



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 9, 2023 - 7:00 PM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Ray Mitchell Denmon, Councilman
Al Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem
Ed Moyer, Councilman

ALSO: Paul Worley, City Administrator; Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief; Major Ken Carson, Calhoun Police Department.

1. **Council Meeting Called to Order**
Welcome
Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
Invocation
Mayor Palmer gave the invocation.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. **Amendment or Approval of Proposed Agenda**
Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to approve the October 9, 2023 agenda as presented. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
4. **Amendment or Approval of Minutes**
Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of September 25, 2023. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer announced that October 10th will be the last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the November 7th General Election.
- B. Mayor Palmer announced that advanced early voting begins on October 16th and ends on November 3rd.
- C. Mayor Palmer announced that Saturday early voting will be held on October 21st and 28th.
- D. Mayor Palmer announced that the DDA will have downtown Trick or Treat on October 31st from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Neighborhood Trick or Treat will be from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm for children 12 years and younger.

6. **Council Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer submitted September reports as follows:

1) **Water and Sewer Operations**

Water Treatment Plant

- Total gallons withdrawn: 371,500,000
- Daily average: 12,383,333
- Wells: 100,600,000
- Big Springs: 43,370,000
- % produced by Brittany Drive: 38.7%
 - Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 40.66%
 - Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 47.40%
 - Rainfall for September – 0.89"

Waste Water Treatment Plant

- Treated a daily average of 4.524 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 9, and an average COD of 45.

Water Distribution & Wastewater Collection

- 203 work orders completed, 43 new water connections, 26 water service leaks repaired, 12 water main leaks repaired, 0 water services changed to new main lines, 34 meter changes, 42 utility locates called in for work orders, 626 utility locates responses.
- 3,200 feet of Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 522 utility locates completed, 6,980 feet sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 28 new sewer connections installed, 3 sanitary sewer services repaired.

2) **Water and Sewer Construction**

Projects Under Construction

- Piedmont Street Water Line Replacement Project- This project is now complete, which consisted of replacing the water main on Piedmont St. behind the courthouse before road resurfacing is performed.
- SR 136 @ Coosawattee Bridge Water Relocation - This project includes moving the water main on SR 136 so that the Coosawattee River bridge can be replaced. Construction is now underway.

- Service Line Inventory – As mandated by the EPA, every water system in the USA has to identify and develop a service line inventory of all services found within their water distribution system. This project is now underway and city crews will be identifying water services throughout the distribution system.

Projects in Design & Development

- Water Tank Inspection & Evaluation Project
- Redbud Road & Wall Street Water & Sewer Relocation Project
- Peters St. Phase III Water Relocation
- Curtis Pkwy Water & Sewer Relocation
- SR 53 & Brown Lee Mtn. Water Relocation
- Brittany Dr & Water Booster Stations Standby Generator Project
- GBI McDaniel Station Rd Sewer Extension
- Engineering Department is Actively Working on Approximately 30 Plan Reviews & Inspections for Developments.
- Proposals are being reviewed to evaluate engineering services to design treatment plant modifications for future emerging contaminant limits.

3) Library

- There are 12,937 library card holders, 4,780 library visitors, and 6,834 total circulation.
- There were 217 story time attendance, 301 adult program attendance, 118 new users, 1,264 e-books, 1,343 audio books, 388 computer logins, and 2,626 Facebook visits.

B. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards submitted September reports as follows:

1) Police Department

- Made 257 cases with 5 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$23,317
- Issued 342 warnings
- Investigated 57 highway accidents, 24 private property accidents
- Obstruction - 9
- Lethal Weapon Encounter - 8
- Alarm responses - 111
- Miles patrolled: 43,219

2) Municipal Court

- Total Court cases- 270
- Court cases dropped- 22
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 66
- Number of Probation cases- 5
- Failure to appear- 6
- Subpoenas served-4

3) **Fire Department**

Fire Suppression Division

Monthly Fire Suppression Activities and Accomplishments

Continuation of the Recruit class through the Training Division.

Firefighters assisted with all areas of the ongoing Recruit class at the training center to include the live burns and also with the State classes that have been hosted by our department.

Engine 31 went to A Kids Place day care for an event and for a Fire Safety presentation for staff and parents.

