



**MINUTES • MAY 1, 2017**

**WORK SESSION**

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**Commerce Room Commerce Civic Center**

**6:00 PM**

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**110 STATE STREET  
COMMERCE, GA 30529**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
J. Clark Hill	Mayor	Present	
Keith Burchett	Mayor Pro-Tem	Present	
Archie Chaney	Ward 1	Present	
Donald Wilson	Ward 2	Present	
Mark Fitzpatrick	Ward 3	Present	
Bobby Redmon	Ward 4	Present	
Johnny Eubanks	Ward 5	Present	

**2. STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS, MAYOR CLARK HILL**

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Contract Police Department State Certification - contract with the Georgia Association of Chief of Police to begin the process of certification

James Wascher, City Manager said an application and an agreement must be done with the State of Georgia Law Enforcement Certification Program. This agreement must be signed by the chief of police and the chief elected official of the city. He said the certification helps the city with a solid base for procedures for law enforcement and helps with the cost of insurance. This is help of a 20% discount on the GIRMA insurance. This is a 36 month process.

No questions were asked.  
(Requested by Zack Ardis, Police)

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>REFERRED</b>	<b>Next: 5/15/2017 6:00 PM</b>
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2. Status Report Diana Naturals Incorporated -- Discussion of interim financing with South State Bank until GEFA funding is approved

James Wascher, City Manager said Diana Foods is wanting to be in production by August and the time table is a big concern. An application has been sent into GEFA for financing of the project but no information will be available until July or August of 2017 from GEFA, the interim financing is important to get the equipment ordered. City Manager said he had asked Jud Trapnell, of South State Bank for the GAP financing of the project.

Mayor Clark Hill said he had a statement on this "the loan of up to 5.5 million would be paid by Diana Foods that the City of Commerce was just a past thru of the loan



James Wascher, City Manager said the Commerce Fire Department had been working with the grant writers for the grant for the purchase of the fire truck. Three bids came in and was reviewed with a recommendation to go with Pierce for the contract on the purchase of the truck. He requested the award of the bid to go to Pierce at \$469,306.00 with 60% of the funding to come from FEMA.

No questions asked.  
(Requested by Kevin Dean, Fire)

**RESULT: REFERRED Next: 5/15/2017 6:00 PM**

- 7. Budget FY17 Budget Amendments -- annual budget amendments for alignment to actual numbers for 2016-2017 budget

James Wascher, City Manager covered all the Budget Admendments for the 2016-2017 budget. He spoke on all the admendments as listed on the attachment in the work session package. He said would be establishing a Fiber Fund and a Commerce Hospital Authority Fund. He spoke on the city paying back the EIP funds due to the city not loaning out the funds.

No question asked.

Councilman Donald Wilson commented on the good job the city manager was doing.  
(Requested by Christy Case, Finance)

**RESULT: REFERRED Next: 5/15/2017 6:00 PM**

- 8. Recommendation Conditional Use - 120 Pine Street -- Commerce Planning Commission recommends to deny this request for conditional use

James Wascher, City Manager said the Commerce Planning Commission is recommending to deny the request for conditional use of the property on 120 Pine Street.

(Requested by David Zellner, Planning and Development)

**RESULT: REFERRED Next: 5/15/2017 6:00 PM**

- 9. Status Report Closing Cherry Street Parking Venue -- update of closing of parking lot for the Summer Concert Series

James Wascher, City Manager said Cherry Street Parking lot could be closed by the city manager, he would like the mayor and council to be aware of the concert dates and times and when the parking lot would be closed.

(Requested by Natalie Thomas, Downtown Development Authority)

**RESULT: REFERRED Next: 5/15/2017 6:00 PM**

- 10. Consider Approval Concerts on Cherry Summer Series -- approval of Beer Garden for events on June 2, August 4 and September 1, during the summer concert series

James Wascher, City Manager said Natalie Thomas, Mainstreet Director is requesting approval of Special Events Permits for Zone 1 for the May 5 Concert on Cherry. The city manager can approve the the Special Events Permit, however the DDA was including the Mayor and Council on the events.

The city manager said the DDA was requesting permission for "Beer Gardens" on the dates of June 2, August 4 and September 1, 2017 for the Concerts on Cherry in Zone 1. The restaurants for the beer garden will be determined at a later date. He said this will enable all three restaurants to be included in the beer gardens.

No questions asked.

(Requested by Natalie Thomas, Downtown Development Authority)

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>REFERRED</b>	<b>Next: 5/15/2017 6:00 PM</b>
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#### 4. EXECUTIVE SESSION-- PERSONNEL AND REAL ESTATE

Mayor Clark Hill said the council needed to go into an Executive Session to discuss personnel and real estate.

A motion by Councilman Archie Chaney to go into Executive Session was made, a second by Councilman Mark Fitzpatrick.

The vote was unanimous.

A motion to come out of Executive Session was made by Councilman Donald Wilson, a second was made by Councilman Archie Chaney.

The vote was unanimous.

#### 5. ADJOURNMENT

James Wascher, City Manager expressed his thanks to Sandra Haggard, City Clerk for the events of Georgia Cities Week.

The City Manager reported on the success of Commerce Crusin and the event net of \$1300.00 in funds. He thanked Natalie Thomas on a job well done.

City Manager thanked Sammy Ingram, Electric Superintendent for the cooking he did at the Employee Lunch.

Congratulated Tommy Heffernan on placing 2nd in the Hearts for Honduras 5K

He said the city had ordered the Facilities concept for the city from Precision Planning, at the cost of \$2000.00.

James Wascher, City Manager said at the May 15 he would be covering the 2017-2018 budget, and the Public Facility Authority would be meeting at this date.

Mayor Clark Hill asked if anyone had any further business to discuss, hearing none Mayor Hill asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Pro Tem Keith Burchett, a second was made by Councilman Bobby Redmon.

The vote was unanimous.