

FEBRUARY 24, 1997 7:00 P.M.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
109 SOUTH KING STREET

PRESENT: JOHN D. MEADOWS, III, MAYOR
JOHN D. SHELTON, MAYOR PRO-TEM
PAUL MCENTIRE, COUNCILMAN
JIMMY PALMER, COUNCILMAN
RONALD H. 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 and gave the invocation.
2. Mayor Meadows led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag
3. Minutes of the February 10, 1997 Regular City Council Meeting were approved as written.
4. Mayor's Comments:
 - a. Mayor Meadows reminded the Council of the County Public Hearing on February 25, 1997 at the RDC Office in Rome regarding amendment of the City/County Comprehensive Plan.
 - b. Harrison presented a symbolic check of \$500,000.00 to Mayor Meadows from the CDBG Grant Award made by Mr. Jim Higdon, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs on behalf of Governor Zell Miller.
 - c. Mayor Meadows recommended the second required hearing on the CDBG Grant be March 10, 1997 at 7:00 P.M. A motion was made for said date by Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton with a second by Councilman Woods with Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton, Councilman Woods, Councilman McEntire and Councilman Palmer voting affirmatively, motion carried.
 - d. Councilman Palmer made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the grant agreement and all necessary documents, 2nd by Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton with Councilman Palmer, Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton, Councilman McEntire and Councilman Woods voting affirmatively, motion carried.
 - e. Mayor Meadows reminded the Council and staff of the breakfast on February 28, 1997 sponsored by the Industrial Development Authority and the Chamber of Commerce. He asked that all attend if possible.
 - f. Mayor Meadows announced a public hearing on March 10, 1997 at 7:00 P.M. regarding the Marvin Taylor Annexation Request.
 - g. Mayor Meadows stated that Street Superintendent Dean Harris would be retiring from the City effective February 28, 1997 after serving in excess of 32 years with the City. He also announced that Billy Lackey of the Electrical Department would be retiring on March 22, 1997 after 36 years of service with the City of Calhoun. Mayor Meadows praised each one for their many years of dedicated, faithful service to the City and to the citizens of Calhoun.
5. Public Hearings & Comments:
 - a. A 2nd reading of the Amusement License Request of the VFW

located at 406 West Line Street with Lois Crump as Manager was given. A public hearing was opened. The Police Report was clear. There were no other comments, and the hearing was closed. Councilman McEntire made a motion to approve the Amusement License Request, 2nd by Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton with Councilman McEntire, Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton, Councilman Woods and Councilman Palmer voting affirmatively, motion carried.

- b. A public hearing was opened on the short term work goals associated with the City and County Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Lloyd Fraizer of the Coosa Valley RDC stated the State requires each city and county government to review its prior five years of accomplishments, and to outline its short term work goals for the next five years. This must be done within a specified time frame in order for the governments to remain eligible for grants and state loan programs. He stated the city staff and Elected Officials of the City of Calhoun had reviewed their long range capital plan, and had developed the short term work goals. Those related to Police, Fire, Public Works and Utility areas. He stated these goals would now be forwarded to the Coosa Valley Review Board for their review and comments, and then would be forwarded to the State. He stated a second public hearing would be held at the Coosa Valley RDC level prior to submittal to the State. In comments regarding the items submitted, it was decided that some of the equipment items which had been deleted should be reinstated in order to give the State an idea of the total capital needs of the community over the next five year period. There were no other comments, and the hearing was closed. Mayor Meadows signed a letter of transmittal for those items to be forwarded to Coosa Valley RDC.
- c. A public hearing was opened on the Echota Fabrics, Inc Revolving Loan Application for \$200,000.00 for seven years. Harrison stated the Loan Advisory Commission had met, and had noted that 38 jobs would be moved to the downtown area to a building owned by Echota Fabrics, in which 22 of the jobs would be new. The drapery portion of the company would be moved due to the need for additional space since the business continues to increase. The Loan Advisory Committee stated based upon the financial information submitted for the company, and for the major stock holder of the company, and the number of jobs created the request was acceptable, and the loan was recommended for approval. There were no other comments, and the hearing was closed. Councilman McEntire made a motion to approve the loan request, 2nd by Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton with Councilman McEntire, Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton, Councilman Woods and Councilman Palmer voting affirmatively, motion carried.

6. Old Business:

- a. Harrison presented a review of two alternate programs which could possibly provide continued housing efforts under the HOME Program if the funds were approved through a competitive application process. Those two programs were an application of \$94,118.00 through the Rural Development Housing Preservation Grant Program, and a \$30,000.00 application through the Federal HOME Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program. A third part of the process would be bank loans in the amount of approximately \$90,000.00 for 10 proposed applicants of low income home owners. Harrison stated that she and the HOME Program Director had reviewed the scoring possibilities for both grant programs, and based on their past awards had been able to receive grading at a level which would have made them competitive in prior years. However, she stressed that you could not know what any current year's

competition would be, and could not guarantee any approval of the programs. Harrison stated the application deadlines were in April, 1997 with some required publishing and hearings in March. The Housing Preservation Grant would announce awards in June, 1997, and the Affordable Housing Program would announce awards in August, 1997. Harrison stated the Federal HOME Loan Program for Affordable Housing would need to be applied for by a member lender of which Georgia Bank & Trust and the Calhoun First National Bank were both members from the local area. Harrison stated the HOME Director had contacted the bank which had provided the most dollars of assistance in HOME Loans in the regular HOME Program, and who had also contributed the most dollars for marketing of the program. She stated the president of the bank and their Board of Directors had agreed to assist in the application for the Affordable Housing Program, and to assist with bank loans to supplement the program to those who were found to be eligible for the assistance. Following discussion of the information provided and discussion of the budgeted funding for the director through June 30, 1997, Councilman Woods made a motion to continue the program through June, 1997 which would allow the City to determine if an award had been made by that time, 2nd by Councilman Palmer with Councilman Woods, Councilman Palmer, Councilman McEntire and Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

7. New Business:

- a. A 1st reading of the Cemetery Ordinance Amendments regarding the change in the policy and the associated change in duties for the Cemetery Sexton were reviewed. Councilman Palmer made a motion to set a public hearing on the proposed ordinance amendments for March 10, 1997 at 7:00 P.M., 2nd by Councilman Woods with Councilman Palmer, Councilman Woods, Councilman McEntire and Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- b. Harrison presented a Budget Calendar for 1997-98 and reviewed the dates. Mayor Meadows asked the Council to be aware of the Work Sessions scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Monday nights for the Mayor and Council with management staff.

8. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda: None

9. Director Cornwell's Work Report: None

10. Councilman Palmer made a motion to move to Executive Session for legal discussion, 2nd by Councilman Woods with Councilman Palmer, Councilman Woods, Councilman McEntire and Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

11. Councilman Palmer made a motion to move to General Session, 2nd by Councilman Woods with Councilman Palmer, Councilman Woods, Councilman McEntire and Mayor Pro-Tem Shelton 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 Palmer and Councilman Woods voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:

Submitted:


John D. Meadows, III
Mayor


Cathy Harrison
City Administrator

