

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
OCTOBER 10, 2016 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
David Hammond, Mayor Pro Tem
Al Edwards, Councilman
Jackie Palazzolo, Councilwoman
Matt Barton, Councilman

ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator; Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager; Paul Worley, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Garry Moss, Police Chief; Jeff Defoor, Director of Electric Utilities; Jerry Crawford, Water and Sewer Director; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief

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. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the agenda, Councilman Barton seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.
4. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2016 City Council Meeting. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
5. **Mayor's Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Palmer conducted a Proclamation reading for National Education Week submitted by Dr. Joann T. Meadows. After the reading, Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the Proclamation. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - B. The City of Calhoun will observe Halloween on Monday October 31st from 5:00pm to 9:00pm for ages 12 and under. Also, the downtown merchants and businesses will host Trick or Treat in Downtown Calhoun on Monday October 31st from 4:00pm until 6:00pm.
6. **Council Comments:**
 - A. Councilman Edwards gave the September report as follows:
 - 1) **Water, Sewer, and Engineering**
 - o The 2" Galvanized Line Replacement Project –The project as a whole is approximately 58% complete. Thor Drive, Hunt's Subdivision, Spring

Valley, and Davis Road have been completed. The project areas, Edwards Street, Fox Street, Short Street, and West Street are complete. The next area will be sections of Cherry Hill Drive, Sherwood Drive, Highland Ct, and Valley Circle and scheduled to begin within the next two weeks.

- Flocculation and Sedimentation Control Project at the Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant- The project has been completed except for a failure in a section of piping, which will be corrected by the contractor. The contractor has scheduled this work within the next three weeks.
- The new NPDES permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant went into effect March 1, 2016. We have twenty months to have everything in place and operating in order to meet the new phosphorus limit, but new testing and reporting parameters are in effect now. The required Design Development Report has been submitted to EPD. Plans and specifications are due by December 2016.
- The Nutrient Trading Monitoring Pilot Program is underway. The first phase, funded by a Section 319 Grant has been completed. We are considering a second 319 Grant application to continue the monitoring. EPD would like for the second phase of monitoring to include a larger scale in conjunction with the small plots. The North Georgia Water resources has agreed to help fund the in-kind match should the grant be awarded.
- New Wastewater NPDES Permit Pilot Program- Implementation of the pilot program for phosphorus removal will be completed this week. Two types of chemicals were used and the best performing and least costly has been determined.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Motor Control Center Upgrades Phase one- The contractor has been delayed by submittals and shop drawings from the manufacturer.
- Piping modifications at the Wastewater Treatment Plant- Elevations and horizontal locations of existing facilities have been completed. Design should be completed in the next few weeks.
- Miller's Ferry Loop Water Main- Permitting for the US 41 section is complete, with first section along US 41 completed and the next section is pending an easement agreement and soil and erosion permitting.
- South Calhoun By-Pass utility relocations- GDOT gave us a "Notice to Proceed" on February 19th. GDOT has awarded the road project to Wright Brothers Construction. Parts of the project have been completed with other areas pending resolution of wetlands issues.
- Pisgah Drainage Area Sewer Replacement- Engineering and permitting are in progress. This project should be ready for bidding in November.

2) Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Total gallons withdrawn: 331,530,000
- Daily average: 11,051,000
- Wells: 136,920,000
- Big Springs: 0
- Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 41.3%

- Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 38.6%
 - Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 40.75%
 - Rainfall- 1.14"
 - The City of Calhoun, along with a total of 53 Georgia Counties, are now under a Georgia EPD Declared Level One Drought Response. This requires local water utilities in the affected counties to begin a public information campaign to help citizens better understand drought, its impact on water supplies, and the need for water conservation.
- 3) **Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility**
- Treated a daily average of 3.236 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 3, average suspended effluent of 10, and an average COD of 54.
- 4) **Water Distribution**
- 523 work orders completed, 10 new water connections, 44 water service leaks repaired, 20 water main leaks repaired, 36 utility locates called in for work orders, 408 utility locates responses.
 - Completed installing 500 feet of 2" poly pipe to replace old 6" PVC feeding a chicken house complex under by-pass along Thomason Drive.
 - Completed installing 2,125 feet of 2" black poly pipe along Rooker Road to replace old 2" galv. Line.
- 5) **Waste Water Collection**
- 1,800' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 270 utility locates completed, 5,500' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 5 new sewer connections installed, 5 sanitary sewer services repaired.
 - 15,500' sewer line right of way cleared.
- 6) **Building Inspection Department**
- Issued 41 permits for an estimated cost of \$805,970, collected \$6,244 in permit fees. This included 5 new residential, 1 residential remodeling, 1 new commercial, 1 commercial remodel/Addition, 1 new industrial, 4 signs, and 123 total inspections.
- 7) **Recreation Department**
- Park Expansion Project – October 7 – met with BWSC representatives – Steve Fritts and Joe Sawyer along with Terry Mill – Fire Department – discuss emergency entrances for park. October 13- scheduled meeting with BWSC representatives and Utilities Department heads to go over the site grading plans.
 - **FALL SPORTS:** Youth football games began September 14. 46 games were played throughout the month. Games are played on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays through October.
 - Youth Soccer – Youth Soccer games began September 12. 110 games were played throughout the month. Youth Soccer games are played on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays through October.
 - Baseball/softball fields – 1 tournament rental – September 13. 33 teams – estimated economic impact for 1 day tournament - \$55,770.00

- **UPCOMING EVENTS:**
- November 12- 21, 2015 –GRPA District Soccer Championships; District Football Championships
- December 5-6 – GRPA State Football – North Regionals

B. Councilman Barton gave the September report as follows:

1) **Police Department**

- Made 454 cases with 4 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$44,839
- Issued 395 warnings
- Investigated 64 highway accidents, 47 private property accidents
- Provided 74 escorts
- 1,543 incident reports
- Responded to 284 alarms
- Miles patrolled: 51,076
- Responded to 4,241 calls for service by E-911

2) **Municipal Court and Probation**

- Total Court cases- 291
- Court cases dropped- 61
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 181
- Number of Probation cases- 21
- Failure to appear- 38
- Subpoenas served- 8

3) **Fire Department- Suppression**

- Responded to 150 calls for service for the suppression division, 4 fire incidents for damages with \$25,200 in estimated fire damage.
- Responded to 101 medical service calls.
- Responded to 5 hazardous conditions incidents.
- Responded to 13 false alarms or false calls, 21 good intent.
- Assisted with the annual Unity Run and CHS Homecoming Parade.
- Conducted a safety fair for Old Navy Store.
- Assisted in training with the recruit school.

Training Division

- Department completed 795 hours of training.
- Training consisted of: In house training on ladders, search, and hose lines.

4) **Fire Inspection Department**

- 101 total reported activities/inspections which included 30 annual inspections, 6 new business inspections, 19 requested inspections, 21 follow-up or re-inspections, and 22 consultations.
- Fire Inspectors observed a fire drill at Calhoun Elementary and Primary Schools.
- Conducted a fire safety program at the Voluntary Action Center.

5) Downtown Development Authority

- The DDA director held a DDA board meeting; attended a Business Engagement Committee meeting; a CVB Tourism meeting and a Young Professionals meeting. The Historical Preservation Commission held its monthly meeting. There were 5 Certificate of Appropriateness approved and 3 Façade Grants approved.
- The DDA held its second Twilight Thursday. Ten downtown businesses participated in the event. Everyone was encouraged to eat and shop downtown after business hours until 8 P.M. Planning is underway for the 11th annual Harvest Fest. The date is scheduled for October 22nd from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Calhoun's own The Voice contestant Ellie Lawrence will be performing along with her brother Josh. There will be multiple craft and food vendors. It will be a fun filled day for the whole family. The Young Farmers & DDA partnered once again to build the Downtown Scarecrows. It is continuing to be a great seasonal event for the community to enjoy.

C. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave the September report as follows:

1) Street Department

- Completed 17 shop and 19 street department work orders.
- Installed 5 new street signs.
- Inspected and maintained 103 miles of streets and storm drainage.
- Repaired utility cuts and pot holes using approximately 48 tons of asphalt.
- Removed a tree that had fallen in the roadway on Hillcrest Drive.
- Installed three handy-cap ramps to the sidewalk on River Street.

