manager*
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES
W. Kirk Milam, P.E., *Manager*
Public Works Division
Steven Foy, P.E., *Asst. Public Works Director*
Water and Sewer Division
Leigh Ross, *Director*
Engineering Services Department
Aaron Carroll, R.L.S., P.E., *Director*
Rome Transit Department
Kathy Shealy, *Director*

PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSIT COMMITTEE
AND
TRAFFIC COMMISSION

September 9, 2015 10:00 a.m.
Sam King Room – 601 Broad Street

PRESENT: Commissioner Kim Canada, Chairman
Commissioner Buzz Wachsteter
Commissioner Sue Lee
Mr. Sammy Rich, City Manager
Mr. Kirk Milam, P.E., Public Services Manager
Mr. Steven Foy, Assistant Public Works Director
Mr. Stan Rogers, Cemetery Department Director
Ms. Sheree Shore, Finance Director
Ms. Kathy Shealy, Transit Department Assistant Director
Sgt. Joe Costolnick, Rome Police Department

STAFF: Ms. Mary Hardin Thornton, Keep Rome Floyd Beautiful Director

GUESTS: Ms. Monica Shepard, designer of Chiaha Commemorative Sign
Ms. Andi Beyer, Member Chiaha Guild

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Canada called the meeting to order.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the August meeting were approved by common consent.

POLICE REPORTS

August Traffic Accident /DUI Report

Sgt. Costolnick presented the August Accident report. He noted that accidents were up from 192 last year to 210. Private lot accidents were down slightly. DUI arrests are down slightly. Traffic cases were about the same as this time last year. DUI related accidents were down. 'Following too Close' remains the number one citation. The highest accident location was Veterans Memorial Hwy at Mathis Road with 9 accidents. The Turner

McCall Blvd/Hicks Drive/Riverbend Drive intersection was second highest with 6 accidents.

TRANSIT OPERATIONS

Financial Report

Ms. Shore presented the July financial report. She noted the downward trend in fare box receipts continues. Main Line is down by about \$9,000 from last year. The school board payments are caught up for the Tripper services, which is right at budget. Paratransit is about even except for the DHR contract which has put us behind last year. Cash grants and reimbursements have been doing well since DOT has been very timely with payments. The operating capital from last year is larger because of the new buses purchased. Labor and Fringe benefits are up 8% from last year. This should level out. Materials and Supplies last year had some fuel costs included, which are not there this year. Total expenses and transfers are very close to last year. The cash balance is \$946,000 at the end of July.

Tripper Service Start-Up for Anna K. Davie

Ms. Shealy reported City Schools started on July 31st and Bus #22 for Anna K. Davie School was delayed until August 31st due to staffing issues. A second bus #25 will be started on September 14th. Mr. Milam added that this extra service is also intended to provide some relief to the overcrowding at the Middle and High Schools.

OLD BUSINESS

Foss Mfg. Request to Upgrade Kirton St.

Mr. Milam reported last month on the request to upgrade Kirton Street for the new distribution Center for Foss Mfg. He presented a tax map of the area along with photos of different angles of the street. He noted the street is narrow with 25 feet of right of way on one section and only 30 feet at another. Across the railroad tracks, he noted the road is misaligned. He noted that we will start some preliminary engineering in house to determine the exact location of right of way along the street. He noted that we want to have some assessment of the ability to improve Kirton Street and what ball-park costs would be with regards to right of way. Mr. Rich added that Foss has been a good corporate citizen that is doing well and growing. They have already made substantial improvements to this property.

LMIG 2015 Repaving Update

Mr. Milam updated the Committee on the 2015 LMIG repaving, which will total 4.8 miles. He reported that some of the repaving is already complete, including West Main St. and Pennington Ave. Other areas completed include Dogwood Drive from Reservoir Street to the Filter Plant, East 3rd Street between East 2nd Avenue and East 1st Ave and

Orchard St from Calhoun Ave. to the dead end. He added the South Broad Street milling has not begun yet but will extend to the City limits.

