

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
October 26, 2009 7:00 P.M**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
George R. Crowley, Mayor Pro Tem
Ray Denmon, Councilman
David Hammond, Councilman
Al Edwards, Councilman

ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
William P. Bailey, City Attorney
Garry Moss, Police Chief
Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities
Jerry Crawford, Director of Water/Sewer Treatment
Larry Vickery, Superintendent of Electric Department
Ray Dudkowski, Customer Service Manager

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
 - a) Councilman Hammond gave the invocation
2. Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the proposed agenda. Councilman Denmon second the motion with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
4. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of October 12, 2009 of the regular City Council meeting. Council Edwards second the motion with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
5. **Mayor's Comments**
 - A. Mayor Palmer welcomed in attendance members the 1st Squadron 108th Calvary National Guard Unit. Mayor Palmer read a proclamation recognizing the honor, service, duty and sacrifice of those in the military and of those from our local unit who are currently serving in Afghanistan. This proclamation declared November 8, 2009 as 1st Squadron 108th Calvary Day in Calhoun. Mayor Palmer explained that this day will be a time to show appreciation for our military and the 1-108th Calvary. The Mayor stated

that our local unit which is currently deployed should return home in late February 2010.

- Councilman Denmon made a motion to proclaim November 8, 2009 as 1st Squadron 108th Calvary Day. The motion was second by Councilman Edwards with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- B. Mayor Palmer stated that the 4th Annual Harvest Fest, hosted by the Mainstreet Partnership, which was held on Saturday October 24, 2009, was a great success. He stated that there were 88 street vendors and activities for all ages that included pumpkin and face painting, Bar-B-Q, roasted corn, live music, pie eating contest, square dancing, 80 feet of inflatable toys for the children, ethnic dancing and many more events.
- C. Mayor Palmer reminded everyone that Downtown Halloween trick or treating would be held Saturday October 31, 2009 from 4:00 P.M until 5:30 P.M. The rest of Calhoun would recognize Halloween until 9:00 P.M.
- D. Mayor Palmer read a letter from Governor Perdue stating that the City of Calhoun Fire Department had been awarded a grant for additional Georgia Search and Rescue equipment. The award was in the amount of \$23,000.00 and will be used on the Northwest Georgia Search and Rescue vehicle with is housed at Calhoun Fire Station #3.
- E. Mayor Palmer stated that a recent sealed bid sale of confiscated guns had taken place by the Calhoun Police Department. He stated that the Calhoun Police Department had sold 150 weapons which had been declared abandoned by the Cherokee Judicial Court Circuit. These weapons were sold to R & D Gunsmithing for \$6,950.00
- F. Mayor Palmer reminded the Council and public of a variance request by Jimmy Phillips, Gordon County Chamber of Commerce, for new a new digital sign at 300 South Wall St. An increase of 24 sq ft of sign area for a monument type sign. The public hearing is November 9, 2009 with a ZRC meeting scheduled for October 29, 2009 and ZAB meeting scheduled for November 5, 2009.
- G. Mayor Palmer reminded Council and public about early voting and the mailing out of absentee ballots began October 13, 2009 and advance voting begins on October 26, 2009 and lasts until October 30, 2009. October 30, 2009 is also the last day that someone can vote absentee. November 3, 2009 the polls will be open for the General Election from 7:00a.m until 7:00p.m at the Calhoun Recreation Department located at 601 S. River St. The candidates are as follows:
- City Council Post 3- Ray Denmon (i)and Matt Barton
 - City Council Post 4- Wm. David Hammond
 - School Board Post 1- Amy Atkinson(i)
 - School Board Post 2- Rhoda Washington
 - School Board Post 3- Eddie Hall (i)
 - School Board Post 3- Chuck Faulkner

- H. Mayor Palmer informed the Council and the public of the upcoming 2010 U.S. Census. He stated the importance of everyone's participation in this count and how important it was to our community.

6. Public Hearing

- A. Announce at this time, public hearings on zoning matters will be held. The public will have the opportunity to make pro and con comments with a ten minute maximum time limit for each side of the matter, with each person speaking having filed a financial disclosure statement five days prior to the hearing if required, with each person giving their name and address. An inquiry should be made to determine if any elected official has filed a disclosure statement regarding ownership or special interest in any of the agenda items. Zoning Land Use Maps on display in Council Chambers for Zoning Advisory Board and Council hearings. (***Reminder – Annexation first and zoning as a second motion**)

- 1) Mayor Palmer read a beer package request by Cleopatra Alvarez of La Costena Mini Market located at 609 North Wall Street.

- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing
- Mayor Palmer stated all requirements had been met
- Mayor Palmer asked if there were any there were any questions/comments. There were none.
- The public hearing was closed.
- Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the request. The motion was second by Councilman Edwards with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

7. Old Business

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of amending the West Calhoun Urban Redevelopment Plan dated September 22, 2008. Amendment to include West End Neighborhood Revitalization Phase I Policies and Procedures. The public hearing is set for November 9, 2009.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of a taxi license request by Jeffery Allen Scheetz d/b/a El Borato taxi located at 114 Erwin St S.E. Calhoun, GA. The public hearing is set for November 9, 2009.
- C. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of new Soil and Sedimentation Control Ordinance. This ordinance is to replace ordinance # 765. The public hearing is set for November 9, 2009.
- D. Mayor Palmer readdressed a parade request by Peace in Young Life representative, Mitzi Gaines, for January 18, 2010 in honor of MLK Celebration. The time requested is 10:00a.m until 12:00a.m. The parade route is from the top of the hill on Neal St and MLK Blvd to Court St. to the Gordon County Courthouse then continuing onto Hicks St. then right on to Park Ave and ending at the Calhoun Depot.

- Administrator Peterson stated that he and Police Chief Moss were presently working on traffic control and that Gordon County Administrator Randy Dowling had given permission for the celebrants to use the Court House square their speeches. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the parade request by Mitzi Gaines. The motion was second by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

8. **New Business**

A. Mayor Palmer read a parade request by the Civil Air Patrol Commander, Timothy Mullens, for their annual Veteran's Day parade. The date requested is November 7, 2009 from 2:00p.m until 2:45p.m. The parade route begins at Maple St and ends at the BB&T Park on South Wall St.

- Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the parade request by Timothy Mullens. The motion was second by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

B. Michael Holzman, a Calhoun Utility customer, who had wished to speak regarding the lack of notification for interruption of service due for AMR installations was not in attendance. Mayor Palmer apologized for any inconvenience to Calhoun water customers that may occur during the installation of the new meters. He stated that installation time is usually 10 to 15 minutes.

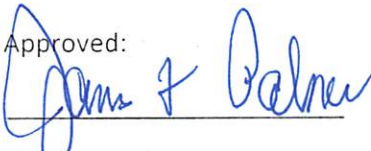
9. **Other written items not on the agenda. NONE**

10. **Work Reports**

a) Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities

- Director Cornwell asked the Mayor and Council to approve a resolution regarding the loan of \$1,500,000.00 from the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority for the continuation of the Automated Meter Reading devices (loan number DWSRF 09-022) to the City of Calhoun.
 - Councilman Hammond made a motion to allow Director Cornwell to sign any documents associated with loan number DWSRF 09-022. Councilman Denmon second the motion with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

11. Councilman Crowley made a motion to adjourn. The motion was second by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:

James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:

Eddie Peterson, City Administrator