

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
CALHOUN, GA
MARCH 9, 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: William P. Bailey, City Attorney
Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
Heather Evans, Deputy City Clerk
Larry Vickery, Electric Superintendent
Larry Gilbert, Major – Calhoun Police Department**

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley 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 agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
4. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2009 regular City Council meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Edwards with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
5. Mayors Comments:
 - A. Mayor Palmer reminded the public of the upcoming public information open house that will be conducted by the Georgia Department of Transportation on Thursday March 19, 2009 between 4:00 and 7:00 PM at the Calhoun Depot to discuss turning lanes at SR156/SR3 and SR156/College Street.
6. **Council Comments:**
 - A. Councilman Edwards gave the February reports as follows:
 - 1) The Street Department:
 - o Routine maintenance of brush truck, leave vacuum, and street sweeper routes.
 - o Placed 31 new street signs
 - o Completed 35 shop and 27 street department work orders

- Ran storm water maintenance plan on February 18th checking all grates and pipes inside the City.
 - Clear cut bank at the soccer field on Mauldin Road with chain saws and weed eaters.
 - Dressed the shoulders of Mauldin Road, Curtis Parkway, Richardson Road and Marine Drive in preparation for thermo-plastic striping.
 - Grade ditch on Curtis Parkway to correct a drainage problem.
 - Patched pot holes on Nelson Street and in the alley on Harlon Street across from the Police Station using 6 tons of asphalt.
 - Removed concrete island at the drive through window behind City Hall.
 - Planted 30 new trees at the 58 acre park
 - Removed a tree that had fallen on Old Red Bud Road due to high winds.
- 2) The Parks and Maintenance Department:
- Picked up litter, cleaned up leaves in addition to hauling garbage to the dump, books from the library and maintain records at records room
 - Began cleaning City Hall once a week
 - The building and maintenance crew completed installing graphics and plexi-glass on signs at the 58 acre park walking trail.
 - Removed old posts and soffit, built forms and poured concrete at the drive through behind City Hall.
- 3) Cemetery Department:
- Supervised the opening and closing of 13 grave sites
 - Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemeteries
 - Sold 9 new grave spaces
 - Buried 5 foot markers
- 4) Animal Control:
- Housed 17 dogs and 0 cats
 - Answered 40 customer calls
 - Issued 0 warnings for lease law violation
- 5) Safety Committee:
- Had a safety topic of Head Protection
 - Inspected City Hall / Municipal Court on February 10, 2009.
 - Reported 2 workers comp accidents
- 6) Downtown Development Authority:
- Councilman Edwards stated that the DDA met in February and reported the concerts in the park will begin in mid April.

B. Councilman Denmon gave the February reports as follows:

- 1) The Water Treatment Plant Facility:
 - Pumped a total of 274,669,000 gallons of water for a daily average of 9,809,607 million gallons
 - The Brittany Drive Treatment Plant produced 38.5% of the City's potable water for the month.
- 2) The Waste Treatment Plant:
 - Treated a daily average of 5.306 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 7, average suspended effluent of 13, and an average COD effluent of 76.
- 3) The Water Construction Department:
 - Installed 9 water connections
 - Changed out 28 water connection with new meter
 - Repaired 41 water leaks
 - Installed 15 2" meters
 - Installed 1 4" meter
 - Installed 3 6" meters
 - Responded to 348 utility locates
 - Called in 64 utility locates for work orders
 - Called in 30 emergency located for repairs
 - Responded to 79 misc calls
- 4) The Sewer Construction Department:
 - Repaired 11 sanitary sewer services
 - Repaired 3 sanitary sewer manholes
 - TV inspected 9,300 feet of sanitary sewer mains
 - TV inspected 475 feet of sanitary sewer services
 - Completed 308 utility locates
 - Repaired 2 lift station
 - Answered 9 sewer calls (8 for service lines – 6 on customer side)
 - Cleaned 14,900 feet of sanitary sewer lines
 - Opened and inspected 165 manholes
 - TV inspected 3,800 ft. of sewer line for Chatsworth Water Authority to assist then with sewer stoppage
- 5) The Sludge Department:
 - Applied 1,568 cubic yards representing 196.8 dry tons of sludge
- 6) Building Inspection Department:
 - Issued 23 permits for an estimated cost of \$159,626.00. This included 5 residential remodeling, 1 industrial addition, 2 residential plumbing, 1 residential HVAC, 6 residential electrical, 5 commercial electrical, 1 industrial electrical and 2 sign permits.

