

CITY OF WHIGHAM  
COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 18, 2025

The Whigham City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at the Whigham City Hall with Mayor Trey Gainous presiding. Gainous called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M., and Robert Porter opened the meeting with a prayer and led the Pledge to the Flag.

Those present were: Mayor Trey Gainous, Mayor Pro Tem Jim Sellers, Jimmie Laing, Andrew Walden, Robert Porter, Joel Singletary, Utilities Director Josh Ausburn, Chief Tony Black, and City Clerk Rachel Jenson.

Members of the public present: Jane Trulock

***Agenda Adoption***

**A motion was made by Robert Porter to adopt the agenda. Andrew Walden seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

***Minutes Adoption***

**A motion made by Jimmie Laing to approve the minutes from the October meeting. Andrew Walden seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

***Reports***

*Utilities Department:* Utilities director Josh Ausburn informed the Mayor and Council that Home Depot employees who work with nonprofits for community grants had visited the park and assisted in doing some work with the benches, tables, swings, and flowerpots. Members of the WVCC also came to assist with the projects. The utilities department has also been doing ROW clearing and normal maintenance on vehicles and equipment.

*Police Department:* Chief Black reported it had been pretty quiet with their department. The fair had gone on with no issues that had been reported.

*City Hall:* City Clerk Jenson informed the Mayor and Council that residential trash pickup the week of Thanksgiving would be on Wednesday instead of Friday.

Mayor Gainous stated he would like to add DDA and WVCC to the list to receive a report from. Gainous asked for Mr. Jim Sellers to give an update as a representative for the DDA and for Mrs. Jane Trulock to give an update as a representative for the WVCC.

*DDA:* Mr. Sellers informed the Mayor and Council that Brenda Williams and Adrian Rivers from Senator Warnock's office had come to meet with DDA members and some local representatives from the City and County the week prior to the council meeting. Sellers stated the meeting and presentation given by Nick Farrell went well and highlighted good

points in Whigham while also addressing the urgent need for sewer. The main question in the presentation was “How can we get the full funds needed to complete the sewer project?”. The representatives from the Senator’s office indicated that the group needed to contact other government offices to make them aware of the needs of the City. The group needs to apply for funding from all offices they are eligible to apply for, including Senator Ossoff’s funding opportunities. Mr. Selles stated that Nick Farrell was prepared to get the applications done that would need to be completed.

*WVCC:* Jane Trulock spoke as a representative for the volunteer group. Trulock stated that the Grady Grown dinner went very well and was successful. They had not totaled their final profit yet. The turkey shoot also went well and they had enough turkeys for the rounds shot. Trulock stated the volunteer group had given the City a check for the Christmas lights Ausburn had ordered to replace what would be downtown. Several members had also met with Ausburn and Chad Gainous to get the wreaths and lights ready. Trulock also stated Christmas in Whigham would be December 13<sup>th</sup> and they still had vendor spaces available. The vendor fee is \$20 and anyone interested can contact Baylei Ladner.

### ***New Business***

*MEAG Signatory Resolution:* Mayor Gainous stated it was time to renew the signatory selection for whomever is to sign on behalf of the City for MEAG decisions. Gainous stated that the last signees were Mayor Pro Tem Jim Sellers and Councilman Jimmie Laing. **Robert Porter made a motion to re-nominate Sellers and Laing as the signees on behalf of the City of Whigham for MEAG. Andrew Walden seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

*MEAG Off System Sales:* Gainous stated it was also time to decide what the Council wanted to do with the OSS (off-system sales) that the City earned for the year. Gainous stated last year, they voted to deposit 100% into the short-term portfolio, as it had yielded the best rate and was more accessible. **Andrew Walden made a motion to deposit 100% of the OSS revenues in the short-term Portfolio. Jimmie Laing seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

*2025 Millage Rate:* Mayor Gainous announced it was time to renew the millage rate. The presented information showed the gross millage at 4.742 with a rollback rate of 1.438, which balanced to a net millage of 3.304, which was slightly lower than the previous year where the net millage was 3.421. Gainous expressed that there was a decrease in taxes levied of 2.72%. The net taxes anticipated are \$41,842.75. Gainous also told the Council that Tax Commissioner Worsham wanted the public hearing to determine the millage rate and rollback as soon as possible and had even offered to pay for the ad if the Council

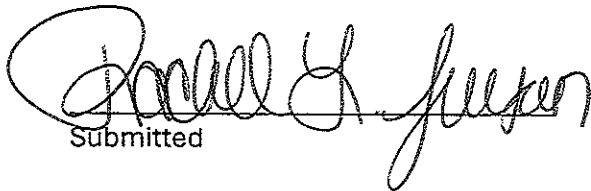
agreed to have a special meeting earlier than the next Council meeting on December 9th. The dates suggested to Mayor Gainous were December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>. **Jim Sellers made a motion to reschedule the regular council meeting from December 9<sup>th</sup> to December 2<sup>nd</sup> and to hold the public hearing to set the millage rate on that same day, December 2<sup>nd</sup> and allow for Mr. Worsham pay for the ad for the 5 year history and millage rate. Robert Porter seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

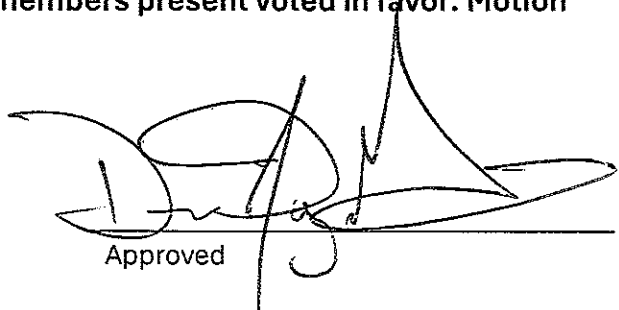
### **Council Matters of Interest**

*Robert Porter:* Councilman Porter inquired if anything else had been discussed about the property line issue with Mr. Paul Baggett. Mayor Gainous stated he had not heard of any further issue.

*Andrew Walden:* Councilman Walden stated he had some complaints about the dangers on Depot Street next to the Dollar General. Chief Black stated there had been a couple of near misses, but not many wrecks had occurred there. Chief Black agreed it would be safer to be made into a 1-way street again. Mayor Gainous asked City Clerk Jenson to discuss with the city attorney to see what the process would look like to make the change, and we would discuss at the next meeting.

**With no other matters to tend to, a motion to adjourn was made by Robert Porter. Andrew Walden seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.**

  
Submitted

  
Approved