

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
MARCH 22, 1999, 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

**PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Ronald H. Woods, Mayor Pro Tem
John D. Shelton, Jr., Councilman
Henry Holland, Councilman
Ray M. Denmon, Councilman**

**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.
 - 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 March 8, 1999 regular city council meeting were approved as written.
4. Mayor's Comments:
 - a. Mayor Palmer reminded the Council of the spring GMA District Meeting at Cartersville on April 21, 1999 at 6:30 P.M. He asked those who planned to attend to please notify Administrator Harrison as soon as possible.
 - b. Mayor Palmer announced the grand opening of the U. S. General Store on March 16, 1999, and announced the group would be at the Depot every-other Tuesday to respond to citizen's questions on Social Security, Medicare and federal taxes. He asked all the news media to continue to remind everyone of their attendance and ability to meet with the public every-other Tuesday.
 - c. Mayor Palmer reminded the Council of the public hearings that were tabled until April 12, 1999.
 - 1) Vivian Byrd rezoning request from R-1 to C-2;
 - 2) Joel Ostuw rezoning request from O&I to C-2.
 - d. Mayor Palmer proposed a resolution acknowledging the Pilot Club for their many activities in the community, and also to recognize them for their many years of sponsoring the Junior Miss Pageant. He read a resolution and presented it to members of the Pilot Club, Debbie Hogshead and Caryn Simms.
 - e. Mayor Palmer announced the Recreation Department's 9 and 10 year old boys' baseball team won the State championship. The team was composed of boys from the City and County. He congratulated the team for its efforts.
5. Public hearings and comments:
 - a. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing on the City's CDBG Innovative Grant application. He asked Dave Ronningen, Grant Administrator, to review the proposed project and the grant criteria. Mr. Ronningen reviewed the program, explaining the type of funding which is available through the Community Development Block Grant, otherwise known as CDBG funds. He reviewed the rating system and the proposed project, which is to reconstruct the burned building on Court Street. He stated the City has a prospective tenant for the building, which will create several low and moderate-income jobs, and which will be an asset to the community. He reviewed the source of funding, as well as the eligible activities under the program. He stated there were three types of activities: housing; public facilities; and economic development. He stated the proposed project would fall under economic development. The grant would require a maximum out of the possible 600 points, in order for it to be more favorable than the competition throughout the state. Harrison reviewed the status of the current CDBG project the City has in process, which falls under the criteria of public facilities. It is a project for water, sewer and street improvements in the

first phase of the Echota Mill Village. Harrison stated the City hopes to have the project fairly well completed by June 30, 1999 and has applied for additional funding for Phase II of the Mill Village project. Mr. Ronningen provided handouts regarding housing and stated these were available for the general public. Mr. Ronningen responded to questions from the audience regarding the total amount of the proposed project, which would be approximately \$254,000.00, and a proposed award date, if it is approved, in late June. There were no further questions and the hearing was closed.

6. Old business: **none.**

7. New Business:

- a. Mayor Palmer read a resolution declaring the property at 114 Court Street a blighted area. Following review of the resolution, Councilman Holland made a motion to approve and adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Woods, with Councilman Holland, Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- b. Mayor Palmer reviewed a letter received from the County Commission, requesting the City, along with other municipalities, to adopt a littering resolution, which proposes to coordinate efforts with the County and other municipalities and school systems, to educate and to eradicate litter on city and county roads. Mayor Palmer read the proposed resolution, with Councilman Shelton making a motion to approve, second by Councilman Denmon, with Councilman Shelton, Councilman Denmon, Mayor Pro Tem Woods and Councilman Holland voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- c. Mayor Palmer stated the City had received a resignation from Mark Ethridge from the Downtown Development Authority Board. He stated Mr. Ethridge had accepted a new position and he did not have sufficient time to do the job he felt was needed for the Downtown Development Authority Board. The Downtown Development Authority Board had requested the Council to approve Kent Chapman to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Ethridge, which would be until June 30, 2001. Following discussion, Councilman Holland made a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Kent Chapman until June 30, 2001. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Woods, with Councilman Holland, Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried. Mayor Palmer recognized Mr. Ethridge for his excellent efforts while serving as a member of the Downtown Development Authority Board.
- d. Assistant Director Eddie Peterson reviewed a proposal from the Police Department for a thermal light meter, which would allow the Police Department as well, as the Fire Department, to use the equipment to locate items based on heat. The proposed unit would use infra-red heat, would assist with locating individuals in smoke filled fire areas. It would also assist the Police Department, not only in the location of individuals, but of items that had been handled and discarded by individuals. He stated the thermal light equipment would be in the neighborhood of \$13,000.00, and he proposed it be funded through the drug funds that currently have a sufficient balance. Councilman Shelton, as Police Commissioner, stated he had also discussed the matter with the Police Chief, and he concurred with the recommendation. Councilman Shelton made a motion to approve the purchase of the equipment following bidding, and to authorize the funding from the special drug fund account. The motion was seconded by Councilman Holland, with Councilman Shelton, Councilman Holland, Mayor Pro Tem Woods and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- e. Mayor Palmer stated the City had received a request from the Housing Authority under its corporate name of Calhoun Affordable Housing, for the City to consider the waiver of certain fees and costs associated with a proposed housing project, which would be funded through tax credits and would involve public and private investors. Mayor Palmer stated that under the present scenario, it did not qualify for waiver of funds, and he would request the matter to be held at this time.


