

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
October 12, 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**

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
 - a) Councilman Denmon gave the invocation
2. Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the proposed agenda. Councilman Hammond second the motion with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
4. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of September 28, 2009 of the regular City Council meeting. Council Denmon second the motion with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
5. **Mayor's Comments**
 - A. Mayor Palmer reminded 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.
 - B. Mayor Palmer stated that the Mainstreet Partnership had agreed on the business Halloween celebration to be from 4:00p.m until 5:30p.m, on Saturday October 31, 2009. He also stated that the general hours for city trick or treat will be from 5:00p.m until 9:00p.m. on Saturday October 31, 2009.

C. Mayor Palmer reminded the Council and public about early voting and the mailing out of absentee ballots begins 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

6. Council Comments

A. Councilman Edward gives the September reports as follows:

1) Street Department

- Routine maintenance of street sweeping, bush hogging, and picking up brush
- Placed 9 new street signs
- Completed 28 shop and 46 street department work orders
- Ran storm water maintenance plan on September 15th checking all grates and pipes in the city
- Cleaned out ditches with the grade-all on River Street, East May Street, Gee Road, Jolley Road, Maplewood Drive, South Industrial Blvd, Harkins Street, Martin Luther King Drive, Court Street, Hillhouse Drive and Oothcalooga Street.
- Cut and remove trees that had fallen in the roadway on Melea Lane and Double Tree Drive.
- Cleaned up a large oil spill on East Line Street beside Fain Cemetery
- Cut back the right of way on Boulevard Heights, Victory Drive and Victory Court.
- Built up the shoulder of the road on Garden Hill Drive.
- Repaired Pot-Holes and rough spots in the roadway on Curtis Pkwy, Three Oaks Drive and Richards Street using a total 26.14 tons of asphalt.
- Repaired a storm drain on Hillcrest Drive.
- Repaired a hole in a yard on Valley Circle where an old sewer line collapsed.

2) Cemetery Department

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery
- Supervised the opening and closing of 8 grave sites.
- Sold 4 new grave spaces
- Worked 5 grave sites

3) Rabies Control

- Housed 26 dogs, and 11 cats.
- Issued 7 warnings leash law violation.
- Answered 48 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.
- Kept up maintenance on all equipment.
- Cleaned City Hall at weekly intervals.
- The building and maintenance crew maintained all City fountains.
- Replaced a faucet and exhaust fan at the Police Station.
- Repaired tile at City Hall.
- Performed routine maintenance on designated buildings.

5) Mainstreet Partnership

- Councilman Edwards stated that the 4th Annual Harvest Fest will be downtown on Saturday October 24th from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. There will be live entertainment, tractor rides, over 60 arts, crafts and food vendors, costume and pie eating contests, cake walks, children's entertainment and special sidewalk sales.
- Trick or Treat downtown will be October 31st from 4:00 until 5:30
- DDA reports that Streetscape Phase III project is in the final concept report approval stage at Georgia DOT. We are awaiting final approval prior to advertising for a construction contractor.
- The City's Historic Preservation Commission has been notified by the Georgia State Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Division that the Calhoun Downtown Historic Business District will be on the January 2010 agenda for approval to be listed, as a whole, on the Nation Register of Historic Places.
- Mainstreet Partnership has five new members- The Dog House, Calhoun KOA, ReNew Solutions Salon and Boutique, Georgia Dogs, and Rock Bridge Community Church. The next Mainstreet Partnership meeting will be Tuesday, October 13 and 6:15 p.m.

6) Safety Committee

- Safety topic- safe driving
- Safety Inspection- Electric Department
- Accidents- Workers Comp-1, Vehicles- 1 Sewer Plant Maintenance, Internal- 1 Sewer Plant Maintenance

B. Councilman Denmon gave the September reports as follows:

1) The Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Pumped a total of 313,948,000 gallons of water for a daily average of 10,464,933 million gallons
- The Brittany Drive Treatment Plant produced 38.4% of the City's potable water for the month.

2) The Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Treated a daily average of 6.312 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 3, average suspended effluent of 9, and an average COD of 43.