2) Cemetery Department

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 7 grave sites.
- Sold 9 new grave spaces.

3) Parks Department

- The Parks Department grounds crew picked up litter, hauled garbage to the dump, and maintained records at records room.
- Mowed and weeded approximately 19 miles of sidewalks, 29 islands, and 42 other designated places in the City.
- Bush hogged all right of way in the City.
- The building and maintenance crew performed routine maintenance on designed city buildings and all fountains.
- Coordinated with the contractor for the ceiling restoration project at the McConnell Community Center.

4) Animal Control

- Housed 28 dogs and 33 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 4
- Number of cats adopted: 0
- Number of dogs rescued: 6

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- Number of cats rescued: 30
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 7
- Number of dogs euthanized: 0
- Number of cats euthanized: 0
- Number of warnings given: 40
- Number of bite cases: 3
- Citations issues: 6

5) Calhoun Recycling Center

- The pilot program kicked off very well on October 4th. Renee Mauldin and several staff members of Mauldin’s Trash Service were able to bring over 90 of our blue bags and hundreds of pounds of cardboard to the MRF (Material Recovery Facility). In short order the material was sorted, weighed, and packaged into the proper containers to be sold to our buyers. We collected the Following; Steel 10 lbs., Aluminum 7 lbs., OCC 236 lbs., Mixed Paper 366 lbs., and Plastic 67 lbs. bringing a total of 686 pounds to the MRF instead of the land fill. The next pick-up will be on October 18th.

Item	Weight	Sale
Plastic (#1 & #2)	~25,100 lbs. (12.55 Tons)	~\$1,875
Aluminum Cans	N/A	N/A
Glass	N/A	N/A
Steel Cans	530 lbs. (0.27 Tons)	~\$26.50
OCC	21,760 lbs. (10.88 Tons)	\$1,167.45
Mixed Paper	13,320 lbs. (6.66 Tons)	\$266.40
Total	60,710 lbs. (30.355 Tons)	~\$3,335.35
Item	Weight	Sale
Plastic (#1 & #2)	~25,100 lbs. (12.55 Tons)	~\$1,875

OCC & Paper Pick-ups

Judy Peterson (Volunteer)	Charry & Tom White (Volunteers)
Liquor Warehouse	V.A.C.
Calhoun Farm Supply	Wall Street Grille
Calhoun Middle School	Wing Me Up

<p>The Wedding Place Coldwell Banker & Kinard Realty</p>	
<p>Ilene & CK White (Volunteer) Gordon Hospital Cancer Center ABC Liquor Diprima's</p>	<p>Ken Chapman (Employee) Langston Creative Solutions Children's Palace Daycare Gordon County Sheriff's Office & Justice Center</p>

6) **Safety Committee**

- o Safety topic- health and safety audits
- o Safety Inspection- Fields Ferry Golf Club
- o Vehicle Accidents: 1- Electric Department, 1- Cemetery, 1- Water Construction, 1- Sewer Construction
- o Workers Compensation: 1- Fire Department, 1- Water/Sewer Plant Maintenance

7) **Library**

- o There were 21, 065 quarterly participants and 372 new library cards issued for the quarter. The Library will also be starting a new Basic English class soon.

D. Mayor Pro Tem Hammond gave the September report as follows:

1) **Electric Department**

- o Construction has begun on the Apache Mill expansion on River St.
- o Construction continues at the Gordon Hill Shopping Center area, replacing poles and wire.
- o Construction has begun on providing permanent power to the new Family Savings and Credit Union on Curtis Parkway.
- o Christmas lights are being tested and replaced in Downtown.
The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for September was 40,728,134 kilowatt hours. This is a new September Record, exceeding our previous record set in 2013 by 132,840 and the September 2015 consumption by 1,548,587 kilowatt-hours.
- o The City of Calhoun Electric Department was awarded the Jeff Cook Safety Award of Excellence by the Electric Cities of Georgia (ECG). The award was presented at the ECG Forman and Supervisor Conference at Callaway Gardens Oct. 6, 2016. The award is judged on a comprehensive survey of topics including: safety policy, employee safety awareness, training, accident investigation, facilities and equipment inspection, personal protective equipment, rescue training and lost time accidents. The Cities of Cartersville and Marietta also were presented safety

awards at the conference. Calhoun's Electric Department has not had a loss time accident since April 2009.

