

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
APRIL 9, 2012 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

**PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
George Crowley, Councilman
David Hammond, Councilman
Matt Barton, Councilman**

ABSENT: Al Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem

**ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
Bill Bailey, City Attorney
Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager
Jeff DeFoor, Director of Electric Utilities
Paul Worley, City Clerk
Jerry Crawford, Water and Sewer Director
Gary Moss, Chief of Police
Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief
Brad Carrick, Telecommunications Director**

- 1.** Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
 - A. Councilman Hammond 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 agenda, Councilman Hammond seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.
- 4.** Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2012 City Council Meeting. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the March 26, 2012 executive session meeting. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- 5. Mayor's Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Palmer recognized and thanked the Calhoun Home Depot for donating plants, materials, and labor for renovating a landscape bed in front of Fire Station #3 on Curtis Parkway.

6. Council Comments:

A. Mayor Palmer gave the March reports as follows:

1) Police Department

- Made 789 cases with 8 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$94,427.40
- Issued 854 warnings
- Investigated 44 highway accidents, 29 private property accidents
- Provided 69 escorts
- 1,568 incident reports
- Responded to 803 alarms
- Patrolled 51,146 miles
- Responded to 5,404 calls for service by E-911

2) Municipal Court and Probation

- Total Court cases- 594
- Total fines and fees- \$72,120
- Court cases dropped- 97
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 401
- Number of Probation cases- 53
- Probation Payments- \$40,654
- Probation Revocations- 2
- Failure to appear- 55
- Prisoner transports- 15

3) Fire Department

- Responded to 131 calls for service for the suppression division, 7 fire incidents for damages
- Responded to 93 medical service calls
- Responded to 6 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 11 false alarms or false calls, 6 good intent, 0 severe weather & natural disaster
- Firefighter Jim Chance was named City Firefighter of the year through the local Elks Lodge.
- Began flow testing fire hydrants.
- GSAR team members trained in West Virginia Center for National Response with other team members.

4) Fire Inspection Department

- 160 total reported activities/inspections which included 15 annual inspections, 1 new business inspections, 35 requested inspections, 19 follow-up or re-inspections, 0 burn-site inspections, 0 illegal burning citation, and 84 consultations
- Conducted fire extinguisher classes at Gordon Central High School and at Northwest Hospice.

- Lt. Fox completed the inspections module 1 class at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center.

5) Downtown Development Authority and Main Street Program

- Both Phase III and IV of Streetscape are proceeding as planned. Construction of Phase III should begin this Spring and Phase IV is in the selection of the engineering and design consultant stage and should begin late 2012 or early 2013.

B. Councilman Barton gave the March reports as follows:

1) Street Department

- Completed 34 shop and 29 street department work orders.
- Placed 10 new street signs.
- Inspected and maintained approximately 98 miles of streets and storm drainage.
- Repaired low spots in shoulders of roads on East May Street, Peters Street, Clarence King Drive, and Union Grove Road.
- Cleaned out approximately 320 feet of ditch line including Spring Valley, Maplewood, and North Industrial Boulevard.
- Repaired storm Drains and Catch Basins on Caverns Way and at Eastside School.
- Hauled and spread 32 tons of gravel on the lot behind Calnet Telecommunications.

2) Cemetery Department

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 9 grave sites.
- Sold 2 new grave spaces.
- Worked 9 grave sites.

3) Rabies Control

- Housed 21 dogs, and 10 cats
- Issued 5 warnings
- Answered 44 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 performed routine maintenance on designed city buildings and all fountains.
- Painted the McConnell Community Center and restored benches at the gazebo island.

5) **Safety Committee**

- Safety topic- Hazard Communication
- Safety Inspection- Street Department
- Accidents: Vehicle Accident-0
- Workers Comp: 1- Police, 1- Golf Maintenance, 1- Street