3) Water Distribution

- 4 water connections installed
- 6 water connections changed out with new meter
- 56 water leaks repaired
- 1- 6" meter changed out
- Responded to 460 utility locate calls
- 59 utility locates called in for work orders
- 25 emergency utility locates called in for repairs
- Responded to 306 miscellaneous calls

4) Sewer Construction Department

- Provided 1 sewer connection during the month
- Serviced 33 sewer service lines
- Repaired 2 sewer manholes
- TV inspected 5,212 ft of sewer mains
- TV inspected 1,375 ft of sewer services
- Completed 325 utility locates
- Responded to 2 customer sewer service calls (2 were on the customer's side)
- Lift Station Repairs-2
- Opened and inspected 124 manholes
- Cleaned 8,750 ft. sanitary sewer lines
- Began replacing old sewer services on MLK project on 9/01/09
- Assisted C & S Construction with start of MLK Sewer main replacement on 9/17/09
- Returned to Big Springs Well site and began working on water line installation on 9/14/09
- Replaced 30' of 8" concrete line with pvc pipe on Valley Circle

5) Sludge Department

- Applied 1,648 cubic yards representing 206.8 dry tons of sludge

6) Building Inspection Department

- Issued 18 permits for an estimated cost of \$166,800.00. This included 4 residential remodeling, 1 commercial plumbing, 1 residential HVAC, 3 commercial HVAC, 1 new industrial plumbing, 5 residential electrical, 1 commercial electrical, and 2 sign permits.

C. Councilman Crowley gave the September reports as follows:

1) 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 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 Electric Department has applied jointly with other Georgia cities in acquiring a stimulus based "Smart-Grid" Grant.
- The Padmount transformer Inspection Project by Electric Department personnel is continuing.
- The electric AMR Project is progressing with 4265 residential and single phase demand electric meters and three phase meters set through September 30th.

Projects and Maintenance under construction

- The Pole Replacement project is near completion in the Maplewood Subdivision and Forrest Heights Apt
- Planning and design is underway for the Georgia Northwestern technical College phase III. Construction and design of the campus is being revised.
- 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 has been delayed until 2010.
- The Coosa Senior Complex Phase 2 engineering and design is complete. The construction and lighting has been completed.
- 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 into October.
- Preliminary Electrical design and engineering is complete and construction is near completion for the Bentley Project on McDaniel Station Rd. An outdoor campus lighting project is being added and is in the design phase with materials placed on ordered. The Phase II of this project is under construction by the owners.
- Shaw plants D4 and D5 are in the process of upgrading service entrances requiring transformer change outs.
- The new Heritage Baptist Church is in the design stage.
- McDonald's on Hwy 53 renovations are in the planning stage.

- Traffic light at Dews Pond Rd. and Lovers Lane is being changed out to accommodate additional turn lanes.
- 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. Construction start is now scheduled for October
- Engineering continues for changes needed for upgrade of eleven traffic signals throughout the city. This project is delayed until early 2010.
- Engineering is underway on the DOT intersection improvement at the College Street and Red Bud Rd. location.

Work orders in process or completed for June

- Street and security lighting-43
- New business and maintenance-30
- After hours trouble and callouts-15
- City Electrical Maintenance-40
- Meters set-557
- Meter maintenance/replacement-85
- New Customer sets-13
- Electric System purchased-27,385,171 KWH in August

2) Telecommunications Department

- Connected 5 new Internet circuits and 2 are on order.
- Fiber construction on Wrights Hollow Road and Lakewood Drive is complete.
- Testing file backup routines with City Hall server files transferred to new server.
- Upgraded servers with latest software patches and upgrades.
- Moved City School's Internet connection from Calhoun High School to the BOE.
- Opened 41 and closed 51 work orders

3) Geographic Information Systems

- Cleaning up Wastewater Construction data and line connectivity.
- Using valve locations to correct water line locations for Water Construction data. Valve locations should be finished in October.
- Trained Electric Engineer on using GIS printouts for field crews. Started inputting backlogged Electric work orders into GIS. Sent new electric use data to Electric Cities of Georgia in support of rate study. Created various AMR electric reports.
- Uploaded new incidents for Police Department
- Correcting addresses in work order system in preparation of integrating work order data into GIS
- Created new application interface for fiber GIS.
- Continued GIS web development.

