

AUGUST 26, 1996 7:00 P.M.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
226 SOUTH WALL STREET

PRESENT: JOHN D. MEADOWS, III, MAYOR
JOHN D. SHELTON, MAYOR PRO-TEM
PAUL MCENTIRE, COUNCILMAN
JIMMY PALMER, COUNCILMAN
RON WOODS, COUNCILMAN

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

1. Mayor Meadows called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone and gave the invocation.
2. Mayor Meadows led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.
3. Minutes of the August 12, 1996 Regular City Council Meeting were approved as written.
4. Mayor's Comments:
 - a. Mayor Meadows reminded the public of hearings scheduled for September 9, 1996: (1) Zoning request of newly annexed property of Randy and Elaine Miller located at 119 Kent Drive for R-1 zoning; (2) Zoning request of newly annexed property of Gail A. Williamsen for property located at 536 West Belmont Drive for R-2 zoning; (3) Zoning change request of Haley Stephens for 90, 92, 94, 96 and 98 Dan Cheri Drive from C-N to R-2 zoning.
 - b. A discussion on the color scheme for the Depot began. Mayor Meadows stated that following review of the type of brick at the depot, that it was impossible to leave the brick in a natural state without some protection. He stated the situation now calls for a decision to be made on the color scheme for the depot exterior. Mayor Meadows polled each council member. Councilman McEntire stated that he had reviewed the type of brick, which is a sun baked brick with sand and lime stone as the mortar for the brick, and that with this type of situation that after receiving the comments from experts, that he had determined that it would be proper for a latex sealer following an acid wash and a primer to be applied with the paint following. He stated he had reviewed the situation thoroughly before moving ahead with the project. He stated he had no comments regarding the color scheme. He stated he had lost his enthusiasm for the project due to the questions regarding his decision to proceed forward with the project. Councilman Palmer stated that he would be in favor of colors which were original color of the railroad, such as Western Atlantic, L&N, CSX, or others in the area of mustard and green colors. Councilman Woods stated he would also be in favor of keeping the colors in line with railroad colors. Mr. Shelton stated it was immaterial to him. Mayor Meadows stated he had a dislike of green. Staff was asked to review the color schemes of CSX, which is the present railroad system at this time, as well as, other color schemes, and to report back to the council in order for the project to move forward.
 - c. Councilman Palmer reported on the August 22, 1996 public hearing held at Echota Baptist Church regarding the CDBG application. Councilman Palmer stated there were 19 area residents plus staff in attendance for the hearing, and that it was most beneficial. He stated the group had questions, and gave their comments regarding the items that they felt needed to be addressed in the area, primarily rewiring of the homes and plumbing being second. They were also concerned about sidewalks and streets.
 - d. Mayor Meadows and Councilman Woods reviewed the city's proposed LARP list for paving for the upcoming year's allocation from DOT. The City had prepared a list of some 26 streets from which DOT will pick three or four based on their criteria. The Council was urged to review and to add any additional streets that they felt should be included. Mayor Meadows stated the state currently has one of the lowest gasoline taxes in the nation. He stated that in a very short time, the bulk of taxes will be used to service the debt currently existing for street improvements at the state level. He stated in order for revenue to continue to be in the stream to repair

Georgia's road system, it would be necessary to increase the gasoline tax, and that organizations such as GMA and ACCG are recommending a five cent increase with two cents to go to local governments for community roads, and three cents to go to the state for state projects. Mayor Meadows asked each citizen to review this should it appear on any ballots in the immediate future, and consider this item very carefully.

5. Public Hearings & Comments:

- a. Anita Richardson, through spokesman Sonia Smith, asked the city for help in consideration of utility bills for its senior citizens. Ms. Smith stated that it was extremely hard for senior citizen on fixed incomes to pay summer time rates, however, it was impossible for them to do without air conditioning. Harrison reviewed the grants through state organizations which are available through the city, primarily in the Fall. Harrison also stated that while the city was not in a position due to its limited computer program to annualize all accounts, however, it could facilitate some 200 or so senior citizens with annualized billing which could assist.
- b. Ms. Leslie Pennel read a letter concerning the City's Leash Law as per the attached. Following Ms. Pennel's letter, the Mayor stated the leash law had been implemented by the City after four public hearings, and that he had been the only member of the elected group who was opposed to a leash law. He stated that he remembered that until the last public hearing, there had been very few people who spoke out in opposition to the leash law. He stated, however, there were many who came in favor of the leash law at all public hearings. He stated he would admit that the leash law is working, that there are very few problems, and that most are handled very easily. Mayor Meadows suggested that if there is a group who wishes to move for change not only in the leash law ordinance, but in other ordinances, that they should go through the proper channels to make their wishes known, and to express the changes they desire to see in the laws.
- c. A 3rd reading of the ordinance amendment to the zoning code adopting the new state requirements was reviewed. The public hearing was opened. Councilman Woods stated as the Zoning Advisory Board Chairman, he would urge the Council to adopt the ordinance amendment. There were no other comments and the hearing was closed. Councilman Woods made a motion to waive the 4th reading, to approve the ordinance amendment, and to direct the City Administrator to draft new forms in conformance with the ordinance amendment; to draft new policies, and also reprint the ordinance manual, 2nd by Councilman McEntire with Councilman Woods, Councilman McEntire, Councilman Palmer and Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- d. A public hearing was opened on the Liquor Pouring License Request of Saleh Rashid for the Atlanta Gate Restaurant located at 273 Highway 53 East, S.W. The police report was clear. There were no other comments, and the hearing was closed. Councilman Palmer made a motion to approve the request, 2nd by Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton with Councilman Palmer, Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton, Councilman McEntire and Councilman Woods voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Ord. No. 592
Ord. No. 592A

