

**CITY OF CALHOUN  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM  
109 SOUTH KING STREET  
CALHOUN, GA  
FEBRUARY 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  
Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities  
Eddie Peterson, City Administrator  
Heather Evans, Deputy City Clerk  
Garry Moss, Police Chief  
Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief  
Larry Vickery, Electric Superintendant**

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Councilman Hammond gave the invocation.
2. Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hammond with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
4. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 26, 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 welcomed the 2009 Calhoun / Gordon County Youth Leadership group to the meeting.
  - B. Mayor Palmer stated the Fire Department received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 which is the maximum amount allowed for the grant. The money will be used for new supplies for the GSAR (Georgia Search and Rescue) team.
  - C. Councilman Edwards reviewed the upcoming Zoning Hearings.
    - o Councilman Edwards stated the Zoning Public Hearing for March 9, 2009 was as follows and has a Zoning Advisory Board date of March 5, 2009.
      1. Annexation request by Terry D. Goble for .92 acres located at 276 Shadowood Drive SE.

6. **Council Comments:**

A. Councilman Edwards gave the January reports as follows:

1) The Street Department:

- Routine maintenance of brush truck, leave vacuum, and street sweeper routes.
- Placed 27 new street signs
- Completed 36 shop and 24 street department work orders
- Ran storm water maintenance plan on January 6th checking all grates and pipes inside the City
- Cleaned out ditches with the Grade-All on Old Belwood Road, Boiling Industrial Way, Dorsey Street and Powell Street
- Dressed the shoulders of the road with stone on Marine Drive
- Installed 40 ft of 18 in metal pipe to fill up large ditch on First Street in the Mill Village
- Patched pot holes and rough spots on Yellow Jacket Drive, Harkins Street, College Street, Devonwood Drive, and Columbus Circle. Used 8.24 tons of asphalt
- Repaired storm drains on Park Avenue and Fain Street
- Replaced a 34 ft x 6 ft section of sidewalk on College Street at First Baptist Church
- Milled a section of McConnell Road in preparation to be paved

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
- Removed Christmas decorations at the Library, City Hall, and the Depot
- Buildings and maintenance crew poured concrete pad and built pen for Police Department canine corps.
- Repaired Municipal Court roof
- Changed door locks on entrance doors, installed new drawer and lock on cash drawer at City Hall

3) Cemetery Department:

- Supervised the opening and closing of 12 grave sites
- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemeteries
- Sold 15 new grave spaces

4) Animal Control:

- Housed 25 dogs and 6 cats
- Answered 53 customer calls
- Issued 2 warnings for lease law violation

5) Safety Committee:

- Had a safety topic of Using Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drugs Safely

- Inspected City Hall Annex/Utilities/Library on January 13, 2009
  - Reported 1 vehicle accident
- 6) Councilman Edwards stated the City of Calhoun is honored to be a part of the 2009 Heart and Soul Bus Tour. He stated the group will visit and tour downtown Calhoun on April 16, 2009.
- B. Councilman Denmon gave the January reports as follows:
- 1) The Water Treatment Plant Facility:
    - Pumped a total of 312,530,000 gallons of water for a daily average of 10,081,613 million gallons
    - The Brittany Drive Treatment Plant produced 36.3% of the City's potable water for the month.
  - 2) The Waste Treatment Plant:
    - Treated a daily average of 7.215 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 6, average suspended effluent of 10, and an average COD effluent of 54.
  - 3) The Water Construction Department:
    - Installed 7 water connections
    - Changed out 1 water connection with new meter
    - Repaired 47 water leaks
    - Installed 69 2" meters
    - Installed 4 6" meters
    - Installed 2 4" meters
    - Responded to 381 utility locates
    - Called in 113 utility locates for work orders
    - Called in 27 emergency locates for repairs
    - Responded to 127 misc calls
  - 4) The Sewer Construction Department:
    - Installed 3 sanitary sewer connections
    - Repaired 10 sanitary sewer services
    - Repaired 9 sanitary sewer manholes
    - TV inspected 5793 feet of sanitary sewer mains
    - TV inspected 425 feet of sanitary sewer services
    - Completed 327 utility locates
    - Repaired 2 lift station
    - Answered 11 sewer calls (8 for service lines – 7 on customer side)
    - Cleaned 13,300 feet of sanitary sewer lines
    - Opened and inspected 109 manholes
  - 5) The Sludge Department:
    - Applied 1,744 cubic yards representing 218 dry tons of sludge