D. Councilman Hammond gave the September report as follows:

1) Police Department

- Made 552 cases with 4 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$75,203.80
- Issued 467 warnings
- Investigated 51 highway accidents, 22 private property accidents
- Provided 77 escorts
- Files 1,550 incident reports
- Responded to 324 alarms
- Patrolled 51,647 miles
- Responded to 5,147 calls for service by E-911
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federal Government's Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms Division, which will accept two of the Calhoun City Police Department's Special Operations officers as sworn agents with their agency. Any cases that are handled in our area or our assistance are required in other areas the overtime incurred will be reimbursed to the city budget.
- Calhoun City Police Department hosted the North American Police Working Dog Association certification seminar here in Calhoun. Sixty-seven law enforcement K-9's and their handlers were in Calhoun for six days to certify their working dogs. They all expressed many thanks for the hospitality and spoke often of how friendly everyone was and most very disappointed that we were not going to host the seminar next year.

2) Fire Department

- Responded to 89 calls for service, 6 fire incidents for damages
- Responded to 47 medical service calls with 40 patients and 3 deaths
- Responded to 11 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 4 miscellaneous service calls, 15 false alarms, 4 good intent, 0 severe weather & natural disaster, and 2 special incident call
- Conducted fire drill at Calhoun High School, and Gordon Central High School
- Conducted a Fire Extinguisher class; George Chambers Center and Calhoun High School for 300 students in the Construction trades and health care programs.
- Task Force 6 GSAR Team participated in a class/exercise at the Center for National Response in West Virginia with the 4th CST, GBI Bomb Tech, and Brunswick WMD Swat Team. We took 30 from Task Force 6 and 10 from Task Force 2 (Valdosta)
- Took an Engine to Calhoun Health Care for a presentation.
- Assisted with the Fair parade and with the Gordon Central bon fire at homecoming.
- Hosted Cub Scouts at Station 1 for tour and class on fire safety.

3) Fire Inspection Department

- 138 total reported activities/inspections which included 3 annual inspections, 9 new business inspections, 39 requested inspections, 7 follow-up or re-inspections, 1 plan review, and 76 consultations
- Lt. Dooley attended city safety meeting
- Inspectors attended City Annexation meeting
- Both inspectors attended the LEPC August meeting
- Inspectors coordinated the fire drills and extinguisher classes

7. Public Hearings and Comments

A. Mayor Palmer announced 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 an annexation and zoning request of R1-B by Philip Beamer for property located at 128 Columbus Circle. The acreage is 0.46.

- 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
- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the annexation of 0.46 acres located at 128 Columbus Circle by Philip Beamer. The motion was second by Councilman Hammond with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning of R1-B for 0.46 acres located at 128 Columbus Circle by Philip Beamer. The motion was second by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

2) Mayor Palmer read a beer package license request by Ram C. Thapa of ABC Convenience located at 703 Oothcalooga St.

- 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 Hammond with all voting aye.
- 3) Mayor Palmer read a wine pouring license request by Kristina Maddux-Lawrence of Schroder's New Deli located at 120 Cornerstone Way, Suite 2.
- 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 Hammond with all voting aye.

8. Old Business

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of a beer package request by Cleopatra Alvarez of La Costena Mini Market located at 609 North Wall Street.
- The public hearing is set for October 26, 2009.

9. New Business

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first 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. Mayor Palmer explained that policies and procedures would be necessary to continue the implementation of CDBG o8b-x-064-2-5030. This \$800,000 grant is for water, sewer, and housing in the West Calhoun area. He explained the draft Policies and Procedures would allow for certain loans, repayments, construction, contracts, agreements, and due process to take place during the CDBG time span. The earliest possible date for the public hearing would be November 9, 2009.
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to set the public hearing for November 9, 2009. The motion was second by Councilman Crowley will all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the first 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 earliest date for public hearing is November 9, 2009.

