

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
AUGUST 23, 1999, 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

**PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
John D. Shelton, Jr., Councilman
Henry Holland, Councilman
Ray M. Denmon, Councilman**

ABSENT: Ronald H. Woods, Mayor Pro Tem

**ALSO: William P. Bailey, City Attorney
Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities and Public Works
Eddie Peterson, Assistant Director of Utilities and Public Works
Cathy Harrison, City Administrator**

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
 - a. Councilman Holland gave the Invocation.
2. Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. Minutes of the August 9, 1999 regular City Council meeting were approved as written.
4. Mayor's Comments:
 - a. Mayor Palmer expressed sympathy to the family of Charles Sloan, who passed away on Tuesday, August 17, 1999. Mayor Palmer stated that Mr. Sloan had served on the Calhoun Zoning Advisory Board for more than nine years and had been of great service to the City of Calhoun.
 - b. Mayor Palmer stated that Mayor Pro Tem Woods was out of town for several days and was unable to attend the meeting.
 - c. Mayor Palmer reminded everyone of the Unity Run, sponsored by United Way, on August 26, 1999, to begin at the Calhoun High School track and end at Ratner Stadium at Gordon Central High School.
 - d. Mayor Palmer reminded the Council and general public of public hearings scheduled for September 13 at 7:00 P.M.
 1. A request for new zoning of R-1 and annexation of William H. Edwards for a house and lot at 365 Thornwood Drive SE, Calhoun, Georgia.
 2. A zoning variance request of Pierce Hardy Limited Partnership, to reduce the number of parking spaces for a lumber yard to be opened on Richardson Road. The area is currently zoned C-2.
 - e. Mayor Palmer and County Commission Chairman J. C. Maddox reviewed a joint proclamation from the City and County regarding the declaration of September as literacy month in Calhoun and Gordon County. The proclamation was provided to the Calhoun-Gordon County Literacy Council, Kyle and Vivian Smith, with Mrs. Ann Vaughn assisting.
 - f. Mayor Palmer reminded everyone of the GMA Pre-legislative Conference scheduled for October at Jekyll Island and asked the council members to notify Administrator Harrison if they would be able to attend.
5. Public Hearings and Comments:
 - a. A third reading was given of a liquor pouring license request of Elizabeth Martinez, d/b/a Grill Villa Juarez, at 607 South Wall Street. A public hearing was opened. Mayor Palmer acknowledged that Ms. Martinez presently holds a beer pouring license for the restaurant. He stated the police report had not been received but a clear report was given earlier in the year. He stated if the request is approved, it should be subject to a second clear police report. Following discussion, Councilman Holland made a motion to approve the liquor pouring license request for Elizabeth Martinez, d/b/a Grill Villa Juarez, subject to a clear police report. The motion was seconded by Councilman Shelton, with

Councilman Holland, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.

6. Old Business:

- a. Attorney Bailey reviewed a second draft of a sign ordinance, the draft to be a complete revision of the City's current sign ordinance. Attorney Bailey asked for each council member to review and to notify him of any comments they might have prior to the next council meeting. He reviewed several portions, which are different from the current ordinance. Following review, Mayor Palmer asked for a motion to set the first hearing for September 13. Following discussion, Councilman Denmon made a motion to set the first sign ordinance hearing for September 13, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Councilman Shelton, with Councilman Denmon, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Holland voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- b. Following review of the D.O.T. contract for the Piedmont Street base and paving, Councilman Holland made a motion to approve the contract and to authorize the mayor to sign. The motion was seconded by Councilman Shelton, with Councilman Holland, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.

7. New Business:

- a. Mayor Palmer read a request for approval of two traditional parades on the approved route on Highway 41 (Wall Street,) the first being the Calhoun Christmas Light Parade on December 3, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. The second is the Cherokee Capital Fair on September 11, 1999 at 11:00 A.M. Following review of the requests, Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve, subject to D.O.T. approval. The motion was seconded by Councilman Shelton, with Councilman Denmon, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Holland voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- b. Mayor Palmer asked each Councilman to review the information provided regarding *ad valorem* tax millage for 1999 and asked for a public hearing to be set on September 13. Following discussion, Councilman Denmon made a motion to set the public hearing for establishing the *ad valorem* tax millage for 1999 on September 13, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Councilman Shelton, with Councilman Denmon, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Holland voting affirmatively, motion carried.

8. Other written items not on the agenda:

- a. Mayor Palmer reviewed a taxicab application by Jose Martinez, who presently operates the Spanish taxi in Dalton, Georgia, with a request to provide services in the Calhoun area. He stated the earliest date for a hearing would be September 13, 1999. Following discussion, Councilman Denmon made a motion to set the hearing for the application for September 13, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Councilman Shelton, with Councilman Denmon, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Holland voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- b. Mayor Palmer stated the Police Department had provided a request to purchase a laser gun for speed reduction efforts. The gun is priced at \$3,898.00 and is the first of three that would be requested by the Police Department. Eddie Peterson stated the Chief and members of his department had reviewed the laser gun and determined that it would be much more effective than traditional efforts at maintaining proper speed limits in various high traffic areas. Following discussion, Councilman Shelton made a motion to approve the purchase from special police funds. The motion was seconded by Councilman Holland, with Councilman Shelton, Councilman Holland and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.

9. Work report of Director of Utilities and Public Works – Kelly Cornwell.

- a. Director Cornwell stated the City has filed an additional 15 million gallons per day raw water withdrawal permit application from the Coosawatee River, as of Monday, August 23.
- b. Director Cornwell stated the City of Chatsworth had requested additional water at a connecting line between the City of Calhoun's water service and the City of Chatsworth, stating that should rain not come within the next few days, it might

- be necessary for them to purchase additional water. Director Cornwell stated that based upon our well activity, the City would have water available.
- c. Director Cornwell stated the generator had been off for three days due to lower temperatures and the price of electricity not being cost effective to run the generator at this point.
 - d. Director Cornwell stated the North Industrial sewer interceptor project continues to be surveyed, with two parcels being required in order for the survey to be completed. He stated these are in negotiation and he expects the survey to be completed shortly.
 - e. Director Cornwell stated the utility work on Piedmont Street is finished. This will allow the City to concentrate on other areas that must be addressed. One of the primary areas is the Kentucky Drive sewer request. He stated this is being revisited, with new cost estimates being provided, since a primary sewer easement will not be available.
10. Mayor Palmer asked if it was necessary to move to executive session. The response was negative.
11. Councilman Holland made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilman Shelton, with Councilman Holland, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Cathy Harrison, City Administrator