

CITY OF TOCCOA
CITY COMMISSION
MINUTES • JULY 28, 2025

Regular Meeting

City Commission/Court Room

5:00 PM

92 North Alexander, Toccoa, GA 30577

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Carter called the Regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Reverend Paul Garrison.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Terry Carter	Mayor	Present	
Evan Hellenga	Vice Mayor	Present	
Michelle Jamieson	Commissioner	Present	
Gail Fry	Commissioner	Present	
Ron Matheson	Commissioner	Present	
Fredda O. Wheeler	City Manager	Present	
John Dickerson	Attorney	Absent	
Beth Rider	City Clerk	Present	

Attorney Jay Doss was present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Vice-Mayor Hellenga to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michelle Jamieson, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Evan Hellenga, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Carter, Hellenga, Jamieson, Fry, Matheson

I. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Vice-Mayor Hellenga to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michelle Jamieson, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Evan Hellenga, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Carter, Hellenga, Jamieson, Fry, Matheson

A. Request for Approval of Minutes of July 14, 2025 Commission Meeting

REPORTS

Vice-Mayor Hellenga stated at our last Humane Shelter meeting our Live Release Rate decreased quite a bit because of a lot of orphan kittens and puppies brought in. There have been a record number of strays brought in and a hoarding incident and put a lot of stress on the Shelter.

Commissioner Fry stated our community has lost a wonderful Educator, Mrs. Susan Akridge. She was very loved by her students, she taught Chorus and touched so many lives. School starts back on Thursday and we need to keep all the students, teachers and families in our prayers.

Commissioner Matheson reminded everyone of the National Night Out, August 5th between 6-9 pm in the Greenspace and is hosted by our Police Department. Chief Carlisle stated this is a National Event, we don't pick this day it is Nationwide to bring the community and Law Enforcement together. We will have inflatables, free food and Kona Ice. Everything will be free. David Byargeon will also be performing.

Mayor Carter stated in recent times we have never had a Chief to do more outreach in our community than your Department is doing currently and it is being notice and we appreciate you and your officers.

City Manager Wheeler stated we are all aware of EPD and EPA Mandate testing of our water, they mandate the frequency and number of test that we do. Some months back the City of Toccoa decided to step the game up and test more frequently. Harry Scot

II. OLD BUSINESS

III. NEW BUSINESS

B. Consideration of Alcohol Beverage License for Toccoa Wok 360, LLC Located Within Walmart

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Hellenga, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson to approve the recommendation from the ABC Board for Alcohol License for Toccoa Wok 360, LLC located within Walmart. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Evan Hellenga, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Michelle Jamieson, Commissioner
AYES:	Carter, Hellenga, Jamieson, Fry, Matheson

C. Consideration of Appointment to the Downtown Development Authority

Mayor Carter thanked Don Hall for serving on the DDA and contributing a lot with their store in Downtown.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Commissioner Fry to appoint Hope Alewine Smith to the Downtown Development Authority Board. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Michelle Jamieson, Commissioner
SECONDER: Gail Fry, Commissioner
AYES: Carter, Hellenga, Jamieson, Fry, Matheson

D. Consideration of Roof Repairs on City Buildings

City Manager Fredda Wheeler stated several of our City owned building are in dire need of roof repairs, the staff solicited bids and received several bids. The staffs recommendation is to accept the bid from Affordable Roofing for the following buildings. Whitman Street cost of \$56,934.88, The Pavilion at Lake Toccoa \$13,847.54, Fernside Building \$68,324.50, Doyle Street Fire Department \$58,593.70. Total for all four buildings \$197,700.62. We have budgeted FY26 \$199,458 for roof repairs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Commissioner Fry to approve the recommendation for Affordable Roofing. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Carter opposed.

RESULT: APPROVED [4 TO 1]
MOVER: Michelle Jamieson, Commissioner
SECONDER: Gail Fry, Commissioner
AYES: Hellenga, Jamieson, Fry, Matheson
NAYS: Carter

E. Consideration of Purchase of a Police Department Vehicle

A motion was made by Commissioner Matheson, seconded by Vice-Mayor Hellenga to approve the purchase of a 2025 Dodge Durango from Jacky Jones Chrysler in the amount of \$42,148.00 and approval of funds in the amount of \$5,710.00 to equip the vehicle. City Manager Wheeler stated funds are available in SPLOST VII for the purchase and we will receive \$7,301.00 from Insurance for salvage vehicle. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Ron Matheson, Commissioner
SECONDER: Evan Hellenga, Vice Mayor
AYES: Carter, Hellenga, Jamieson, Fry, Matheson

F. Consideration to Surplus Property in the Possession of the Police Department

A motion was made by Commissioner Fry, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson to deem firearm Glock Model 19 Gen 5 as surplus. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Gail Fry, Commissioner
SECONDER: Michelle Jamieson, Commissioner
AYES: Carter, Hellenga, Jamieson, Fry, Matheson

G. Consideration of the Fox Gives Preservation and Facilities Grant

A motion was made by Commissioner Fry, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson to add to the agenda Consideration of Fox Gives Preservation and Facilities Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fry, seconded by Commissioner Matheson to approve the Fox Gives Preservation and Facilities Grant application. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Carter thanked Connie Tabor for the work on applying for the Grant and Tim Mullen, Manager of The Ritz.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gail Fry, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Ron Matheson, Commissioner
AYES:	Carter, Hellenga, Jamieson, Fry, Matheson

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Recognition of Visitors Wishing to Speak on General Items. **(Limit 3 Minutes)**

Mandy Freeman, address inaudible, Clarkesville, GA addressed Commission regarding Donde Nelson

Pastor James Barnard, P O Box 352, Clarkesville, GA addressed Commission regarding Donde Nelson

David Freeman, 132 Charter Road, Clarkesville, GA addressed Commission regarding Donde Nelson

Courtney Lantz, 200 Suttles Road, Mt. Airy, GA addressed Commission regarding Donde Nelson

Charlene Leitgieb, Gumlog Road, Martin, GA addressed Commission regarding Donde Nelson and removal of PD Facebook page

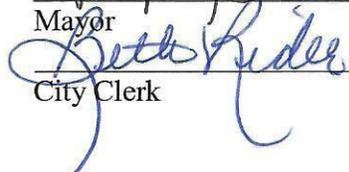
Captain Erik Carter, Toccoa Police Department explained the reason of taking down the Facebook page due to citizens being harassed and threatened.

V. ADJOURN

Mayor Carter adjourned the meeting at 5:38 p.m.



 Mayor



 City Clerk