

**CITY OF CALHOUN  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM  
109 SOUTH KING STREET  
JULY 26, 1999, 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

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

**ABSENT: Henry Holland, 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 in attendance.
  - a. Mayor Palmer gave the Invocation.
2. Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. Minutes of the July 12, 1999 regular City Council meeting were approved as written.
4. Mayor's Comments:
  - a. Mayor Palmer stated Councilman Holland was out of town and unable to attend the meeting.
  - b. Mayor Palmer reminded everyone of the visit by the U. S. General Store to the Recreation Department on July 27, 1999 from 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. He stated they would be attending with members from Social Security and he urged anyone needing their assistance to visit the Recreation Department during those hours.
  - c. Mayor Palmer reminded everyone of the annual United Way Unity Run #6 through downtown Calhoun on August 26, 1999, beginning at the Calhoun High School track and ending at Ratner Stadium on the Gordon Central High School campus. The start time will be 7:00 P.M.
  - d. Mayor Palmer announced the following public hearings scheduled for August 9, 1999 at 7:00 P.M.
    1. A request by Century 21, as agents for Howard G. Smith and William Lee, for a zoning variance request to allow a mobile sales office to be erected at 101 Twin Oaks Drive for sale of lots in the newly developed subdivision off Newtown Road.
    2. A request by James A. Moss for new zoning of C-2 and R-1 and annexation of approximately 8 acres at 1210 Dews Pond Road. Approximately 6.75 acres abutting Dews Pond Road and Curtis Parkway will be zoned C-2. The balance of the acreage abutting Dews Pond Road is to be zoned R-1.
    3. A request by Dwight Patterson for new zoning of C-2 and annexation of Tract 2 in Land Lot 303, consisting of 1.27 acres off Frontage Road and Old Belwood Road.
  - e. Mayor Palmer announced a public hearing on August 23, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. for a liquor pouring license request of Elizabeth Martinez, d/b/a Grill Villa Juarez, at 607 South Wall Street.
5. Public Hearings and Comments: **none.**
6. Old Business:
  - a. Mayor Palmer gave a second reading of the water rate resolution, which increases water rates, effective on July 1, 1999, for services that will be billed in August 1999. Mayor Palmer stated the City of Calhoun continues to have one of the lowest rates in the State. He asked if there was any discussion. There was none.


Mayor Pro Tem Woods made a motion to waive the third and fourth reading of the resolution and to approve as read, second by Councilman Shelton, with Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.

- b. Mayor Palmer gave a second reading of the taxicab/limousine license application of Ofelio L. Lara, residing at 601 Fourth Avenue, Dalton, Georgia. Mayor Palmer stated the police report was clear and asked if there were any questions regarding the application. There were none. Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve the application, subject to proper registration of drivers at the Calhoun Police Department and subject to evidence of insurance prior to issuance of the license. The motion was seconded by Councilman Shelton, with Councilman Denmon, Councilman Shelton and Mayor Pro Tem Woods voting affirmatively, motion carried.
7. New Business:
- a. Mayor Palmer stated Main Street Partnership had requested the closing of King Street from the Oothcalooga intersection to the southernmost entrance of Hardee's on August 6, 1999, from 5:00 P.M. until 10:00 P.M., for Rodeo Days, which will be held at the Depot. Following discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Woods made a motion to approve the road closing as requested, second by Councilman Denmon, with Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Denmon and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
  - b. Mayor Palmer reviewed the proposed amendment to the water and sewer extension policy including the new sewer policy, which was approved in February 1999, and to consolidate other policies regarding water line extensions on existing public rights-of-way. Following discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Woods made a motion to approve the amended water and sewer policy, second by Councilman Shelton, with Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.
  - c. Mayor Palmer asked Attorney Bailey if he would review the first draft of the sign ordinance amendment. Attorney Bailey stated the first draft was an attempt to get a document prepared for the Council to begin discussion and to think about setting up public hearings for consideration of a final document. He stated the proposed draft addressed signs located on the interstate and also addressed quadrants and the number of signs per quadrant and footages from each sign. It also addressed any signage that would be allowed on other primary roads, such as Highway 225, Highway 156, Highway 41, etc., and temporary signs. Mayor Palmer asked each member of the Council to review the proposed draft, with a discussion in August as to the time frame for public hearings.
  - d. Mayor Palmer asked Attorney Bailey if he had reviewed the changes requested by his office to the Hill Exline Architectural Service Agreement for the reconstruction of the building on Court Street. Attorney Bailey stated those changes had been made and he would recommend a motion to allow the Mayor to sign the document. Following discussion, Councilman Denmon made a motion to authorize Mayor Palmer to sign the Architectural Service Agreement of Hill Exline Associates, Inc., second by Councilman Shelton, with Councilman Denmon, Councilman Shelton and Mayor Pro Tem Woods voting affirmatively, motion carried.
8. Other written items not on the agenda:
- a. Attorney Bailey gave a first reading of an ordinance that restates the adoption of the building, gas, mechanical, plumbing, electrical, one and two family dwelling and fire prevention codes for either 1997 or 1996, plus any revisions. The Ordinance provides for clarification of procedure, in case of any conflicts among the provisions of the fire prevention code or any revisions. The code that is most restrictive would prevail. Attorney Bailey stated this would enable the Building Inspection and Fire Inspection Departments to have a clearer understanding of exactly which area would be in charge of particular areas of inspection and the level of inspection. Mayor Palmer stated he felt the ordinance would clarify and would give assistance to all of the inspectors. He asked for a public hearing to be set. Mayor Pro Tem Woods made a motion to set the public hearing on August 9, 1999 at 7:00 P.M., second by Councilman Shelton, with Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Shelton and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.

9. Work report of Director of Utilities and Public Works – Kelly Cornwell.
  - a. Director Cornwell stated for the past week, a heat wave has been in North Georgia and has caused the City of Calhoun to operate its generator on a continual basis each day. He stated the generator has performed well and has certainly been most beneficial from a financial standpoint during the past week.
  - b. Director Cornwell stated the work in the Mill Village continues. The project should be nearing completion within the next several weeks.
  
10. Work report of Assistant Director of Utilities and Public Works – Eddie Peterson.
  - a. Peterson stated the Piedmont project is a major infrastructure project requiring substantial replacement of water and sewer lines, in addition to new water and sewer taps for each of the residences and businesses located along Piedmont Street. It is also an opportunity to install a storm drainage system in the area, which is a substantial amount of construction. Curb and gutter will also be installed, as well as sidewalks, in addition to new base and paving. The work will also include 16 new catch basins that are being installed in the section from the Courthouse to the Highway 41 intersection. Peterson stated the work had been under way for 42 days and he expects the work will continue for approximately two months, until the project is completed.
  
11. Mayor Pro Tem Woods made a motion to move to Executive Session for discussion of specific personnel, the motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon, with Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Denmon and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
  
12. Mayor Pro Tem Woods made a motion to move to General Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon, with Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Denmon and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
  
13. Mayor Pro Tem Woods stated based upon the discussion in Executive Session, he would make a motion to approve 5% pay increases for the two top managers of the City and a 7% increase for the manager-trainee and for the City Attorney pay to be increased from \$95.00 per hour to \$100.00 per hour, with these rates to be effective at the same time the employee pay increases will be effective, as per those adopted in the city budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon, with Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Denmon and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
  
14. Mayor Pro Tem Woods made a motion to adjourn, second by Councilman Denmon, with Mayor Pro Tem Woods, Councilman Denmon and Councilman Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:

Submitted:

  
James F. Palmer, Mayor

  
Cathy Harrison, City Administrator