- Councilman Denmon made a motion to set the public hearing for November 9, 2009. The motion was second by Councilman Crowley with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- C. Mayor Palmer explained that the Georgia Department of Transportation had contacted the City of Calhoun with an offer to provide high mast lighting for the 2011 construction of I-75 at SR 156. This interchange improvement project will be a comprehensive revamping of the bridge, approaches, accel/decel, and other associated improvements. By agreeing to the resolution and maintenance agreement the City of Calhoun would be responsible for the energy and maintenance of the high mast lighting system.
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to accept the agreement between the City of Calhoun and the Georgia Department of Transportation. The motion was second by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- D. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of new Soil and Sedimentation Control Ordinance. This ordinance is to replace ordinance # 765. The earliest date for a public hearing would be November 9, 2009.
- Councilman Crowley made a motion to set the public hearing for November 9, 2009. The motion was second by Councilman Edwards with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- E. Mayor Palmer explained that the Coosa Valley Technical Foundation had requested that their outstanding UDAG Revolving Loan be refinanced from 5% to 2%. Councilman Crowley explained that the CVTC Foundation would prefer to retain the current loan of \$170,375 with the City of Calhoun rather than pay off the loan. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, the agency responsible for the oversight of the Calhoun Revolving Loans, has indicated that Calhoun's RLF assets and cash balances were higher than recommended, and any additional amounts added back to the fund could place the City of Calhoun in a position of returning RLF monies to the State of Georgia.
- Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve CVTC Foundation's request to reissue the loan at 2% for the remaining term of the loan with the request that City Attorney Bailey draw up the proper modifications to the revised loan note. The motion was second by Councilman Hammond with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- F. Mayor Palmer read 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 crossing the CSX rail line and meet at the Depot for a series of honors. Mr. Al Williams spoke about what the group was trying to accomplish with the MLK march. Mayor Palmer asked

Ms. Gaines to meet with Administrator Peterson to clarify several items and the Council would address the request at the October 26, 2009 regular Council meeting.

10. Other written items not on the agenda

11. Work Reports

A. Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities Director Cornwell explained a Meet Point Agreement between Windstream Georgia Communication LLC and the City of Calhoun. The agreement would allow the City of Calhoun to expand its transportation of data services and increase the service area.

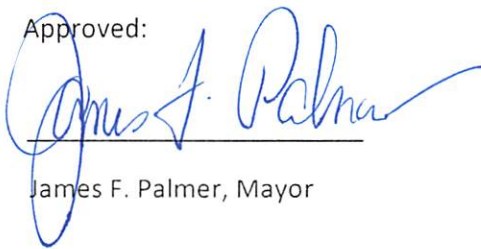
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to accept the agreement. The motion was second by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

B. Director Cornwell explained that bids were solicited for additional automatic meter reading system equipment (AMR) Phase II. He stated that there was only one bidder, Kendall Supply Inc. Their bid was \$1,397,925 for the additional equipment.

- Councilman Edwards made a motion to accept the bid by Kendall Supply Inc. The motion was second by Councilman Hammond with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

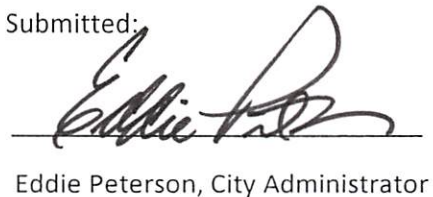
12. Councilman Hammond made a motion to adjourn. The motion was second by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Eddie Peterson, City Administrator

CITY OF CALHOUN
GORDON COUNTY, GEORGIA

RESOLUTION

A Resolution of the City of Calhoun Council
Approval to Request GDOT to Add High Mast Lighting
At the Intersection of I-75 and SR Hwy 156

WHEREAS, the City of Calhoun recognizes the safety benefits from lighting an interchange;
and,

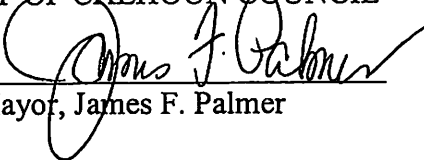
WHEREAS, Georgia Department of Transportation will evaluate to see if the Requirements for lighting are met as specified in Chapter 14 of the "Design Policy Manual" once requested by the County, and,

WHEREAS, Georgia Department of Transportation will then develop an Agreement for Energy, Maintenance and Operation and send to the County for execution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Calhoun Council hereby request Georgia Department of Transportation to assist in placing High Mast Lighting at I-75 and SR Hwy. 156 as part of project number IM000-0075-03 (189) GORDON COUNTY P.I. 610750.

This 13th day of October, 2009.

CITY OF CALHOUN COUNCIL

BY 
Mayor, James F. Palmer

ATTEST;


City Administrator, Eddie Peterson