- 6) Building Inspection Department:
- o Issued 14 permits for an estimated cost of \$5,632,369.00. This included 1 new residential, 2 residential remodeling, 1 new industrial, 1 commercial plumbing, 2 residential HVAC, 2 Commercial HVAC, 2 residential electrical, 1 commercial electrical, and 2 industrial electrical

C. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave his January 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. Flow meters have been received and installed.
- Phase II of the System Loss Program for 2007-08 is progressing. Our first switched capacitor installations near completion and we have another utility wanting to see the installation for application on their system. The System Reliability Program continues in its final phase with Reclosing equipment being acquired for the #3 substation circuits.
- The Padmount Transformer Inspection Project by Electric Department personnel is in process.
- The electric AMR Project is progressing with 3,236 residential and single phase demand electric meters set through February 1st.

PROJECTS AND MAINTENANCE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- The Pole Replacement Project is continuing in the Spring Valley Subdivision. A joint county/chamber promotional video recorded crew activity at one site.
- Specialized training for substation operators required by MEAG Transmission to perform emergency operations should be completed by March. A special training event is scheduled in March for FEMA Accounting Practices to support emergency operations.
- The Apache Industries is evaluating another manufacturing addition at its River Street location. The Electric Department Staff met with plant representatives to review the project in January.
- The Coosa Senior Complex Phase 2 engineering and design is complete. Engineering and design 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 February.
- Electrical design and engineering remains in process for the Bentley Project on McDaniel Station Rd. Planning meetings will continue as the contractor’s progress.
- NOTE! The Electric Department sent four men, Alan McCormick, Greg Dodd, Neal Dockery and Gary Teague, to Owensboro, Kentucky to assist with power restoration. They returned after 7 days tired but safe.

WORK ORDERS IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED FOR JANUARY:

- Street and security lighting- 124

- New business and maintenance- 53
- After hours trouble callouts- 10

DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER:

- Meters Set-1
- Meter Maintenance/ Replacement-15
- 271 AMR Meter changes in January

The electric system purchased –22,280,030 KWH in December

2) Telecommunications Department:

- Connected 4 new Internet circuits.
- Started relocating fiber on Conference Drive for construction project.
- Finished preparations for moving Utility Administration users to new server.
- Notified all Internet customers of domain name server change made by Georgia Public Web.
- Continue to support AMR and Tyler Forms implementations.
- Opened 59 and closed 49 work orders.

GIS Department:

- Spent a majority of time on wastewater conversion, attribution and coordination with survey department.
- Installed software and trained Police Special Operations personnel.
- Attached hydrant flow data to hydrants in GIS.
- Attended the Community Development Meeting in Atlanta. Census 2010 Boundary and Annexation submission of data will now be done using GIS data instead of paper. The submission deadline March 31, 2009.
- Continue to develop fiber modeling and management software.

3) School:

- Mayor Pro Tem Crowley congratulated Calhoun High School Debate Team on their win at the AA State Championship.

D. Councilman Hammond gave his January reports as follows:

1) The Police Department:

- Made 693 cases with 6 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$80,752.00
- Issued 657 warnings
- Investigated 40 highway accidents and 26 private property accidents
- Provided 101 escorts
- Filed 880 incidents reports
- Responded to 366 alarms
- Patrolled 58,493 miles
- Responded to 6,400 calls for service by E-911
- Councilman Hammond stated the Police Department continued their seat belt survey with the last check of 100 vehicles with a buckled rate of 85%.