6) **Recreation Department**

- **Youth Basketball** – GRPA District basketball tournaments were played February 17 – 24, 2012. There were six teams representing Calhoun Recreation Department. Our agency hosted the 5th District 9-10 Boys tournament with seven teams participating. Calhoun finished runner-up in this tournament. The following teams advanced to the GRPA State tournaments: 7-8 Boys finished 2nd in the GRPA 5th District tournament and finished 3rd in the GRPA State tournament in Cordele and the 9-10 Girls won the GRPA 5th District tournament and finished runner-up in the GRPA State tournament in Tifton, Ga.
- Youth Baseball and Softball- A total of 556 boys and girls registered for the spring baseball and softball programs. Registration for the 2012 spring season is up by 69 participants. Registration was up in all age divisions for boys and girls. Practices began for all teams March 12 and games will begin this evening April 9.
- Adult Softball – There are 25 teams in the Spring Adult softball program. Games will begin for the Adult program this evening April 9.
- Soccer – The Spring Youth Soccer program concluded on Thursday, March 29. The paving of the parking area of the Soccer Complex is appreciated by all of those participants that use the Soccer Complex.
- Tournaments – Calhoun Recreation Department facilities were rented to Grand Slam Sports on March 17 and 18 for a 5 team boys baseball tournament and the National Softball Association on March 31 for a 20 team girls fast pitch tournament. The economic impact for these two events for Calhoun- Gordon County is estimated at \$58,500.00.
- Facility rentals for January: Community Room- 1, Playground Pavilion- 14, Recreation Center- 1, Ratner Pavilion- 4

C. Councilman Crowley gave the March report as follows:

1) **Water, Sewer, and Engineering**

- Preparing bid documents for the turbidimeter replacement project.
- Engineering Department is numbering each valve in the water system by attaching ID tags to the inside of each valve box. This is going very well and will provide better control when opening and closing key valves.
- Water and sewer relocation for the Union Grove interchange will begin within the next thirty days. Georgia DOT has issued a notice to proceed and materials have been ordered.
- Water system flushing program is in progress again.

2) Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Pumped a total of 296,320,000 gallons of water for a daily average of 9,558,710 gallons.
- The Brittany Drive Treatment Plant produced 41.8% of the City's potable water for the month, and Big Springs – 124,000,000 gallons
- Rainfall 8.12"

3) Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Treated a daily average of 6.930 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 6, average suspended effluent of 10, and an average COD of 44.

4) Water Distribution

- 5 Water connections, 24 water service leaks repaired, 10 water main leaks repaired, 2 fire hydrant repaired, 5 change out of meters, 144 work orders completed, 41 utility locates called in for work orders, 307 utility locates responded to, and 70 misc. calls
- Began changing water connections to new 8" main along Hwy. 156 West
- Installed 600' of 2" pvc line along Leek Road
- Installed 1,000' of 2" pvc pipe along Old Mill Road in Bartow County
- Completed installing 860' of 12" ductile iron pipe to Hwy. 41 South tank

5) Waste Water Collection

- 1,150' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 283 utility locates completed, 2 lift station repairs completed, 7,100' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 76 manholes opened and inspected

6) Building Inspection Department

- Issued 33 permits for an estimated cost of \$615,100.00. This included 1 new residential, 4 commercial remodeling, 3 commercial HVAC, 6 commercial electrical, 1 residential electrical, 3 sign permits, and 3 grading permits

D. Councilman Hammond gave the March report as follows:

1) Electric Department

MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Calhoun High School, Gordon Hospital Cancer Treatment Facility, Streetscape Phase # 3, Engineered Floors Phase # 3 Expansions, Mohawk Rug and Textile Expansion, New Racetrack Market, and engineering is complete for the new Super Dollar General Store with a scheduled June completion date.
- Fifteen new decorative street lights have been installed at the Heritage Hills Condos on Mt. Vernon. Twenty three new decorative security lights are also scheduled to be installed.

- The Beta test of nineteen new LED Street lights from four different manufactures is scheduled to begin this month. Over the next few weeks we will be evaluating the lights output, energy consumption and overall comparison to the existing street lights. The test lights were supplied by Cooper Lighting, G.E., American Electric, and Hadco lighting.

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 81
- Completed and closed- 96
- Consisting of:
 - Street and security lighting-45
 - New business-4
 - After hours trouble and callouts-6
 - City electrical maintenance-13
 - Meter maintenance/replacement- 8
 - New customer meter sets- 4
 - Monthly total system locate tickets processed- 336

ELECTRIC SYSTEM SUPPLIED – 35,124,900 KWh in March;

This is an increase of 6% over 2011 and 15% over 2010

Large Industrial usage was up 16% from 2011 and 53% above 2010.

