

CITY OF WHIGHAM
COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

The Whigham City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 9, 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, Utilities Director Josh Ausburn, Chief Tony Black, Israel Kirkland and Assistant City Clerk Taylor Lambert.

Members of the public present: Jane Trulock and Paul Baggett

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 Jim Sellers to approve the minutes from the April meeting. Jimmie Laing seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Public Participation

Paul Baggett: Mr. Baggett attended the meeting to discuss concerns regarding missing property pins. He explained that approximately 17 years ago, a private company constructed a bridge over a creek on the property located behind his own. During that process, one of his property pins was lost. A second pin was later disturbed when Hancock & Sons, working under contract with the City, installed a water line. During that work, the culvert was removed and then replaced, which caused the second pin to be lost as well. Mr. Baggett stated that his concern arises from his plans to install a privacy fence, but without the pins, he cannot clearly establish his property lines. He requested that the city replace both missing pins.

Reports

Utilities Department: The Utility Department has been actively maintaining the City's rights-of-way through regular mowing and upkeep. Preparatory demolition work has also been completed at the park in anticipation of the contractor beginning reconstruction. In addition, the Department repaired a two-inch water leak on Depot Street and has continued performing routine maintenance on various vehicles.

Police Department: Chief Tony Black reported that the new school zone cameras issued approximately 1,100 warnings prior to going live and transitioning to the issuance of actual citations.

Jane Trulock: On behalf of the Whigham Community Club, Mrs. Jane reported that the Grady Grown Dinner is scheduled to be held on October 25, 2025, at Collins Place in Cairo, Georgia. She noted that tickets are available for purchase through her. Mrs. Jane also shared that the Community Club plans to purchase new Christmas decorations for the city. Additionally, she expressed her appreciation for the recent road dedication ceremony honoring Mr. George Trulock, thanking all City employees for their efforts in hosting the event. She also conveyed gratitude for the ongoing maintenance of the grass throughout the city.

Unfinished Business

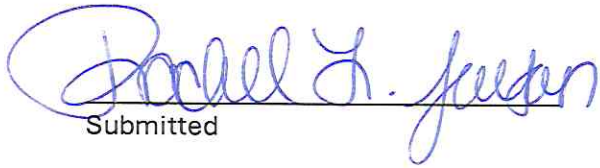
Mayor Pro Tem Sellers abstained from any discussion or voting due to him being on the DDA board. Mayor Trey Gainous read the resolution regarding the quit claim of certain properties to the DDA and then requested a motion to approve it. Jimmie Laing made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Robert Porter. All members present voted in favor of the motion with the exception of Jim Sellers as he abstained due to him being on the DDA board.


Council Matters of Interest

Mayor Trey Gainous raised concerns regarding the Mercy Meadows Project. The project has come to a halt due to funding issues on the part of the project owners. They have requested that the City apply for a grant to fund the infrastructure; however, the City expressed hesitation, citing concerns about potential liability if the project were to fail. Additionally, applying for a grant on behalf of the project could prevent the DDA from applying for grants, which is not permissible. Mayor Gainous then asked the Council whether they wished to proceed with the project. After discussion, all Council members decided not to move forward with the project.

Mr. Jim Sellers stated that the DDA meets on the second Thursday of each month. He reported that the DDA's new attorney provided recommendations for revisions to the organization's resolution and bylaws. Additionally, he spoke very highly of Nick Farrell's involvement with the DDA.

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 6:26 PM.


Submitted


Approved