- We have also mobilized 5 crew members to help with storm restoration from Hurricane Matthew. They will meet in Gainesville FL. and be sent to cities needing help. The crew includes Brett Sane, Dennis Henry, Neal Dockery, DK Nicholson and Kevin Collins. This is part of the mutual aid agreement and coordinated through American Public Power Association and Electric Cities of Georgia (ECG). ECG has organized 87 line workers from 22 cities to help with the restoration and getting power back to the people.

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 95
- Completed and closed- 89
- Consisting of:
 - Capital construction- 13
 - Street and security lighting-29
 - Distribution Maintenance-15
 - Outages/trouble calls- 12
 - Meter maintenance/replacement- 6
 - New customer meter sets- 7
 - Electric locate tickets processed- 237

2) Telecommunications Departments:

- Finished adding one new internet and one new point-to-point circuits. Working with partner provider to complete another point-to-point circuit.
- Started fiber construction for one internet customer.
- Added 15 megabits of service to existing point-to-point service.
- Disconnected one internet service.
- Replaced three cameras at utilities building damaged by lightning.
- Customer access equipment replacement project is 27% complete.
- Filed annual financial report with Georgia PSC. Thanks to the Finance Department for gathering data and preparing report!
- Opened 33 and closed 34 work orders.

3) Geographic Information Systems:

- Continued to collect storm water data and adding to GIS.
- Updated water meter data and worked on water modeling sessions.
- Continued mapping Wastewater Treatment Plant facility piping
- Updated Zoning map
- Updated fiber maps
- Updated fire pre-plan for buildings for Fire Department
- Updated physical building addresses with billing information
- Updated City and GIS web sites

4) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

- The Regional Commission (RC) oversees 15 counties and 51 cities in Northwest Georgia that helps to reallocate federal dollars to various programs that benefit the citizens such as meals on wheels, workforce training, community planning, area on aging, and community and economic development.
- Gordon County's unemployment rate for August 2016 is at 5% and the State's is at 4.9%. The regional unemployment rate is now 5.4%. Whitfield County is 5.7%, Murray County is 6.6%, Floyd County is 5.9%, and Bartow is 5%. The average annual wages for Gordon County is the second highest in manufacturing counties and Gordon County is the sixth highest in the region at \$37,446. This can be contributable to the strong manufacturing base in our community and the other counties higher than Gordon are metro area counties.
- Mayor Pro Tem Hammond and Administrator Peterson attended a meeting in Floyd County hosted by the Geology Department at Berry College. A scholarship student has conducted extensive research concerning fracking. The presentation was entitled, "Introduction to Implications on Fracking in Northwest Georgia." There was a diversity of speakers at the meeting including legal expertise, environmental groups including Joe Cook who spoke at a previous Council meeting, the EPA Director of Geology, an Associate Professor of Geology at Berry, and a natural gas/exploration company. One point that was made is that if any wells are drilled in this region, it would be unlikely they would need to use fracking technology because of our porous soils. Due to the community involvement, there will be discussions at the State Legislature this coming session dealing with the State's outdated laws concerning this matter that date back to the 1940's.

5) Tom B. David Airport

- The Airport is an authority supported by both Gordon County and the City of Calhoun. The airport is the 7th largest permanent based aircraft airport in the state of Georgia. There are currently 118 airplanes based at the airport. The six counties that have more aircraft have populations of 150,000 or greater, where Gordon County only has 56,000. The airport has a 6,000 foot runway, where most others only have 5,000. Therefore, our airport can handle larger corporate jets for local industry. Also, the airport will received 90% in Federal funding to build a parallel taxiway that will enable the airport to handle more traffic in and out. Future expansions will allow the airport to grow even more and grow the positive local economic impact.

7. Public Hearings and Comments:

- A. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing of an annexation and zoning request of C-2 for 2.47 acres at Parcel #057B-096 and 0.78 acres at Parcel #057A-134A by Phillip Sloan.

