

OCTOBER 23, 1995

7:00 P.M.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
226 SOUTH WALL STREET

PRESENT: JOHN D. MEADOWS, III, MAYOR  
THOMAS H. BOND, MAYOR PRO-TEM  
JOHN D. SHELTON, COUNCILMAN  
JIMMY PALMER, COUNCILMAN

ABSENT: PAUL MCENTIRE, COUNCILMAN

ALSO: WILLIAM P. BAILEY, CITY ATTORNEY  
KELLY CORNWELL, DIRECTOR UTILITIES/PUBLIC  
WORKS  
CATHY HARRISON, CITY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Mayor Meadows called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance, and gave the invocation.
2. Mayor Meadows led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.
3. Minutes of the October 9, 1995 Regular City Council Meeting were approved as written.
4. Mayor's Comments:
  - a.) Mayor Meadows reminded everyone of the City Election which will be held on November 7, 1995 at the Recreation Department on South River Street from 7:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M.
  - b.) Mayor Meadows announced that the brush, limb and tree storm debri will continue to be picked through October 30, 1995.
  - c.) Mayor Meadows reminded everyone Halloween Trick-or-Treat would be October 31, 1995 between 6:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M., through the 5th grade (approximately 12 years of age or younger).
  - d.) Mayor Meadows stated the DOT Board of Directors recognized J. Beverly Langford at their recent board meeting in Cartersville, Georgia, and dedicated a portion of Highway 41 from the 41/53 intersection to the 41/I-75 intersection on the north end of Calhoun as the J. Beverly Langford Highway.
5. Council's Comments:
  - a. Councilman Shelton stated United Way, Chamber of Commerce, City Officials and County Officials met recently regarding the Olympic Torch Bearers, which will begin in the State of Georgia on July 10, 1996 with the Torch Bearers arriving in Calhoun on July 16, 1996 and proceeding on to Atlanta for the grand opening of the Olympics on July 19, 1996. Mr. Shelton stated a ceremony will be arranged in Calhoun, and within the next few weeks, a Torch Bearer contest will be advertised in the local newspaper, which will allow individuals to nominate persons to be torch bearers for this special event.
6. Public Hearings & Comments;
  - a. A 2nd reading of the proposed changes of the City of Calhoun Zoning Regulations was given. Mayor Meadows reviewed the proposed changes item by item, and asked for

- Ord. No. 576      comments by the Council. A public hearing was opened, and the Council stated they had no problem with any portion except after a 3rd review by each one, it was unanimous that the standards which had previously been selected be rejected, and the Steinburg Standards be adopted. There were no other comments, and the hearing was closed. Mayor Pro-Tem Bond made a motion waive the 3rd and 4th readings and to adopt the proposed changes to the Calhoun Zoning Ordinance as presented with the adoption of the Steinburg Standards, and to authorize the City Adminsitrator to create the forms and applications necessary for the administration of the Zoning Ordinance, 2nd by Councilman Palmer with Mayor Pro-Tem Bond, Councilman Palmer and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- Ord. No. 576A      b. A 2nd reading to the proposed amendments to the Soil and Sedimentation Ordinance was given. Mayor Meadows reviewed and read all those portions which were changed or added to the Soil and Sedimentation Ordinance. A public hearing was opened, there were no comments, and the hearing was closed. Councilman Palmer made a motion to waive the 3rd and 4th readings, and to approve as written, 2nd by Mayor Pro-Tem Bond with Councilman Palmer, Mayor Pro-Tem Bond and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- Ord. No. 574      c. A 2nd reading of the ordinance amendment regarding building codes and other codes was given. A public hearing was opened, there were no comments, and the hearing was closed. Councilman Palmer made a motion to waive the 3rd and 4th readings and to approve as written, 2nd by Mayor Pro-Tem Bond with Councilman Palmer, Mayor Pro-Tem Bond and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- Ord. No. 575      d. A 2nd reading of the proposed ordinance which deletes the old retirement plan as listed in the 1918 Charter was given. A public hearing was opened, there were no comments, and the hearing was closed. Mayor Pro-Tem Bond made a motion to waive the 3rd and 4th readings and to approve as written, 2nd by Councilman Palmer with Mayor Pro-Tem Bond, Councilman Palmer and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

