

**CITY OF COMER REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**April 4, 2016 6 PM**  
**MAYOR BLACKMON PRESIDING**

**Council Members Present:** Laquita Bridges, Beth Johnston, Jimmy Yarbrough and Michael Poole

**City Clerk:** Stephen H. Sorrells

**Public Works Superintendent:** Willis Gabriel

**Police Chief:** Dennis Bell

**City Attorney:** Jim Roberts

Mayor Blackmon called the meeting to order.

**1. Minutes:** Motion by Council Member Poole to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2016 City of Comer Regular Council Meeting. Motion second by Council Member Bridges. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

**2. Department Reports:** Police Chief Dennis Bell reported on the number of calls, incidents, arrests, citations, community service, felony arrests and the time spent directing school traffic. Chief Bell reported on the recent soft lockdown exercise at the Comer Elementary School in cooperation with the Georgia State Patrol, DNR, and Madison County Sheriff's Office. Chief Bell also mentioned the noticeable increase in prescription medication abuse by the young. The current Comer PD staffing was discussed.

Public Works Superintendent Gabriel reported that they repaired one water leak and had one minor sewer blockage. He reported that the water line to the new concrete plant was finished. The new mower purchase and need for a tractor was also discussed.

**4. GEFA Loan 2016:** Council discussed the progress of the GEFA Loan.

**5 Hydrant Flush:** Discussed.

**5. Circus:** Mayor Blackmon reported that the circus was returning to the downtown park on April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Arrangements for portable toilets were discussed.

**6. Upgrade to the Red Barn:** Discussed.

**7. ISO Rating:** Mayor Blackmon reported that the city's ISO rating went from a 4 to a 3 on April 1, 2016.

**8. Highway 72 Bypass:** The proposed traffic light at the Hwy 98 East intersection was discussed as well as the damage to local streets due to the bypass construction.

**6. Alternate Municipal Court Judge:** Motion by Council Member Johnston to appoint Judge Walter "Chip" Hardin, Jr. as an alternate City of Comer Municipal Court Judge. Motion second by Council Member Yarbrough. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

**8. Executive Session:** Motion by Council Member Poole to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing potential litigation. Motion second by Council Member Yarbrough. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

Motion by Council Member Yarbrough to go out of Executive Session. Motion second by Council Member Bridges. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

Motion by Council Member Johnston to adjourn. Motion second by Council Member Bridges. Motion approved by unanimous vote of Council.

\_\_\_\_\_ Jody Blackmon, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_ Stephen H. Sorrells, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Date Approved

Subject to Council Approval