

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
JULY 13, 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
Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief
Jeff Defoor, Asst. Electric Superintendent
Jerry Crawford, Water/Sewer Director
Larry Gilbert, Major

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Mayor Palmer gave the invocation.
2. Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the proposed agenda as written. Councilman Hammond second the motion with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
4. **Mayor's Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Palmer reminded the council of the Zoning Advisory Board meeting scheduled for Thursday September 10, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. at the Depot Community Room.
 - B. Mayor Palmer commented on the approval of the Calhoun and Gordon County Service Delivery Strategy by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.
5. **Council Comments:**
 - A. Councilman Edwards gave the June reports as follows:
 - 1) The Street Department
 - o Routine maintenance of street sweeping, bush hogging, and picking up brush
 - o Placed 22 new street signs
 - o Completed 27 shop and 28 street department work orders
 - o Ran storm water maintenance plan on June 5th checking all grates and pipes in the city

- Began work on the Pine Street project between River Street and yellow Jacket Drive. The improvements will include adding a lane to help with the flow of traffic at the school. We will also be adding a 5 foot sidewalk, underground storm drain and curb on the south side of the road.
 - Repaired a sink hole in the grass strip at the downtown parking lot on Park Ave.
 - Continued the joint project with the Gordon County Road department at the intersection of Dews Pond Road and Curtis Pkwy
 - Removed trees that had fallen in the roadway on College Street and Shadowood Drive
 - Sawed and Patched a large spot in the parking lot at the airport using 10 tons of asphalt
 - Built forms and poured concrete at hand rail behind the sidewalk on Dews Pond Rd
 - Repaired potholes on Marine Drive and Harlan Street
- 2) The Cemetery Department
- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery
 - Supervised the opening and closing of 11 grave sites
 - Sold 10 new grave spaces
 - Worked 15 grave sites
- 3) Animal Control
- Housed 27 dogs and 14 cats
 - Issued- 0 warnings on leash law violation
 - Answered 66 customer calls
- 4) Parks Department
- The parks department grounds crew picked up litter, hauled garbage to the dump, books from the library and maintained records at records room.
 - Routine maintenance on all equipment
 - Cleaned City Hall at weekly intervals
 - The building crew painted polka dots on the awning at Valerie's downtown
 - Built on an addition to the shop at Fain Cemetery
 - Performed general maintenance on all designated city buildings
- 5) Safety Committee
- Had a topic of Lyme disease
 - Inspected the Street department
 - There were 4 total worker's comp issues- 2 in Construction, 1 in Police, and 1 in Sewer Plant Maintenance

B. Councilman Denmon gave the June reports as follows:

- 1) The Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Pumped a total of 343,750,000 gallons of water for a daily average of 11,458,333 million gallons
 - The Brittany Drive Treatment Plant produced 31.6% of the City's potable water for the month.
- 2) The Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility
- Treated a daily average of 4.701 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 9, and an average COD of 61.
- 3) The Sewer Construction Department:
- Provided 9 sewer connection during the month
 - Serviced 4 sewer service lines
 - Repaired 8 sewer manholes
 - TV inspected 5,400 ft of sewer mains
 - TV inspected 360 ft of sewer services
 - Completed 285 utility locates
 - Completed 1 lift station repair
 - Responded to 4 customer sewer service calls (3 were on the customer's side)
 - Opened and inspected 98 manholes
 - Mowed 3,600 ft of sewer right-of-way
- 4) The Sludge Department:
- Applied 1,504 cubic yards representing 172 dry tons of sludge
- 5) Building Inspection Department:
- Issued 26 permits for an estimated cost of \$383,985.00. This included 1 grading, 1 residential remodeling, 1 new commercial, 1 commercial remodeling, 2 residential plumbing, 1 commercial plumbing, 2 new industrial HVAC, 5 residential electrical, 5 commercial electrical, 2 industrial electrical, and 5 sign permits.

C. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave his June reports as follows:

1) Electrical Department

Long Term Projects under Construction

- The utilities construction crews continue to be supported by electric maintenance personnel as needed to complete all remaining Water Dept. and Waste Treatment plant projects and controls
- Phase II of the System Loss Program for 2008-2009 is progressing. Switched capacitor installations will continue with the delivery of new equipment.

- The Padmount transformer Inspection Project by Electric Department personnel is continuing.
- The electric AMR is progressing with 3,469 residential and single phase demand electric meters and three phase meters set through June 30th.