7. Old Business:

- a. The discussion on the question of the sewer plant expansion or other alternatives was opened. Mayor Pro-Tem Bond stated he had looked at all the alternatives, and he felt that the expansion as originally planned was the only practical way to go. Councilman Palmer stated he agreed, that the four million gallon per day expansion was really the only practical financial way to proceed since all other costs to combat the problems were almost as expensive, but failed to increase the size of the plant. Councilman Shelton stated that he agreed that there were really no other alternatives, and that he was in favor of the four million gallon plant expansion. Mayor Meadows stated that the options addressed by Harrison and Cornwell were informative, and allowed the elected officials new information regarding the project. He stated in Option One, which called for use of the reserves which were budgeted to be pulled out for starting the gas system, that he felt those reserves should not be used since the City does not have sufficient reserves at this time, and continues to build reserves. He stated that for an additional two cents per 1,000 gallons, the City would be able to fund the project under Option Two, which would lower the cost due to the deletion of a dryer to a \$.20 per 1,000 gallon increase

as opposed to the original \$.30 per 1,000 gallon as was originally planned. Mayor Pro-Tem Bond stated that he agreed, that he felt the reserves should not be used, and that by dropping the dryer, it would allow the project to be reduced \$.10. Councilman Shelton and Councilman Palmer stated they agreed. There were no further comments, and the discussion was ended. Mayor Pro-Tem Bond made a motion to move forward with the sewer plant expansion for four million gallons per day, to increase the sewer rate by \$.20 per 1,000 gallons of water, and to authorize City Administration to proceed with a study by an independent firm which would allow the City a basis for considering another method of pricing sewer charges. Hopefully this study could be completed shortly after the first of 1996, 2nd by Councilman Shelton with Mayor Pro-Tem Bond, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Palmer voting affirmatively, motion carried.

- b. Harrison reminded the general public that absentee ballots were available for those who qualified. She stated one change in the Absentee Ballot Law, made those who are 75 years of age eligible for absentee ballots upon proper request.
- c. Mayor Meadows reviewed the parade policy which would include borium application to horseshoes in lieu of rubber shoes. Policy was reviewed and held for a 2nd reading on November 13, 1995 at 7:00 P.M.

8. New Business:

- a. Harrison presented a review of the first quarter of the Fiscal Year of the budget/actual expenses and revenues.
- b. Harrison reviewed the first reading of the proposed changes to the reimbursement of expense policy. Harrison stated that at the request of the elected officials and employees of the City, she has reviewed other methods rather than keeping up with meal tickets. The only alternative would be to adopt the IRS allowable limits in their travel regulations, which for the State of Georgia would be limited by larger cities with a low of \$26.00 per diem to a high of \$38.00 per diem. This would cover meals and incidentals (tips). She also reviewed the possibility of including spouses of elected officials for the per diem expenses. She stated that since the elected officials and their spouses have a primary duty in their role of activity as that of public relations for the City of Calhoun, and since most of the seminars and conferences for elected officials include registration and special sessions for spouses, that she felt this would provide a clear business activity, and would be acceptable under the IRS regulations, however, she stated she was not an attorney. She also reviewed the inability to pay for meals for any conference which did not last over night. She stated there would be an exception if the conference or seminar at which an employee or elected official was attending was a dinner or luncheon or breakfast meeting in which a meal was a part of the meeting, that would be funded, otherwise no meals would be funded on conferences or seminars which did not last over night. The Council approved the content and held it for a 2nd reading for November 13, 1995.

9. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda:

- a. Mayor Pro-Tem Bond made a motion to move the November 27 Council Meeting to November 20, 1995, since the majority of the Mayor and Council would be attending the National League of Cities Meeting on that date, and a quorum would not be available on November 27, 2nd by Councilman Palmer

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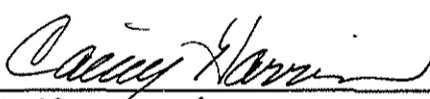
with Mayor Pro-Tem Bond, Councilman Palmer, and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

10. Director Cornwell's Work Report: None
11. Mayor Pro-Tem Bond made a motion to move to Executive Session for legal discussion with the City Attorney, 2nd by Councilman Palmer with Mayor Pro-Tem Bond, Councilman Palmer and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
12. Mayor Pro-Tem Bond made a motion to move to General Session, 2nd by Councilman Palmer with Mayor Pro-Tem Bond, Councilman Palmer and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
13. Following a return to General Session, Councilman Palmer made a motion to increase the hourly rate for the City Attorney to \$85.00 per hour beginning immediately, 2nd by Mayor Pro-Tem Bond with Councilman Palmer, Mayor Pro-Tem Bond and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
14. Mayor Pro-Tem Bond made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Councilman Palmer with Mayor Pro-Tem Bond, Councilman Palmer and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:

Submitted:

  
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John D. Meadows, III  
Mayor

  
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Cathy Harrison  
City Administrator