Fire Inspection – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Division

Inspections and Enforcement Activities

<i>Annual Inspections</i>	27
<i>New Business Inspections</i>	3
<i>Requested Inspections</i>	23
<i>Follow Up, Re-Inspections</i>	5
<i>Burn Site Inspections</i>	0
<i>Plan Review</i>	3
<i>Pre-Construction Meeting</i>	0
<i>Sprinkler Permits Issued</i>	0
<i>Fuel Tank Permit (Install, Removal, or Service)</i>	0
<i>Consultations</i>	20
<i>Illegal Burning Citations</i>	0
<i>Fire Extinguisher Classes</i>	0
<i>Fire Drills</i>	0
<i>Fire Prevention Programs</i>	1
<i>Zoning / Annexation Meetings</i>	0
<i>Total Inspection – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Activities</i>	82

Monthly Fire Inspections – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Division Activities and Accomplishments

Inspections assisted State Fire Marshal’s Office with inspections at Home 2 Suites, Rodeway Inn, and Exchange Apartments. Also Dealing with Complaints about a Fire Extinguisher company that the state is investigating.

McMahan gave AED demonstration to City Safety Committee.

Assisted with site safety and planning for the feed mill demolition on North Industrial Blvd.

Training and Special Operations Division

Monthly Training Hours

<i>Company Training</i>	2480.00
<i>Facility Training</i>	229.00
<i>Officer Training</i>	104.00
<i>Driver Training</i>	34.00
<i>Specialized Rescue Training</i>	0.00
<i>Hazardous Materials Training</i>	0.00
<i>Medical Training</i>	76.00
<i>Fire Inspector Training</i>	0.00
<i>Fire Investigation Training</i>	0.00
<i>Fire and Life Safety Educator Training</i>	0.00
Total Monthly Training Hours	2923.00

2023 Annual Training Hours

<i>Company Training</i>	10672.50
<i>Facility Training</i>	886.00
<i>Officer Training</i>	388.00
<i>Driver Training</i>	207.00
<i>Specialized Rescue Training</i>	66.00
<i>Hazardous Materials Training</i>	378.00

<i>Medical Training</i>	475.00
<i>Fire Inspector Training</i>	48.00
<i>Fire Investigation Training</i>	66.00
<i>Fire and Life Safety Educator Training</i>	0.00
Total 2023 Annual Training Hours	13186.50

Monthly Training and Special Operations Team Accomplishments

- September 1st, 2023 – Lt Goss and FF Dyer successfully obtained their Safe Kids Car Seat Technician Certifications.
- September 6th, 2023 – Division Chief Saylor attended GEMA Planning Emergency Operations Course.
- September 15th, 2023 – Hosted GPSTC Fire Department Supervision Course. FF Hall successfully completed the course.
- September 15th, 2023 – Recruits Cantrell, O’Shields, Sims, Springfield, Thompson, Williams, and White successfully challenged and passed NPQ Firefighter I and received their certification.
- September 19th, 2023 – Hosted GPSTC Handling Flammable and Combustible Liquids. Recruit Class along with FF Hall, FF Underwood, FF Dyer, FF Holcomb, and FF Hunter successfully completed this course.
- September 20th, 2023 – Hosted GPSTC Pressurized Container Fire Instructor Course. Battalion Chief Green, Lt Duke, Lt Goss, Lt Mills, Lt Silvers, Eng Benton, and FF Hall successfully completed this course.
- September 20th, 2023 – Hosted GPSTC Pressurized Container Fire Control Course. Lt Mills, Lt Silvers, Eng Benton, FF Lawrence, FF Morrison, FF Holcomb, FF Hunter, and Recruit Class successfully completed this course.
- September 22nd, 2023 – Hosted GPSTC Crash Victim Extrication Course. Eng Kidd, FF Hunter, FF Lawrence, and Recruit Class successfully completed this course.
- September 26th, 2023 – Hosted GPSTC Structural Fire Control Course. Eng Kidd, FF Lawrence, and Recruit Class successfully completed this course.

Upcoming Important Training and Special Operations Activities

- October 9th, 2023 – Transitional and Intrapersonal Leadership Training
- October 16th, 2023 – NIMS ICS-400 for Incident Command Staff and General Staff
- October 18th, 2023 – NPQ Firefighter II Certification Examination
- October 23rd, 2023 – Trench Rescue Course (GSAR members)
- October 30th, 2023 – NPQ Hazmat Certification Examination

4) **Safety Committee**

- The safety committee learned how to use an AED Unit from one of our firefighter trainers. A safety inspection was performed at the Cemetery.
 - Vehicle accidents: 1
 - Workers' compensation: 0

C. Councilman Denmon submitted September reports as follows:

1) **Public Works**

Street Department

- Completed 31 shop and 26 street dept. work orders.
- Installed 2 new street signs.
- Removed a tree on Line Street that had been struck by lightning.
- Cleaned out storm drains on Crestmont Drive.