Projects and Maintenance under construction

- The Pole Replacement project is near completion in the Maplewood Subdivision and Forrest Heights Apt
- Specialized training for substation operators required by MEAG Transmission to perform emergency operations has been scheduled to beginning in late July
- Planning and design is underway for the Coosa Valley Tech phase III. Ground breaking is expected in late August or September.
- Electric dept. has completed the design and engineering phase for the addition of 60 condominium and apartment units in the Villages Project off Curtis Pkwy. Construction should start in October.
- The Coosa Senior Complex Phase 2 engineering and design is complete. The construction is near completion. Lighting is being installed as construction progresses. Fifty-six electric meters have been set.
- Tree trimming and clearing will continue into the Line Street area. Spot trimming will also continue to target "Hot Spots" and dead tree removal in several locations continues in June.
- Preliminary Electrical design and engineering is complete and construction is near completion for the Bentley Project on McDaniel Station Rd. 15 fiberglass 55 foot poles have been assembled and installed, 5,220 feet of overhead primary wire and 2,705 feet of underground wire are being installed as well as, four 2,500 kVA three phase transformers and one 1,500 kVA transformer for phase 1 of the project. Phase 2 and 3 of the project have already begun and will require another 1,500 kVA transformer and two more 2,500 kVA transformers. This is the largest new business construction taking place anywhere in the state. The electric crews have worked under some difficult conditions but they are getting it done and Bentley will have power ahead of schedule.
- Traffic light at Dews Pond Rd and Lovers Lane is being changed out to accommodate additional turn lanes.
- Traffic light at River Street and Pine Street is being changed to accommodate additional turn lane.
- Engineering has begun for DOT upgrade to intersection of Hwy 53 and Hwy 41

- Engineering has been completed for widening McDaniel Station Rd for addition of DOT traffic signal
- Engineering has begun for changes needed for upgrade of eleven traffic signals throughout the city

Work orders in process or completed for June

- Street and security lighting-31
- New business and maintenance-27
- After hours trouble and callouts-20
- City Electrical Maintenance-32
- Meters set-26
- Meter maintenance/replacement-32
- Electric System purchased-23,310,041 KWH in April

2) Telecommunications Department:

- Finished connection 2 new internet circuits and started construction on three more.
- Spliced fiber from central office to Wrights Hollow Rd
- Spliced 12 fibers for Georgia Cumberland Conference Office new construction
- Relocated fiber at Bentley Dye construction site.
- Relocated fiber and poles to accommodate new interchange construction Dews Pond and Lovers Lane
- Upgraded Munis software with latest patches
- Started mapping permissions on City Hall server in preparations for moving files to new server.
- Opened 41 and closed 60 work orders.

3) Geographic Information Systems

- Met with Engineering Dept to cleanup Wastewater Construction data and reviewed the entire sewer system
- Met with Engineering Dept to update Water Construction valve locations and data downloads
- Continue adding fuses, jumpers and transformers to electric layer
- Met with Fire Dept personnel and trained them how to use GIS tools for inspections and retrieving water data information
- Added updates to the Fiber maps
- Developed and interface for Engineering to upload project bid announcements and documents to the city's website
- Started working with and testing new GIS web interface

D. Councilman Hammond gave his June reports as follows:

1) The Police Department

- Made 580 cases with 8 DUI's

- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$59,813.50
- Issued 431 warnings
- Investigated 41 highway accidents, 34 private property accidents, 1 injury, and no fatalities
- Provided 84 escorts
- Files 1,769 incident reports
- Responded to 442 alarms
- Patrolled 53,559 miles
- Responded to 5,088 calls for service by E-911
- Applied for and was awarded a JAG Grant for \$27,481.00, through the Recovery Program
- Louis Dean, special operations officer, was sworn in as a federal agent by the Federal Government's Alcohol Tobacco & Firearms Division and will be reimbursed overtime incurred on related cases.

2) The Fire Department

- Responded to 60 calls for service, 4 fire incidents for damages
- Responded to 23 medical service calls with 17 injuries and 0 deaths
- Responded to 7 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 5 miscellaneous service calls, 16 false alarms, 4 good intent, and 1 special incident call
- Sent engine and crew to David Day Care for Fire Safety presentation
- Completed maintenance on fire hydrants (approximately 762)
- Pressure tested approximately 35,000 feet of fire hose
- Hosted Boys and Girls Club at Station 1 for Fire Safety presentation
- Completed annual ground ladder and tower¹ service test on all ladders and tower by an independent testing company (Con Am)
- Participated with Gordon County Fire, in the annual Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation Boot Drive
- Conducted two fire extinguisher classes; Liberty Tire Recycling, and Kerry Industries
- Assisted and participated in 1st Sgt. John Blair's funeral services
- Dispatched 6 men on the GSAR deployment to the Atlanta parking deck collapse
- Completed preventative maintenance on all vehicles changed all coolant and serviced transmissions as needed

3) Fire Inspection Department:

- Provided 123 inspections during the month: 5 annual, 2 new business, 53 requested inspections, 4 follow up, 3 plan reviews, and 56 consultations
- Conducted a Fire Extinguisher Class at Superior Manufacturing for 10 employees
- Inspectors attended NW GA Code Officials meeting
- Lt. Dooley attended city safety meeting; conducted and inspection on the Street Department
- Inspectors issued 1 Tank Removal permit
- Both inspectors attended the LEPC May meeting
- Inspectors coordinated and assisted with the GA Firefighters Burn Foundation Boot Drive

