



City of Hogansville
City Council
Work Session Meeting Agenda

Monday, December 18, 2023 – 5:30 pm

Meeting will be held at Hogansville City Hall

Mayor: Jake Ayers	2025	City Manager: Lisa E. Kelly
Council Post 1: Michael Taylor, Jr	2025	Assistant City Manager: Niles Ford
Council Post 2: Matthew Morgan	2025	City Attorney: Alex Dixon
Council Post 3: Mandy Neese*	2023	Chief of Police: Jeffrey Sheppard
Council Post 4: Mark Ayers	2023	City Clerk: LeAnn Lehigh
Council Post 5: Toni Striblin	2023	* Mayor Pro-Tem

WORK SESSION – 5:30 pm

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Royal Theater – Sponsorship Program and Criteria
2. RAISE Grant
3. Police Department – OPB Grant Funds



Work Session – December 18, 2023 – 5:30 pm

Work Session held at Hogansville City Hall, 111 High Street, Hogansville GA 30230

Work Session Meeting

Call to Order: Mayor Jake Ayers called the Work Session to order at 5:30 pm. Present were Mayor Ayers and Council Members Michael Taylor, Matthew Morgan, Mandy Neese, Mark Ayers and Toni Striblin. Also present were City Manager Lisa Kelly, Assistant City Manager Niles Ford, City Clerk LeAnn Lehigh, Police Chief Jeff Sheppard, City Attorney Alex Dixon and Planning & Development Director Lynne Miller.

Discussion Items

1. Proposed Royal Theater Sponsorship Program

Lisa Kelly presented proposed sponsorship guidelines for prospective Royal Theater donors, to help now with renovation costs such as the spire, construction change orders and start-up costs, to future capital and operation needs. The proposed sponsorship program would offer benefits ranging from a chance to have part of the theater named after the donor (for a 5-year renewable term), to a nameplate on one of the theater seats. All donations above a certain level would also have the donor's name posted on a board in the theater lobby. A City Council-appointed Royal Theater Advisory Board and Royal Theater Manager would handle the details of this program. The immediate priority is completing the building rehabilitation and reopening the theater for film, stage and community use. Discussion followed.

2. RAISE Grant

Lisa Kelly explained that staff will be asking Mayor and Council to approve staff's plan to submit a grant proposal to the U.S. Dept of Transportation's RAISE – Rebuilding America with Sustainability and Equity -- competitive grant program. Grant applications are due soon (February 28, 2024) but the City could tweak and submit the same Boyd Road sidewalk proposal the City submitted to GA DOT's TAP (Transportation Alternatives) program in 2022; but which wasn't funded. For the RAISE proposal, the City could use the engineer's concept design and cost estimates already prepared for the TAP proposal. Unlike the TAP program, the federal RAISE grant does not require a local match from rural jurisdictions. The minimum grant request is \$1 million. The Boyd Road sidewalks would run from U.S. 29 to W. Main.

3. Police Department – OPB Grant Funds

Lisa Kelly reported that the Police Department's 2022 grant from GA Office of Planning and Budget has been cleared for spending. This is a reimbursement type of grant. Grant reimbursements can be requested monthly as funds are spent. OPB turns reimbursement requests around relatively quickly, Ms. Kelly noted. To help with cash flow, the PD has divided the grant into 3 phases, so that the Department can spend money on the project, then get reimbursed from OPB, use that reimbursement for Phase II costs, then get reimbursed, etc. The phasing will help, but Phase III – which is \$305,190 – will require some temporary cash until reimbursed by OPB.

Work Session
December 18, 2023
Page two

Every calendar year the Mayor and Council establish a \$300,000 line of credit, which the City, to its credit, has not had to tap in recent years, Ms. Kelly noted. The line of credit must be spent by December 31 each year, but the City's auditor wants any LOC expenses to be made in the first six months. At the Council's 2 Jan 2024 meeting, staff will ask for the usual LOC to be approved for 2024. This LOC could be tapped for temporary OPB grant expenses, until OPB reimburses soon after.

Mayor Ayers adjourned this Work Session at 6:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynne Miller, AICP
Planning & Development Director