NEW BUSINESS

Chiaha Festival 50th Anniversary Sign Placement

Mr. Milam welcomed Ms. Mary Hardin Thornton and Ms. Monica Sheppard and Ms. Andi Beyer. He invited Ms. Thornton to update the committee on the Chiaha Festival commemorative sign placement. The 4-foot wide, 7-foot tall ironworks sculpture designed by Ms. Sheppard, features a cut-out silhouette depicting scenes from the festival. Ms. Thornton reported the new Public Arts Committee has met twice to discuss this sign as well as the placement of the Ellen Axson Wilson statue. They have selected the corner of Broad and W. 1st Street near an early location of the festival as the best place for the sign. Mr. Milam presented a mock-up of the sign overlaying a photo of the location. Ms. Thornton noted there were several locations considered, but this was determined to be the best option. Commissioner Canada noted the committee should determine all acceptable locations for any art placements in the future to help prevent clutter on Broad Street. He added this committee was created for the purpose of creating guidelines for art placement so a structure would be in place to handle future requests.

Commissioner Lee moved to recommend the location selected by the Public Arts Committee for the placement of the commemorative Chiaha Arts Festival Sign. Commissioner Wachsteter seconded. The motion carried.

Commissioner Canada added that this recommendation will be forwarded to the full Commission next Monday.

Radar Permit Updates

Mr. Foy updated the committee on the radar permit updates. He noted we have a process to update our radar permit list with DOT every three to five years. We hope to have a formal list to present next month. He noted that the new Anna K. Davie's school does not have a school zone with flashing yet, so we will put that in our request. Lt. Dehart had requested a radar permit on South Broad St. In reviewing our current list, we found that a section of South Broad Street wasn't included in the previous permit so we will update that along with any annexations that have occurred since the last permit update. Some other new locations that have never been permitted include Braves Blvd., East 11th Street, and Valley Brook Drive. He noted that in some cases the grades are considered too steep for radar so the grades are being checked prior to finalizing the request.

Grant Award by the Garden Club of Georgia for Myrtle Hill Cemetery

Mr. Rogers reported that he applied for a 50/50 matching grant for Myrtle Hill in August, and was awarded the full \$6000. The Myrtle Hill/Oak Hill Association has volunteered to split the \$3000 local portion with the City. The funds will be used to develop a landscape plan for the entrance to Myrtle Hill up to the office. Bids have been received for

planning the buffer around it. It should be ready shortly. This is for information only and does not require action.

Commissioner Wachsteter asked about the Mausoleum sales as well as the development of East View Cemetery where the office once stood. Mr. Rogers replied that he has received a plan from the Engineering Dept. for the development of the East View Cemetery. The grading should begin in a couple of weeks and bids have been here will need to be some grading and then the buffers will be planted around the bank. It should be ready before long.

On the Mausoleum sales, he noted there have been quite a few niches sold and not as many crypts. A couple of niches are sold each month.

Update on Corps Permitting of SR101 Widening by GDOT

Mr. Milam reported that he met with DOT representatives and the Corps of Engineers in Mobile last month regarding the GDOT project to widen 2nd Avenue (SR101) where it will encroach on the levy. The corps has a responsibility for reviewing the plans and issuing permits in that regard. We have worked out our memorandum of agreement between the City and the DOT to cooperatively submit that permit. The DOT will bear the cost for the engineering and all other associated costs. He noted this is the first project of this type in the country that will be under their new guidelines. It is a test case of how we work with the Corps and what steps will be taken. The DOT will be developing a protocol for the DOT in cases such as this so all parties has an interest in how the project will evolve. Each will try to identify milestones. Overall, it will be a time consuming and expensive process. It was a very good meeting.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Departmental Reports

The monthly reports were distributed for review.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Hollingsworth

Margaret W. Hollingsworth, Secretary