Cemetery

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 10 grave sites.
- Sold 8 new grave space.

Parks Department

- The grounds crew picked up litter, mowed, trimmed bushes, hauled garbage to the dump, and maintained records at records room.
- The maintenance crew maintained designated buildings downtown.
- Cleaned out downtown water fountains.

Animal Control

- Housed 30 dogs and 10 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 7
- Number of cats adopted: 0
- Number of dogs rescued: 14
- Number of cats rescued: 9
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 1
- Number of cats reclaimed by owner: 0
- Number of dogs euthanized: 0
- Number of cats euthanized: 1
- Number of warnings given: 14
- Number of bite cases: 0
- Citations issues: 1

2) **Recreation Department**

1. **FALL PROGRAMS:**

Youth Football – Games started on September 11. Twenty-five games were played at our facility throughout the month. Our teams also traveled to Bartow Co., Cartersville, Gordon Co., Trion, and Chickamauga recreation facilities to play games during the month.

Youth Soccer – Games started on September 11. One Hundred and eight games were played throughout the month.

Youth Volleyball – Games started on September 5. Our 10u and 12u teams interleague with Gordon County. Our 14u team interleague with Gordon Co. and Bartow Co. Thirty-one matches were played at our facility throughout the month. Our teams also traveled to Sonoraville Recreation Complex and Bartow Co. Recreation facility for matches.

Cross Country – Our Cross Country runners participated in 4 meets during September. We hosted 2 of these meets on September 9 and September 30. Agencies participating in Cross Country are Dalton, Catoosa County and Calhoun.

Adult Fall Softball – Games started on September 14. There are 5 teams participating in the Men’s league with twelve games played during the month.

2. FACILITIES:

The following facilities were reserved throughout the month for events:

Playground Pavilion: 15 events Ratner Pavilion: 10 events Pool
– 4 events

Meeting Room – 3 events

3. PARK MAINTENANCE:

The following parks maintenance tasks were completed during the month:

- Tree limbs and general park clean up
- Mowed all parks weekly
- Prepared Calhoun High School softball field for games all home games including middle school games
- Turf maintenance on football field
- Groomed flower planters
- Groomed front entrance and grounds of tennis center
- Lay out and painted flag football field
- Repainted soccer fields
- Prepped adult league softball fields
- Fire ant control

4. WEBSITE USAGE:

CalhounRec.com

2,479 – Sessions

1,420 – Users

3,687 – Page Views

Facebook

2,934 – Post Engagements

9,392 – Reached

27 – Posts

5. UNITY RUN: 5 staff members assisted with the Unity Run on September 26

3) **Downtown Development Authority**

The DDA & HPC held their regularly scheduled meetings. The HPC nominated Jason Everts, owner of Everts Construction to serve on the committee. The DDA merchant of the month was Brooke Towe, owner of the front row boutique. The DDA will be hosting a fall concert at The City of Calhoun Park on Friday, November 3rd from 7 PM – 10 PM. It will be featuring local musician Andrew Miles and the Kurt Thomas Band. The DDA will be having downtown Trick or Treat on October 31st from 4 PM- 6 PM. The Christmas Open House, Christmas Tree Lighting and Visit with Santa will be at 6:30 P.M. November 19th at City Hall. The NWGA Fair, CVB & DDA will be hosting the Christmas Parade on December 14th at 7 P.M. The DDA & HPC are working on a joint project to install solar boxes around downtown. They will feature various landmarks and each box will have local historian Jim Lay speaking about the history of each space. All of the sidewalk cafes have been installed at Doro’s, Calhoun Coffee Company & The Sweet Table. The DDA received The Best Adaptive Reuse award at the Georgia Downtown Association Conference.

D. Councilman Moyer submitted September reports as follows:

1) **Electric Department**

Current Electrical Department Engineering and Construction:

- The LED Streetlight upgrade continues around the City.
- Electrical Engineering continues for the new Mavis Tire and Brakes, I-75 crossing for Home to Suites Hotel, City of Calhoun building and planning building and Coosa Valley Federal Credit Union.
- Construction continues on the 53 Townhomes at Old Mill, Lincoln Properties, Home to Suites Hotel on Lovers Lane and Mattress Firm. The Electric Dept is continuing system upgrades necessary for the new growth and increased reliability.
- Construction also continues for the Exchange Apartments, Manor Lake Cottages of Calhoun on Curtis Parkway, Seefried Ind.