- Councilman Hammond stated the Police Department received a new bomb dog courtesy of the US Army.
- 2) The Fire Department:
- Responded to 56 calls for service, 9 fire incidents with an estimated \$3,000 in damages
  - Responded to 23 emergency medical service calls with 15 injuries and 1 death
  - Responded to 10 hazardous conditions incidents
  - Responded to 2 miscellaneous service calls, 3 good intent, and 9 false alarms
  - 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 confined space rescue class for GSAR
  - Assisted with fire drills at Calhoun Primary, Calhoun Elementary, Calhoun Middle, Calhoun High, Ashworth Middle, and Gordon Central High schools.
  - Department was audited by GA Firefighters standards and training. All records and equipment in order. Remained a certified department.
- 3) Fire Inspection Department:
- Provided 160 inspections/activities during the month: 27 annual, 5 new business, 30 requested, 15 follow-up re-inspections, 83 consultants, 1 burn site inspections, and 2 plan reviews
  - Inspectors plotted and tagged 8 new fire hydrants
  - Lt. Dooley attended city safety meeting and attended the safety program class at the Depot
  - Both inspectors filled in on engines for 25.5 man hours
  - Both inspectors attended the Northwest Georgia Fire Investigators meeting held in Calhoun
  - Both inspectors attended the LEPC meeting held at our training room
  - Lt's Dooley and Duvall conducted an occupant load check at the Gordon Central/Sonoraville basketball game
  - Inspectors met with the Airport Authority and pilots about hangar violations found at the airport
  - Lt Duvall attended the first meeting with his student at Calhoun Elementary in the Mentor Program
- 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. **(By-laws attached)**
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 a request for a 50' height variance request for a hotel sign by Nimish Patel for a location on Lovers Lane.
  - Mayor Palmer stated the item was tabled at the December 8, 2008 meeting and asked for a motion to remove the item from the table.
  - Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to remove the item from the table. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hammond with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
  - 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:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) The zoning proposal will permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of the adjacent and nearby property.</li><li>(2) The zoning proposal will not adversely affect the existing use or usability of the adjacent or nearby properties.</li><li>(3) The property is currently zoned Industrial.</li><li>(4) The zoning proposal will not result in additional traffic on existing streets or impact utilities or schools.</li><li>(5) The capital expense associated with the development of the property will be incurred by the developer.</li><li>(6) The zoning proposal is in conformity with the policy and intent of the land use plan.</li><li>(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.</li><li>(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.</li></ol> |
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- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve 50' height variance request for a hotel sign by Nimish Patel for a location on Lovers Lane. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hammond with all voting aye.

**B. Other Public Hearings and Comments:**

1. Mayor Palmer read a request for a beer and wine package license request by Rite Aid # 4751 with Laura Fritz as authorized agent for a location of 901 South Wall Street.
  - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing
  - Mayor Palmer asked if there were any there were any questions/comments. There were none.
  - The public hearing was closed.
  - Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting aye.

**8. Old Business:**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave a second reading of a beer-wine-liquor package license request by ABC Liquor & Tobacco Outlet with Dilip S. Patel as authorized agent for a location of 104 W.C. Bryant Parkway.
  - The public hearing is set for February 23, 2009.

**9. New Business:**

- A. Louise McGowan with Dobbs and Company presented the City's audit report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2008.
  - Councilman Hammond made a motion to receive the audit. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon with all voting aye.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave a first reading of a beer package and beer pouring license request by Tienda Restaurante "La Chiquita" with Mariano Roderico Velasquez as authorized agent for a location of 607 South Wall Street.
  - Attorney Bailey stated that there is an inconsistency in the application and the applicant must choose either beer package or beer pouring.
  - Mayor Palmer stated the earliest date for a public hearing would be March 9, 2009.
- C. Mayor Palmer read a request by the Calhoun Police Department to declare a 1997 Honda Accord VIN# 1HGCD5609VA128987 as surplus and sell on GovDeals.com.
  - Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon with all voting aye.
- D. Mayor Palmer read a request by United Way of Gordon County to begin "Calhoun Cares" program with participation from Calhoun Utilities.
  - Mayor Palmer read the letter from United Way explaining the program. **(Attached)**
- E. Mayor Palmer read a business license renewal request by Message Therapy (Owner Lois Edgar) located at 769 Hwy 53.
  - Joan Ashford was present on behalf of the applicant
  - Attorney Bailey informed Ms. Ashford that Message Therapy would need to re-apply for their 2009 business license and the Mayor and Council would address the application request per criteria from the appropriate section of the Calhoun Code of Ordinances. Attorney Bailey stated that the Message

Therapy business license was not current and no business could be conducted until the appropriate license was issued.

10. **Other Written Items Not on the Agenda:** NONE

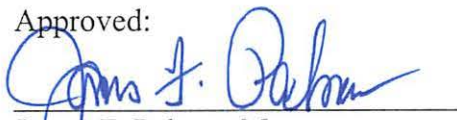
11. **Work Reports:**

A. Director of Utilities: Kelly Cornwell

- Director Cornwell presented the Utilities Financial Cash report to the Mayor and Council.

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

Approved:

  
James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:

  
Eddie Peterson, City Administrator