

ROME CITY COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 26, 2015

The Rome City Commission met at 6:30 p.m. this date in the Commission Room of City Hall, 601 Broad Street. Mayor Doss presided with Mayor Pro Tem Slack and Commissioners Irscher, Wachsteter, Davis, Lee, Canada, Collins, and McNiece present. Commissioner Canada opened the meeting with prayer and led in the salute to the flag.

Minutes – May 11, 2015

The minutes of the May 11, 2015 meeting, as submitted in writing by the Secretary, were approved by unanimous consent.

Planning Department Fee Schedule

Commissioner McNiece moved to adopt a new Fee Schedule for the Rome/Floyd County Planning Department. This Fee Schedule will alter the fees for rezoning applications for various size tracts of property. Commissioner Wachsteter seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote:

YES: Slack, Irscher, Wachsteter, Lee, Canada, Collins, McNiece

NO: Davis

Business Improvement District Renewal Ordinance

Commissioner McNiece introduced an Ordinance to renew the Downtown Business Improvement District. The current and original BID will expire at the end of 2015. The Downtown Development merchants and the BID Committee have worked to present a qualified ordinance to the City Commission for their consideration.

Addressing the City Commission was Mr. Bob Blumberg, 233 Broad Street. Mr. Blumberg is the Chair of the Business Improvement District. He stated that, while the state law requires only 51% of the property values to be in favor of a Business Improvement District, 67% of the property values, represented by their owners, support the renewal of the Business Improvement District. Blumberg noted that this was a higher percentage than when the BID was originally implemented in 2006. Also addressing the Commission was Ms. Elaine Abercrombie, 16 Montre Circle, Silver Creek, BID Renewal Chair. Ms. Abercrombie outlined the changes that the BID renewal would implement. Currently, one mill of tax is dedicated to the BID on real property; this will increase to 1.5 mills. The Business License surcharge will remain at 50%; however, the maximum amount will increase from \$100 to \$150 per year. The boundaries for the BID have also been altered with some properties on West Third Street and Fifth Avenue being added.

Commissioner McNiece moved to adopt the Business Improvement District Renewal Ordinance as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded, and the vote was in favor, including Mayor Doss.

AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND, RENEW, AND MODIFY THE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, ORIGINALLY CREATED IN 2006, WITHIN THE CITY OF ROME, GEORGIA; TO ADOPT A DISTRICT PLAN FOR SUCH DISTRICT; TO ADOPT A BUDGET FOR SUCH DISTRICT AND PROVIDE FOR THE PROVISION OF SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES TO SUCH DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE FOR THE COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES ON THE REAL PROPERTY WITHIN SUCH DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE FOR THE COLLECTION OF A SURCHARGE ON BUSINESS LICENSES WITHIN SUCH DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE DISTRICT; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

SECTION I:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Rome City Commission, and it is ordained by authority of same, that the Code of the City of Rome, Georgia be amended by amending Sections 11-700, 11-701, 11-702, and 11-703 of Article XII such that said Article and Sections shall read as follows:

ARTICLE XII BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Sec. 11-700. Findings.

OCGA 36-43-1 et seq. authorizes municipalities to establish city business improvement districts for the purpose of providing supplemental service to such districts by imposing assessments on property and collecting business license surcharges. The City has received a petition requesting the renewal and modification of the business improvement district, originally created in 2006, from property owners representing more than 51% of the total property value in proposed district.

Sec. 11-701. Creation of Business Improvement District; Adoption of District Plan; Management of Plan; Amendments.

(a) There is hereby created a business improvement district in Rome, Georgia (the "District"). The legal boundaries of the District shall be set forth on an official map (the "Business Improvement District Map") which is a part of an official plan for the District (the "District Plan"). A copy of the Business Improvement District Map shall remain on file and available for inspection in the office of the Floyd County Tax Commissioner and the City of Rome Downtown Development Authority. The Business Improvement District Map attached hereto as a part of Exhibit "A" is hereby adopted and made a part of this ordinance.

(b) The District Plan, also known as the Management Plan, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is hereby adopted and made a part of this ordinance. A copy of the District Plan

shall remain on file and available for inspection in the office of the Rome Department of Downtown Development Authority.

(c) The District Plan may be amended from time to time by the City Commission by adopting an official amendment to this ordinance. The District Plan must set forth, at a minimum, the following:

- (1) The Business Improvement District Map;
- (2) A description of the boundaries of the District;
- (3) The maximum millage rate, if any, to be levied in the District;
- (4) The proposed time for implementation and completion of the District Plan;
- (5) Design and rehabilitation standards, if any, to be applied to buildings and structures within the District;
- (6) The maximum surcharge, if any, to be levied on existing businesses and occupations within the District;
- (7) The supplemental services to be provided within the District;
- (8) Any other rules and regulations applicable to the District;
- (9) The method of management of the District.

(d) Management of Plan.

The Business Improvement District shall be managed by the Downtown Development Authority for the City of Rome. The Downtown Development Authority shall submit an annual financial statement to the City of Rome Commission for review and publication.

Sec. 11-702. Supplemental Services; Continuation of Services.

(a) Supplemental services provided in the District pursuant to the District Plan shall commence on January 1, 2016 and the District shall terminate on December 31, 2025 unless renewed by ordinance.

(b) The level of services presently provided to the District by the City will continue to be provided at the same level as before the District was created. It is the intent of the City that the provision of supplemental services within the District shall not reduce or otherwise replace existing services provided by the City.

Sec. 11-703. Separation of Funds.

Funds collected within the District under this ordinance shall not be used for any other purpose other than those set forth in the District Plan.

SECTION II:

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith be, and the same are, hereby repealed.