This was the best March ever for Electric usage in the City of Calhoun.

EECBG – The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Grant Program:

All the relighting projects, HVAC upgrades, and insulation programs nearly complete, with initial savings of over \$130,000 plus the long term reoccurring annual savings of \$34,496 in reduced energy usage.

2) Telecommunications Departments:

- Connected three Internet circuits
- Continued work on two new fiber connections
- Increased existing customer Internet bandwidth 15 Meg
- Disconnected one T1 circuit
- Tested new router for police department's redundant internet access
- A new energy efficient air conditioner was installed at the central office
- Configured and installed 5 of 12 new computers
- Opened 31 and closed 28 work orders

3) Geographic Information Systems:

- Updated city zoning map
- Completed geo-code matching physical addresses to billing account information
- Created crime vicinity map for Police Department
- Started water meter lateral mapping project
- Assisted Engineering with valve data locations for ID tagging project
- Updated web site schedule for water line flushing project
- Continue to assist with waste water inflow/infiltration
- Continue to map fire hydrant and hydrant valve locations in the county

4) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

- Councilman Hammond stated that the commission continues to discuss the regional T-SPLOST. There will be a state wide vote this July.

5) Airport

- Councilman Hammond stated that the Airport Authority will have its next meeting tomorrow April 10th and will be discussing the new North Taxiway project. The taxiway will run the length of a 5,000 foot runway. This should increase the frequency of planes landing.

7. Public Hearings and Comments:

Mayor Palmer stated that public hearings on zoning matters were about to be held, and that the public would have an opportunity to make pro and con comments. Mayor Palmer asked if anybody on the Council had any ownership or special interest in any of the agenda items. Councilman Crowley stated that he did have a financial interest in Gordon Investors, LLC and that he would abstain on that item.

A. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing for an annexation and zoning of R-1B for 0.69 acres at a location of 181 Kentucky Drive for Charles Fuller Jr.

- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
- Mr. Peterson reported on the Zoning Advisory Board met on April 5th. The main issue with this annexation is adequate fire protection. Sanders Subdivision does not presently have fire hydrants, and the neighborhood has a 2" water line. A 6" water line would be needed to supply fire hydrants. The closest existing fire hydrant is 978 feet away. The City ordinance states that all residential structures must be within 500 feet of the nearest hydrant. The ZAB recommendation was that they were in favor of the annexation, but they acknowledged that there is a problem with the City Fire Department providing adequate fire protection. The ZAB requested that the City Council address this issue.
- Mayor Palmer asked if there were any comments from the applicant or the public. There were no comments.
- Attorney Bailey suggested that more homeowners in this subdivision should be contacted to see if more are interested in annexing into the City. If more are interested, this would make adding a new water line and fire hydrants more feasible.
- Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.
- Councilman Barton made a motion to table the annexation and zoning of R-1B for 181 Kentucky Drive so the fire protection issue could be studied further. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

B. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing for an annexation and zoning of R-1B for 0.66 acres at a location of 174 Kentucky Drive for George Russell.

- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
 - Mr. Peterson reported on the Zoning Advisory Board met on April 5th. The main issue with this annexation is adequate fire protection. Sanders Subdivision does not presently have fire hydrants, and the neighborhood has a 2" water line. A 6" water line would be needed to supply fire hydrants. The closest existing fire hydrant is 978 feet away. The City ordinance states that all residential structures must be within 500 feet of the nearest hydrant. The ZAB recommendation was that they were in favor of the annexation, but they acknowledged that there is a problem with the City Fire Department providing adequate fire protection. The ZAB requested that the City Council address this issue.
 - Mayor Palmer asked if there were any comments from the applicant or the public. There were no comments.
 - Attorney Bailey suggested that more homeowners in this subdivision should be contacted to see if more are interested in annexing into the City. If more are interested, this would make adding a new water line and fire hydrants more feasible.
 - Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.
 - Councilman Barton made a motion to table the annexation and zoning of R-1B for 174 Kentucky Drive so the fire protection issue could be studied further. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- C. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing for an annexation and zoning of C-2 for 0.542 acres at a location of 1201 Dews Pond Road for Gordon Investors, LLC.
- Mr. Peterson stated that advertising requirements have been met.
 - Mr. Peterson stated that the ZAB also discussed this on April 5th, and that Councilman Crowley attended to let the ZAB know that he had a financial interest in Gordon Investors and would be abstaining from all discussion, input, or voting on this matter.
 - Mr. Peterson stated that this area is trending toward commercial type properties and this property would be developed as possible small office or retail space with a low volume of traffic. The ZAB recommends that the annexation and zoning be approved.
 - Mayor Palmer asked for any comments and a question was asked about what kind of business might be built on this property. Mr. Peterson reiterated that small office or retail space such as banks or doctor's offices could be built on this property.
 - There were no further comments and the public hearing was closed.
 - Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the annexation of 1201 Dews Pond Road and Councilman Hammond gave a second. Councilman Barton, Councilman Hammond, and Mayor Palmer voted aye, motion approved.
 - Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the zoning of C-2 for 1201 Dews Pond Road and Councilman Hammond gave a second.