6. Public Hearings: None

7. Old Business: None

8. New Business:

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a taxi license request by Hermelindo j Davila doing business as El Abuelo with a business address of 90 East May St. Mayor Palmer stated that the earliest date for a public hearing would be August 10, 2009.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to set the public hearing for that date. The motion was second by Councilman Hammond with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a taxi license request by Maximiliano C. Soriano doing business as Taxi Max with a business address of 1116 South Wall Street. Mayor Palmer stated that the earliest date for a public hearing would be August 10, 2009.
 - Councilman Denmon made a motion to set the public hearing for that date. The motion was second by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- C. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a Beer Poring License request by Jason B. Marshall doing business as Dawg Pound with a business address of 165 Outlet Center Dr. Suite 5. Mayor Palmer stated that the earliest date for a public hearing would be August 10, 2009.

- Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to set the public hearing for that date. The motion was second by Councilman Hammond with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- D. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a Beer, Wine and Liquor package license request by Balkishan Soni doing business as ABC 1017 Beverage, Inc with a business address of 767 Hwy 53 E. Mayor Palmer stated that the earliest date for a public hearing would be August 10, 2009.
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to set the public hearing for that date. The motion was second by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- E. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a Beer, Wine and Liquor package license request by Dilip S. Patel doing business as ABC Liquor with a business address of 100 Hwy 53 SE. Mayor Palmer stated that the earliest date for a public hearing would be August 10, 2009.
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to set the public hearing for that date. The motion was second by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- F. Mayor Palmer read a request by The Calhoun Housing Authority to close Harkins St. for a Back to School Block Party, July 25, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
- Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve the request made by The Calhoun Housing Authority. The motion was second by Councilman Hammond with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- G. Mayor Palmer stated that Mitchell Allen, 197 Will Allen Drive, wished to speak to the council regarding water meter replacements.
- Mr. Allen addressed the Mayor and Council regarding the possibility of installing pressure reducing devices on home water services while the new automatic water meters were being installed. Mr. Allen stated that he felt that this process could assist the homeowner with pressure problems and save water in the case of a water leak. Mr. Allen was in favor of placing an additional charge for the installation of a pressure reducing device.
 - Mayor Palmer thanked Mr. Allen for his time and recommendation and stated that this was a good idea.

- H. Mayor Palmer read a re-appointment request of Phillip Beamer for the Calhoun/Gordon County Airport Authority, current term ended June 30, 2009. Terms last 3 years.
 - o Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Phillip Beamer to the Airport Authority. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley second the motion with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- I. Mayor Palmer read an Alcohol Manager Change request from Southeastern Pizza Group DBA Pizza Hut from Joy Vandezande to Melba Jane Price of 206 Sage Trail Calhoun, Ga.
 - o Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the manager change request. The motion was second by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- J. Mayor Palmer gave a first reading of a Beer and Liquor Pouring license request by Derrick Williams doing business as Sharkey's Seafood & Wings with a business address of 119 Kelly Ct. Mayor Palmer stated that the earliest date for a public hearing would be August 10, 2009.
 - o Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to set the public hearing for that date. The motion was second by Councilman Edwards with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

9. Zoning:

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a annexation and zoning request of C-2 by Larry Mulkey/Garland Cook for the property located at 1405 Hwy 41 N. The acreage is 0.55. Mayor Palmer stated that the earliest date for a public hearing would be September 14, 2009.
 - o Councilman Denmon made a motion to set the public hearing for that date. The motion was second by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

10. Other written items not on the agenda:

- A. Mayor Palmer presented the Council with a rate resolution adjustment to the July 1, 2009 water rates. Mayor Palmer explained that since the drought has ended, water restrictions have been lifted by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, a reduction in the conservation rates would be in line for customers inside and outside the city limits. (Copy attached)

- Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to approve the rate resolution adjustment. This motion was second by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

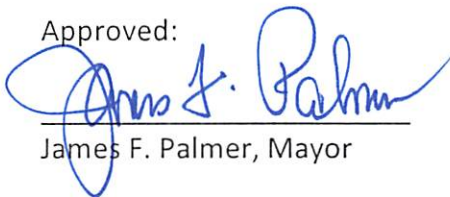
11. Work Reports:

- A. Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities
- B. Mayor Palmer stated that there were three transfers that were budgeted but were not made for fiscal year end June 30, 2009.
 - a) Transfer from the Water Fund to the Telecom Fund in the amount of \$14,147. Funds were not required by year end in the Telecom Fund as revenue exceeded expectations.
 - b) Transfers from Electric Fund in the amount of \$184,690 and the Water Fund in the amount of \$133,286 budgeted for Renewal and Replacement. Funds were not available to fund Renewal and Replacement this year.
- Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to approve the non-transfer of these funds. The motion was second by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

12. Mayor Palmer stated that there was no need to move into and Executive Session.

13. Mayor Pro Tem 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