8. Other written items not on the agenda: **none**

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

- a. Director Cornwell stated the water line work on the bridge at Resaca had been completed and the system should be on line later this week.

- b. He stated the work on well number 3 is progressing and should be on line by summer. He stated the state is considering the type of filter system and is hoping for immediate approval by EPD, with purchase and installation very shortly. He stated the city contractor has videoed the well, and at this time, they are trying to identify the source of infiltration.
 - c. Cornwell stated the generator project is progressing on schedule. Footings are to be poured this week. The natural gas tap request is at FERC, and the air permit request is progressing on schedule.
10. Report of Eddie Peterson, Assistant Director of Utilities and Public Works:
- a. Peterson stated the bid openings for the Piedmont Street wall project would be opened March 25, 1999 at 3:00 P.M. at the Purchasing Department.
 - b. He stated the Street Department continues to work on storm drainage on King Street, to eradicate the water problems in the area. He stated, in the past few months, storm water improvements have been made in Spring Valley, Montclair, Louise Avenue, and Dan Cheri Drive.
 - c. He stated the DOT traffic signal on South Industrial Boulevard is moving forward and should be on line shortly.
 - d. He stated on March 29, 1999, a bid package for lighting and for street marking should be opened for the College Street Project.
 - e. He stated the trail project is moving forward in the Clarence Harris Park and that bids should be obtained in the next few weeks for the pedestrian paths, which is the first major project which needs to be completed in order for the park project to move forward. He stated there had been many delays due to federal and state guidelines that had to be adhered to prior to state approval.
 - f. He stated the Executive Park paving project is almost complete and should be finished by mid-April. He stated this would be a tremendous asset for traffic in the area.
 - g. He stated the Recreation parking lot should be paved very shortly by the County.
 - h. He stated the fire arms training center in the City's old gym located on West Line Street should be opened later this month, and should be a tremendous asset for the Police Department, the County Sheriff's Office and also for the National Guard.
 - i. Peterson stated he had been working with David Huff of DOT regarding the truck traffic in downtown Calhoun, and possible ways of moving the traffic out of the downtown area.
 - j. Peterson stated the City had received notification that DOT had approved a traffic light for Highway 53 at Bryant Parkway. However, he had no idea when it would be implemented.
 - k. He stated he had also received notice that the City had received 2.6 miles of LARP paving for the year, and these would include several city streets.
 - l. Peterson stated the City is a member of the Coosa Basin Watershed program and there is currently legislation at the state that would provide a study of the Coosa Basin and its needs for the future. If these funds are not made available by the legislature, then this project will need to be funded by some other method. He stated the City's ability to receive increased levels of water is most important for Calhoun.
11. Mayor Palmer stated there was no need to move to Executive Session.
12. Mayor Pro Tem Woods made a motion to adjourn, second by Councilman Shelton, with Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Shelton, Councilman Holland and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Cathy Harrison, City Administrator

**CITY OF CALHOUN
GEORGIA**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Calhoun is submitting a CDBG application for competition under the Department of Community Affairs' 1998 Innovative Program competition; and

WHEREAS, the application must document that at least one of the national objectives of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) will be met; and

WHEREAS, one of the required national objectives is the elimination or prevention of slums and blight; and

WHEREAS, the City of Calhoun has documented that the property located at 114 Court Street, Calhoun, Georgia is a blighting influence under local standards, detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare and that the property's deterioration is negatively affecting the surrounding neighborhood, community facilities and local tax base;

WHEREAS, the City of Calhoun proposes to develop a contract with the Calhoun Downtown Development Authority, who will alleviate the aforementioned blight through the use of CDBG monies to implement certain building rehabilitation activities that the City of Calhoun has determined meet the local and federal definition of activities which aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight on a spot basis per 24 CFR Part 570.483(c)(2).