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

1) The Electric Department:

Long Term Projects Under Construction:

- The utilities construction crews continue to be supported by electric maintenance personnel as needed to complete all remaining **Waste Treatment** plant projects and controls. Clarifier has been rewired in February in conjunction with overall refurbishment.
- **Phase II of the System Loss Program for 2007-08** is progressing. Our first switched capacitor installation is completed and we have another utility scheduled to see the installation for application on their system.
- **Electric Dept. Employees** involved with the **System Reliability Program** received a day long, in-house manufacturer's installation and programming training on the latest Recloser equipment controls. The manufacturer technicians monitored the installation of new equipment by our staff.
- **Note that the electric department has seen an approximate 30% reduction in extended outages associated with wind and lightning as a result of the System Reliability Project improvements.**
- **The Padmount Transformer Inspection Project** by Electric Department personnel is continuing.
- The electric **AMR Project** is progressing with 3,325 residential and single phase demand electric meters set through March 1st.
- A detailed formal proposal was prepared and a prospect meeting was held with a **potential new industry** to Calhoun.

PROJECTS AND MAINTENANCE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- The **Pole Replacement Project** is continuing in the Maplewood Subdivision.
- **Specialized training** for substation operators required by MEAG Transmission to perform emergency operations should be completed this month.
- A special training event was attended by multiple Calhoun Utility employees on March 3rd for **FEMA Accounting Practices** to support emergency operations.
- The **Coosa Senior Complex Phase 2** engineering and design is complete. The construction is underway and will include 4,800 feet of underground primary, 8 pad mounted transformers, and 26 leased security lights
- **Tree Trimming and Clearing** will continue into the Devonwood area. Spot trimming will also continue to target "Hot Spots" and dead tree removal in several locations continues in March.
- Electrical design and engineering remains in process for the **Bentley Project on McDaniel Station Rd.** Planning meetings will continue as the contractor's progress.

WORK ORDERS IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED FOR FEBRUARY:

- Street and security lighting- 30
- New business and maintenance- 72
- After hours trouble callouts- 12

DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY:

- Meters Set-3
- Meter Maintenance/ Replacement-12
- 91 AMR Meter changes in February

The electric system purchased –26,540,146 KWH in January

- 2) Telecommunications Department:
- Connected 4 new Internet circuits and one point-to-point circuit.
 - Finished relocating fiber on Conference Drive for construction project.
 - Moved Utility Administration users' files to new file server.
 - Provided support for domain name server change and Munis financial software upgrade
 - Planning a major fiber repair on South Highway 41 due to damage by tree trimmers.
 - Coordinating with GIS personnel to re-write Harris billing reports.
 - Opened 34 and closed 29 work orders.

GIS Department:

- Completed City Park Trail Map
- Completed 2008 Census data update and submitted for Community Development and City of Calhoun
- Completed conversion of all Electric transformers, lights and span guys
- Completed City Schools flood area map for insurance purposes
- Developed custom Billing and AMR reports
- Continue development on new City website
- Continue GIS support and development of Wastewater and Telecommunication mapping

D. Councilman Hammond gave his February reports as follows:

- 1) The Police Department:
- Made 662 cases with 6 DUI's
 - Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$103,120.00
 - Issued 652 warnings
 - Investigated 47 highway accidents and 29 private property accidents
 - Provided 92 escorts
 - Filed 1,453 incidents reports
 - Responded to 283 alarms
 - Patrolled 47,961 miles
 - Responded to 5,109 calls for service by E-911
- 2) The Fire Department:
- Responded to 42 calls for service, 6 fire incidents with an estimated \$10,000 in damages
 - Responded to 12 emergency medical service calls with 8 injuries and 1 death
 - Responded to 8 hazardous conditions incidents
 - Responded to 5 miscellaneous service calls, 2 good intent, 8 false alarms, and 1 special incident.
 - Completed in-house training during the month for all firefighters on State required core skills along with additional department training

- Completed all scheduled station and vehicle maintenance
 - 6 personnel attended and completed trench rescue class for GSAR
 - Assisted with fire drills at Eastside Pre K / Central Office
 - GSAR Team was dispatched to Bartow County for confined space / collapse incident
 - Home school student Joshua Carlson shadowed firefighters for a shift.
- 3) Fire Inspection Department:
- Provided 121 inspections/activities during the month: 1 annual, 3 new business, 38 requested, 26 follow-up re-inspections, 72 consultants, 2 burn site inspections, and 2 plan reviews and 1 pre construction meeting.
 - Lt. Dooley attended city safety meeting and city department safety inspection
 - Inspectors attended 30 hours of required hours of training
 - Both inspectors attended the Gordon County Builders Association meeting to speak on code changes for the upcoming year along with the smoke detector program
 - Inspectors attended the LEPC meeting held at our training room
 - Inspectors assisted in work to complete two offices in the training building
 - Inspectors met with the Project Stella group at the Chamber of Commerce
 - Lt. Dooley conducted SCBA (Breathing Apparatus) class for City Water Treatment and Waste Water Plant employees
- 4) Coosa Valley RDC:
- Councilman Hammond stated that the CVRDC has changed its name to Northwest Regional Development Commission and because of new by-laws the Commission discussed new mandates on membership and it was determined the largest city would be chosen. Since that time it was then re-voted that the County would be over the Municipality and a third vote will take place in the near future.
 - The Mayor and Council recommended voting for the largest City.
7. **Zoning and Other Public Hearings:**
- A. Mayor Palmer stated at this time the public hearing on zoning matters will be held. The public will have an opportunity to make pro and con comments with a ten minute maximum time limit for each side of the matter and with each person speaking giving their name and address and with each person speaking having filed a financial disclosure statement five days prior to the hearing if required. Mayor Palmer made an inquiry to determine if any elected official has filed or needed to file a disclosure statement regarding any ownership or special interest in the agenda item. There were none. Mayor Palmer stated that the land use maps are on display at the Council Chambers for both the Zoning Advisory Board and the City Council hearings and the Council members have a copy of the Zoning Minutes from the latest Zoning Advisory Board Meeting.
1. Mayor Palmer read an annexation request by Terry D. Goble for .69 acres located at 276 Shadowood Drive.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing

- Peterson stated signs on the property, notices to the adjoining property owners and notices to the local legal organ were completed.
- Councilman Edwards stated the Zoning Advisory Board wished to recommend to the Mayor and Council that this request be approved.
- Mayor Palmer asked if there were any questions/comments
- There were none and the public hearing was closed
- The findings of the Zoning Advisory Board were:

- 1) The zoning proposal will permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of the adjacent and nearby property.
- (2) The zoning proposal will not adversely affect the existing use or usability of the adjacent or nearby properties.
- (3) The property is currently zoned Agriculture.
- (4) The zoning proposal will not result in additional traffic on existing streets or impact utilities or schools.
- (5) The capital expense associated with the development of the property will be incurred by the developer.
- (6) The zoning proposal is in conformity with the policy and intent of the land use plan.
- (7) There are no other existing or changing conditions effecting the use and development of the property which would give supporting grounds for their approval or disapproval of the zoning proposal.
- (8) There are no other factors relevant to balancing the interest in promoting the public health, safety, morality, or general welfare against the right to the unrestricted use of the property.

- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the annexation request by Terry D. Goble for .69 acres located at 276 Shadowood Drive. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting aye.
- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve R-1 zoning for the request by Terry D. Goble for .69 acres located at 276 Shadowood Drive. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting aye.

B. Other Public Hearings and Comments:

1. Mayor Palmer read a request for a beer package license request by Tienda Restaurante “La Chiquita” with Mariano Roderico Velasquez as authorized agent for a location of 607 South 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.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon with all voting aye.

8. **Old Business:**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave a taxi license request by Isidro Sanchez Barrera d/b/a Taxi Latino for a location of 802 North Wall Street.
 - The public hearing is set for March 23, 2009
- B. Mayor Palmer gave a 2nd reading of a taxi license request by Marchelle Gaines d/b/a PEACE Ride for a location of 806 Court Street.
 - The public hearing is set for March 23, 2009
- C. Mayor Palmer read a request by General Finance to approve the updated budget calendar as written.
 - Mayor Palmer reviewed the calendar
 - Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the budget calendar as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon with all voting aye.

9. **New Business:**

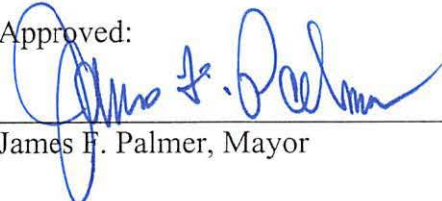
- A. Mayor Palmer gave a 1st reading of a taxi license request by Edwin Herrera – Borjorquez d/b/a Taxi Edwin for a location of 315 West Belmont Drive.
 - Mayor Palmer stated the earliest date for a public hearing is April 13, 2009
 - Councilman Denmon made a motion to set the public hearing for April 13, 2009. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting aye.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave a 1st reading of a beer pouring license request of Southeastern Pizza Group, LLC with Joy Vandezande as authorized agent for a location of 613 Hwy 53 East.
 - Mayor Palmer stated the earliest date for a public hearing is April 13, 2009.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to set the public hearing for April 13, 2009. The motion was seconded by Councilman Edwards with all voting aye.
- C. Mayor Palmer explained the Certified City of Ethics Recertification process and announced that the City of Calhoun will reapply for certification in Resolution form.

10. **Work Reports:**

- A. City Administrator: Eddie Peterson:
 - Administrator Peterson stated Calhoun received \$86,000 in a Federal Highway Transportation grant for thermo plastic highway striping on Mauldin Road, Line Street/Dews Pond, Curtis Parkway, Richardson Road, and McDaniel Station Road. A total of 11.6 miles were striped and 1,860 raised reflective markers were installed.

11. Councilman Hammond made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Edwards with all voting aye.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Eddie Peterson, City Administrator