

**Mayor**  
Eartha T. Cummings

**City Attorney**  
Michael Howard



**Council Members**  
Brainard Crawford, Mayor Pro-Tem  
David Hartley  
Deborah E. Rhodes  
Rhonda L. Lemons  
Sidney A. Swan  
Clifford B. Coleman, Sr.

**COUNCIL WORK SESSION**  
**Tennille Fire Department**  
March 17, 2025  
6:00 P.M.

**MINUTES**

A work session of the Tennille City Council was held on Monday, March 17, 2025, with Mayor Eartha Cummings presiding.

Council Members present were Mayor Pro-Tem Brainard Crawford, Clifford B. Coleman, Sr., Rhonda Lemons, Sidney Swan, and David Hartley, and Deborah E. Rhodes.

Others in attendance were Michael Howard, *City Attorney*, Ron Arscott, *Guest*, Robert Fisher & Rose Holton, *Tennille Business Owners*, Tanisha Ball, *Asst. City Clerk/Court Clerk*, Mike Wiggins, *Building Official*, Danielle Ferguson, *City Clerk*, and Tanisha Ball, *Asst. City Clerk/Court Clerk*.

**Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Mayor Eartha Cummings.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Eartha Cummings.

**Invocation**

The invocation was led by Council Member Clifford B. Coleman, Sr.

**Visitors**

- Robert Fisher & Rose Holton
  - o Owners of Scoot's Café & Ice Cream Emporium request council's permission to move forward in the opening of their business, with the adjustment of having an active smoker placed on the front sidewalk until the proper ventilation system can be installed.
  - o Due to the City liability concern, the Council recommends business owners to move the smoker to the back of the business space.
  - o Attorney Michael Howard recommends the council allow a special 60 day exception for relocating to the back of the restaurant.
  - o Fisher & Holton decided they would explore other options regarding the smoker tent.
- Ron Arscott

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- Mr. Arscott shares he would like to touch on some previous concerns for an update.
- Mayor Eartha Cummings shares updates on grant funding for upcoming projects for the City as well as the status on current tasks Mr. Arscott inquired on.

#### Review of Minutes

- The minutes of January 6, 2024, were presented to council for review.

#### Monthly Reports

- The Building Official report for 02/2025 was presented to council for review.
- The Sheriff's report for 02/2025 was sent to council via email.

#### New Business

- Purchase of Property: Water Filtration System
  - Council is asked to consider purchasing a section of property owned by Polypipe to complete the expansion for the Filtration system project.
    - A settlement statement is attached for the purchase of the property. The property is currently priced at *approx.* \$1100 based on the most recent appraisal of \$4500 an acre.
  - Fire Escape Easement
    - Louise Gatling will need a fire escape easement agreement with the City to allow for the use of City property to build a fire escape as required for her business.

#### Attorney - Michael Howard

- Attorney Michael Howard
  - Attorney Michael Howard has no new updates.

#### Mayor/Council & Committee Concerns

- Mayor Eartha Cummings
  - Mayor Cummings shares the streetscape project will be broken down into phases as we move forward with plans.
  - Mayor Cummings also shares with Council the current increase in water bills from the City of Sandersville. Mayor shares with council that we will continue to research more information as it pertains to this, but the City cannot afford these significant increases.
  - Mayor Cummings also shares with Council that she has submitted another grant application for the depot.

#### Adjourn

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With no further business, Mayor Pro-Tem Brainard Crawford makes a motion, seconded by Council Member Clifford B. Coleman, Sr. to close the work session, and move into the regular council meeting. The work session is adjourned at 7:02 PM.