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- Administrator Peterson stated that all advertising requirements have been met.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo stated that the Zoning Advisory Board meet on October 6th. The ZAB recommended that the annexation and zoning requests be approved.
 - Mayor Palmer asked for comments. There were no further comments and the public hearing was closed.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the annexation request for parcel #057B-096 containing 2.47 acres. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the zoning request of C-2 for parcel #057B-096. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the annexation request for parcel #057A-134A containing 0.78 acres. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the zoning request of C-2 for parcel #057A-134A. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing of an annexation and zoning request of Ind-G for 2.57 acres at a location of 594 Richardson Road by Haley Stephens.
- Administrator Peterson stated that all advertising requirements have been met.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo stated that the Zoning Advisory Board meet on October 6th. The ZAB recommended that the annexation and zoning request be approved.
 - Mayor Palmer asked for comments. There were no further comments and the public hearing was closed.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the annexation request at 594 Richardson Road. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the zoning request of Ind-G. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- C. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing of a variance request by Fred Milland at a location of 594 Richardson Road. The variance request is a 20 foot variance from the required 35 foot front setback for a proposed building expansion.
- Administrator Peterson stated that all advertising requirements have been met.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo stated that the Zoning Advisory Board meet on October 6th. The ZAB recommended that the annexation and zoning request be approved by a vote of 2 to 1. One Board Member voted no

because he felt it would be too close to the road. However, after further research it didn't seem to be a problem.

- Mayor Pro Tem Hammond stated that he always studies variance requests closely. The building seems to have enough room to expand and still be far enough away if the road is expanded. Allowing this project to go forward will help create jobs and have a positive economic impact, which will be a good thing for the community.
- Administrator Peterson stated that the applicant has already agreed to the requirement of a new fire hydrant being installed and they have also stated that if it is ever needed, they could utilize Tyler Drive as a different entrance into the property.
- Mayor Palmer asked for additional comments. There were no further comments and the public hearing was closed.
- Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the variance request. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

8. Old Business: None

9. New Business:

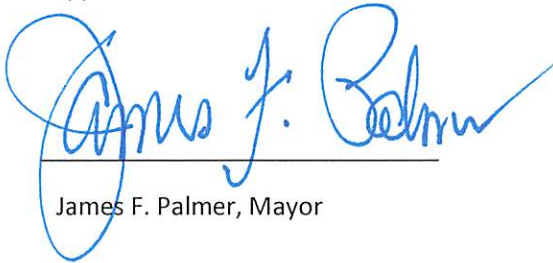
- A. Administrator Peterson stated that the Tom B. David Airport is currently in the environmental stage of the North Taxiway Project, which involves a relocation of a creek. This will take around two or three more years. After this is completed construction can begin with a completion timeline of five or six years. This is a \$3 million dollar project, in which 90% is funded with Federal dollars, 5% State, and 5% Local. Next, Administrator Peterson discussed an Intergovernmental Agreement proposal from the Calhoun-Gordon County Airport Authority to determine the economic feasibility of constructing new corporate hangers. This project is not eligible for Federal funds and would have to be paid for by the leasing of the hangers to corporations with an estimated cost of \$4 million. The feasibility of the project would be dependent upon how quickly the Airport could lease out the new hangers. There could be significant storm water issues to work through. To build the hangers the Airport would issue bonds to finance the project that would have to be backed by the City and Gordon County. If the hangers were not leased out, the City and County would be responsible for the bond payments, which could be around \$350,000 per year. The intergovernmental agreement submitted by the Airport Authority is requesting a loan of \$300,000 for engineering, environmental studies, and bid documents in order to pursue the corporate hanger project. This cost would be split evenly between the City and County. Best case scenario for the project would be a construction start in 2018 and could take two to three years for completion. Mayor Pro Tem Hammond asked if the Airport Authority voted unanimously concerning the intergovernmental agreement. Mr. Peterson stated he was not sure, but could find out. Also, Mr. Peterson suggested that the Council spend some more time reviewing this proposal and stated that he felt like there needed to be a little more clarification of expectations before moving forward. Councilman Barton made a motion to table the intergovernmental agreement at least until the next meeting. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

10. Other written items not on the agenda: None

11. Work Reports:

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

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Paul Worley, City Clerk