WORK ORDERS IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED FOR JUNE:

• NEWLY CREATED	100
• COMPLETED AND CLOSED	87
• CONSISTING OF:	
• CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION	2
• DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE	1
• OUTAGES / TROUBLE CALLS	9
• SECURITY / STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE	5

• TEMPORARY POWER HOOK UP	1
• WORK FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS	19
• NEW METER SETS	22
• METER MAINTENANCE/REPLACEMENT	14
• Electric Locate Tickets Processed-	274

The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for September 2023 is about 31 million kilowatt hours (kWh's).

We would like to say thank you to the Electric Department employees for going above and beyond to do what it takes to keep the lights on in our community as we celebrate Public Power Week! The tasks they perform can be extremely hazardous at times, often in less than favorable conditions. Thank you all!!

2) **Telecommunications**

- Finished fiber construction for two new internet customers.
- Added 200 megabits of bandwidth to existing customers.
- Installed 10 computers.
- Replaced Wi-Fi access point at Black and Yellow Playground. Most likely lightning strike.
- Purchased licensing and support for server hosting software.
- Upgraded server hosting firmware on production and recovery sites.
- Ordered security camera system for Brittany Drive Water Plant.
- Opened 14 and closed 10 work orders.

Geographic Information Systems

- Working with Engineering Department on new Service Line Inventory project.
- Worked with Engineering on Modeling Sessions and Modeling Calibration
- Generated Electric Usage Reports
- Updated data and mapping for the following:
 - Water system and meter updates
 - Fiber
 - Zoning
 - Fire Department pre-plans for building
- Updated Physical addressing, building and billing information.
- Updated City and GIS web sites.

3) **Building Inspections**

- Issued 84 permits for an estimated cost of \$955,753, collected \$17,033 in permit fees. This included 0 new residential, 2 residential remodel, 0

new commercial, 2 commercial remodel, 1 new industrial, 0 industrial remodel, 0 residential plumbing, 44 residential electrical, 2 residential HVAC, 2 commercial plumbing, 3 commercial electrical, 5 commercial HVAC, 0 industrial plumbing, and 0 industrial electrical, and 0 industrial HVAC. 439 total inspections.

7. Public Hearing and Comments

None

8. Old Business

None

9. New Business

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a zoning change request from R-1 to Ind-G for 8.064 acres, at a location of 319 Old Belwood Road (C46-003), by Ryan Beavers. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on November 9th and the public hearing on November 13th.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a zoning change request from C-2 to R-2 for 4.22 acres, located on Curtis Parkway parcel #C53-092, by Brent Stepp Construction Company, Inc. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on November 9th and the public hearing on November 13th.
- C. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a residential zoning setback variance request of 433.88 feet, to vary from the required 500-foot setback to a 66.12 feet setback for an electronic billboard advertising sign, for a portion of parcel C65-009, located at 1060 Red Bud Road, by S & F Real Estate Investments, LLC. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on November 9th and the public hearing on November 13th.
- D. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of an annexation and zoning request from county to R-1B for 0.45 acres, at a location of 130 Cherry Street, SE (055-195), by Ashley Shropshire. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on November 9th and the public hearing on November 13th.
- E. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a beer and wine package request at a location of 312 North Wall Street, Xpress 2 Food Mart, LLC d/b/a BP Food Mart by Aseem Masana. Mr. Masana will also serve as the store manager. Eligible for a public hearing November 13th. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to set the public hearing for November 13th. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- F. Mayor Palmer read a manager change request at a location of 138 West Belmont Drive, SW by Kroger Company #393. The prior manager is Jeremy Allen and the proposed new manager is Robert Gambrell. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the manager change. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye.
- G. Mayor Palmer read a request from the Calhoun Police Department to purchase equipment totaling \$866.38 and to use State Asset Forfeiture Funds, Account #1. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

10. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda

11. Work Reports

- A. Paul Worley, City Administrator
- B. Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator had nothing to report.
- C. George Govignon, City Attorney had nothing to report.

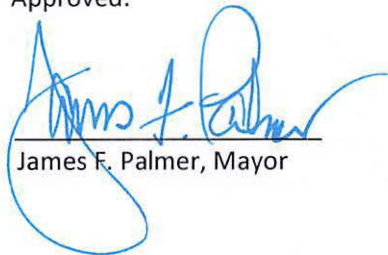
12. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed

13. Motion to return to General Session

14. Motion to Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Council, Councilmember Moyer made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Sharon Nelson, City Clerk