WHEREAS, the City of Calhoun feels that the rehabilitation, conservation and redevelopment of the area is necessary to facilitate the elimination and prevention of slums and blighting influences to the surrounding area and that these actions are necessary to the public health, safety and welfare of the City of Calhoun.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Calhoun hereby approves this Resolution.


ADOPTED and made effective this 22nd day of March 1999.

City of Calhoun, Georgia



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Attest:



Cathy Harrison, City Administrator

**CITY OF CALHOUN
GEORGIA**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, littering throughout the City of Calhoun and Gordon County presents a public hazard to all citizens throughout Gordon County; and

WHEREAS, littering on our roads, streets, and bridges throughout Calhoun and Gordon County has become an embarrassment and reflects negatively on all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, littering throughout Calhoun and Gordon County is detrimental to our economic well-being by discouraging tourism, business and industry from viewing our County in the most favorable light; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of senseless littering cannot be achieved solely through governmental initiatives and actions; and


WHEREAS, the successful abatement of littering can only be accomplished through a partnership with families, educational institutions, law enforcement, the courts and the media;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Calhoun that:

- ☞ Educational institutions within the City of Calhoun stress the environmental and legal consequences of littering to their students; and
- ☞ Students communicate those consequences to other members of their families; and
- ☞ The media, through frequent public service announcements on radio, television and in print, help to educate the public about the environmental, economic and legal consequences of littering; and
- ☞ All city employees, together with all officers and officials of the City already empowered to enforce city littering ordinances, make a concerted effort to observe and report violators; and
- ☞ All law enforcement agencies in the City of Calhoun conscientiously enforce littering laws by filing charges in a court of competent jurisdiction for all violators of state laws, municipal codes, and county ordinances prohibiting littering; and
- ☞ The appropriate court of competent jurisdiction in which such charges are filed and a conviction obtained, sentence such violators to the fullest extent possible under the laws of this state.

ADOPTED and made effective this 22nd day of March 1999, in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Calhoun.

**Mayor and City Council
City of Calhoun, Georgia**



James F. Palmer, Mayor


Ronald H. Woods, Mayor Pro Tem


John D. Shelton, Jr., Councilman


Henry Holland, Councilman


Ray M. Denmon, Councilman


Attest: Cathy Harrison, City Administrator

**CITY OF CALHOUN,
GEORGIA**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Pilot Club of Calhoun has sponsored the Junior Miss competition for several years, the first being in 1957, with the local winner being Carol Johnson Nance; and

WHEREAS, the Junior Miss competition allows local winners to move into state competition and be eligible for scholarships and prizes, in addition to being honored locally; and

WHEREAS, the Pilot Club has been fortunate to have had two local winners to become state winners: Ms. Anita Evans Davis and Ms. Dana Brown Gay; and

WHEREAS, the Pilot Club had one local winner to become the National Junior Miss: Ms. Becky Jones; and

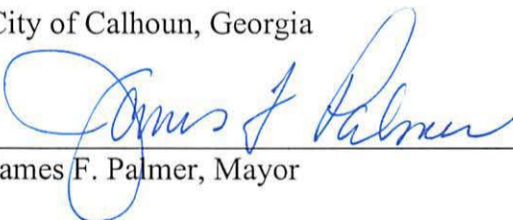
WHEREAS, the Pilot Club has one of the best operated programs in the state and has thirteen local candidates for the competition on April 17, 1999.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Calhoun that April 17, 1999 be proclaimed as Junior Miss Day for Calhoun, Gordon County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the City of Calhoun commend the Pilot Club for their work with the young women of the community, in addition to the other community projects sponsored by the club, such as assisting with adult literacy, safe kids programs, and projects for the handicapped.

ADOPTED this the 22nd day of March 1999.

City of Calhoun, Georgia



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Attest:



Cathy Harrison, City Administrator