Councilman Barton, Councilman Hammond, and Mayor Palmer voted aye, motion approved.

- D. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing for an annexation and zoning of R1-B for 1.54 acres at a location of 390 Hensley Road for Henry Cox.
- Mr. Peterson stated that advertising requirements have been met.
 - Mr. Peterson stated that the ZAB did recommend the annexation and zoning of this property.
 - Mayor Palmer asked for any comments.
 - The applicant stated that he wanted annexed into the City for educational purposes and then the public hearing was closed.
 - Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the annexation of 390 Hensley Road. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the zoning of R-1B for 390 Hensley Road. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- E. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing for a zoning change request of C-2 to R1-B at a location of 607 Court Street for Benja and Marisa Curtis.
- Mr. Peterson stated that advertising requirements have been met.
 - Mr. Peterson stated that the ZAB did recommend that the zoning change be granted.
 - Mayor Palmer asked for any comments.
 - There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.
 - Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the zoning change request of C-2 to R1-B. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- F. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing to amend the alcoholic beverage ordinance to allow for the sale of alcoholic beverages by the package and for consumption on the premises on Sundays.
- Mayor Palmer stated that this ordinance would allow for the sale of alcoholic beverages by the package and for consumption on the premises on Sundays between the hours of 12:30 pm and 11:00pm.
 - Mayor Palmer also stated that he would recommend amending the ordinance by deleting some language that came from the State law that would allow alcohol sales at licensed establishments providing overnight lodging. Mayor Palmer stated he thinks this is a separate issue, and should not be included with this ordinance.
 - Attorney Bailey stated that the State code went further than what the City's ordinance allows, and recommended that the ordinance be amended to delete part of the last sentence in Section one (b). With the amendment the last words of this section will be, "prepared meals or food". This amendment would allow the City to study this issue further.
 - Councilman Hammond made a motion to modify the document to the expressed wishes by removing the stated language that is applicable,

and allow for one more series of meetings for open discussion. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

8. Old Business: None

9. New Business:

- A. Mrs. Georgetta Reynolds Frazier contacted the City and would not be attending the meeting.
- B. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a pawn shop license application for Joseph Summerfield D/B/A: Gold n Guns III for a location of 1126 Redbud plaza NE. There will be a public hearing on May 14th.
- C. Mayor Palmer stated that a proposed 2012 updated zoning map has been created and will be reviewed over the next few weeks. Proper advertising and a public hearing needs to occur before any action to adopt the zoning map is taken.

10. Other written items not on the agenda: None

11. Work Reports:

- A. Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
 - None
- B. Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager
 - Mr. Vickery stated that Telecommunications Director Brad Carrick gave a presentation at the work session about the need to upgrade the City's internal switch network. The existing switches are over 14 years old and parts are no longer supported by any manufacturers. All spare parts and spare switches have already been used. An RFP was sent out to replace the aging switches with one respondent. Pinnacle Network's bid came in at \$149,001.70. The new switches will have 100 times faster network backbone, 10 times faster connection for every computer, and ringed for redundancy. These switches are the latest technology and are expandable. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the bid of \$149,001.70 by Pinnacle Network. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

12. Councilman Barton made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Crowley with all voting aye, motion approved.

Approved:

Submitted:

James F. Palmer, Mayor

Paul Worley, City Clerk