6. Old Business:

- a. A review of the request by Mr. McDaniel to amend the road right-of-way easement from the former property owner, William Neal, to allow the gate at the entrance to be moved back 200 to 300 ft. was reviewed. Following discussion and some unanswered questions, since Mr. McDaniel was not in attendance, the matter was tabled.
- b. Harrison stated the pension transfer from Davis, Smith & Associates to AmSouth was moving along well, that the cooperation between Davis, Smith & Associates and AmSouth was very good. She stated she presently had most of the information, and was reviewing and balancing. There are several other days that will need to be reviewed for the period of July 1, 1996 through the current time. It is hoped that a final transfer of all documents can be achieved within the second week of September when members of AmSouth Trust Department will meet with the City of Calhoun and review the documents from Davis, Smith & Associates.

7. New Business:

- a. A first reading of the Zoning Variance Request of Kevin and Donna McClain of 126 Garden Hills Drive to maintain a fence on the right-of-way was given. Following review, Councilman Woods made a motion to set a public hearing for October 14, 1996 at 7:00 P.M., 2nd by Councilman Palmer with Councilman Woods, Councilman Palmer, Councilman McEntire and Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

.....AUGUST 26, 1996 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING.....

- b. Harrison stated that it was being mandated that the City of Calhoun should provide bar coding on its some 15,000 utility bills which must be mailed each month. She stated that in reviewing the possibility, the city had investigated PC software and quarterly updates from Pitney Bowes at a cost of a lease program for 51 months of \$100.00 per month. She state that at this time, the current printer for utility bills at the City was not programmed to print postal bar coding, therefore, she was reviewing the possibility of trading in the printer which still has some three years of useful life, or upgrading the printer to accommodate this mandatory change. Following review, Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton made a motion to adopt a resolution approving the lease/purchase of the equipment necessary, and to authorize the City Adminsitrator to make a decision in this matter in the best interest of the City, 2nd by Councilman Woods with Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton, Councilman Woods, Councilman McEntire and Councilman Palmer voting affirmatively, motion carried.
8. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda:
- a. A first reading of an application from Jim Davis for the Revolving Loan Program for additional funding of some \$91,000.00 to add to the current \$24,500.00 balance on his account, which would provide the City with a first mortgage on the business and a first mortgage on his tools and equipment. Harrison stated the application indicated an equity of almost \$100,000.00 of the owner in the business. Following review of the request, Councilman Woods made a motion to set a public hearing on the matter on September 9, 1996 at 7:00 P.M., 2nd by Councilman Palmer with Councilman Woods, Councilman Palmer, Councilman McEntire and Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
9. Director Cornwell's Work Report:
- a. Director Cornwell reviewed a request from MEAG regarding the City signing off on the annual requirement of annual reporting which would be needed for bond validation of refunding of bonds from time to time as appropriate in the bond market. This new regulation would be in keeping with the SEC regulations. Following discussion, Councilman Palmer made a motion to approve and to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement, 2nd by Councilman Woods, with Councilman Palmer, Councilman Woods, Councilman McEntire and Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- b. Assistant Director Peterson stated the inflow crew of three men who have transferred from other departments were moving very rapidly, ordering the equipment necessary for the job. He stated they had cleared some 3,000 ft. of right-of-way, had been flowing meters, had located 60 manholes, and had located three which were not on the City's mapping system. He stated the men were very enthused, and understood how important their job was.
- c. He stated the sewer interceptor project with the contractor Eric Rakestraw is in its final stages, and should be completed shortly.
- d. He stated the CDBG project for the water/sewer improvements in the Crest Drive/Gallman Avenue area was 60% complete. The Water Plant had been up graded to 18 million gallons per day treatment as opposed to 16 million gallons per day.
- e. He stated the final test for Well No. Three had been excellent, and the City was in a position to move forward with the permanent well.
10. Councilman Woods made a motion to move to Executive Session for legal matters, 2nd by Councilman Palmer with Councilman Woods, Councilman Palmer, Councilman McEntire and Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
11. Councilman McEntire made a motion to move to General Session, 2nd by Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton with Councilman McEntire, Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton, Councilman Palmer and Councilman Woods voting affirmatively, motion carried.
12. Councilman McEntire made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton with Councilman McEntire, Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton, Councilman Woods and Councilman Palmer voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:

Submitted:


John D. Meadows, III
Mayor


Cathy Harrison
City Adminsitrator

