

CITY OF WHIGHAM
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2026

The Whigham City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at the Whigham City Hall with Mayor Trey Gainous presiding. Before the meeting was called to order, City Clerk Rachel Jenson swore in Trey Gainous as Mayor. Jim Sellers, Jimmie Laing, Andrew Walden, Robert Porter, and Joel Singletary were all sworn in for Councilmembers. 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, Joel Singletary and Robert Porter. Staff present: Utilities Director Josh Ausburn, John Jackson, and City Clerk Rachel Jenson. No members of the public were present.

Agenda Adoption

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

Minutes Adoption

A motion was made by Jim Sellers to adopt the minutes from the December 9th meeting. Andrew Walden seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Reports

Utilities: Regular maintenance on trucks, leaks and repairs around the City had been worked on. Met with Georgia Rural Water and York Engineering about the federal grant through Sanford Bishop's office for sewer.

Mayor: Reported the meeting with the Yorks and GA Rural Water went well and we would be submitting an application in the amount of \$5 million for the downtown sewer project.

Unfinished Business

Depot St-Change back to one way: Mayor Gainous read the resolution for the change of Depot St beside the Dollar General to be a one-way road from Hwy 84 all the way to Lee Ave. **Jimmie Laing made a motion to adopt the resolution to make Depot St SE one-way from Hwy 84 to Lee Ave. Robert Porter seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

New Business

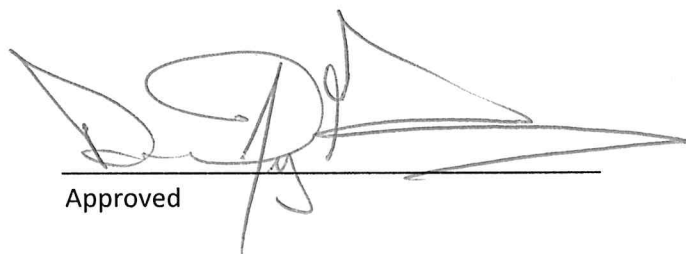
MEAG Trust Withdrawal: Mayor Gainous opened a discussion with the Council about needing to make the payment on the City Hall/bank building, and he and the Clerk felt it would be best to take a withdrawal in the exact payment amount from the MEAG trust Intermediate Flexible Portfolio Operating Account for \$35,058.37. Mayor Gainous stated that there had been a decrease in funding, and we were currently looking at rate analysis for both the electric and water rates from ECG and GRWA. Gainous said he and the Clerk felt the withdrawal was the best option to make the payment until we get the analysis responses. **Robert Porter made a motion to approve the withdrawal from the MEAG Intermediate Flexible Portfolio Operating account in the amount of \$35,058.37 for the loan payment for City Hall. Jimmie Laing seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

Council Matters of Interest

Jim Sellers- Mayor Pro Tem Sellers stated that he wanted to discuss the extra funds that have been received for SPLOST and how we can use the extra funds so we do not have to give the difference back to the County. Mayor Gainous stated he and the Clerk had met with the City Attorney who was looking into the verbiage on how the extra funding could be spent. Gainous stated he had inquired if the excess could be used on the City Hall building, but since we were leasing to own, it was not considered an actual debt. Sellers asked if the SPLOST 2020 could be combined with the new SPLOST. City Clerk Jenson stated that the funding had to be used for the designated projects and the City Attorney was looking at what we could do with the funds and would report back at the next Council meeting. Jenson did state the SPLOST 2020 would end April 2026.

With no other matters to tend to, a motion to adjourn was made by Jim Sellers. Robert Porter seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM.


Submitted


Approved