



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 11, 2024 - 7:00 PM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

MINUTES

PRESENT: **James F. Palmer, Mayor**
Ed Moyer, Mayor Pro Tem
Ray Mitchell Denmon, Councilmember
Al Edwards, Councilmember
Jackie Palazzolo, Councilmember

ALSO: Paul Worley, City Administrator; Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Tony Pyle, Police Chief; Ken Carson, Police Department; Christy Nicholson, Police Department; Terry Mills, Deputy Fire Chief, Billy Green, Fire Bat. Chief; Kurt McCord, Engineering Director, Eric Henson, Water and Sewer Director; and Donnie Morgan, Water Distribution.

1. **Council Meeting Called to Order**
Welcome
Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
Invocation
Mayor Palmer gave the invocation.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. **Amendment or Approval of Proposed Agenda**
Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
4. **Amendment or Approval of Minutes**
Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of February 26, 2024. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. Mayor's Comments

6. Council Comments

A. Councilwoman Palazzolo submitted February reports as follows:

1) Electric Department

Current Electrical Department Engineering and Construction:

- The LED Streetlight upgrade continues around the City.
- Electrical Engineering continue for the Coosa Valley Federal Credit Union, the new townhomes on Newtown Rd, and the new line extension on Marine Dr.
- Construction continues on the 53 Townhomes at Old Mill, Home to Suites Hotel on Lovers Lane, City of Calhoun building and planning building. The Electric Dept is continuing system upgrades necessary for the new growth and increased reliability.
- Construction also continues for the Exchange Apartments, Manor Lake Cottages of Calhoun on Curtis Parkway, upgrading Exit 315 to new LED lighting, the New Pickle ball courts and the new GBI building on McDaniel Station Rd.

WORK ORDERS IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| • NEWLY CREATED | 91 |
| • COMPLETED AND CLOSED | 112 |
| • CONSISTING OF: | |
| • CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION | 33 |
| • DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE | 3 |
| • OUTAGES / TROUBLE CALLS | 9 |
| • SECURITY / STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE | 1 |
| • TEMPORARY POWER HOOK UP | 5 |
| • WORK FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS | 25 |
| • NEW METER SETS | 53 |
| • METER MAINTENANCE/REPLACEMENT | 51 |
| • Electric Locate Tickets Processed- | 244 |

The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for February 2024 is about 28 million kilowatt hours (kWh's). The Electric Department would like to congratulate Matthew Harrell for his completion of his Lineman certification. He has completed the necessary steps of on the job training and his 6,000 hrs required by the department of labor.

2) Telecommunications

- Repaired two fiber drop breaks. One caused by construction truck and the other by wind damage in closure.
- Installed 4 computers for various departments.
- Police Department ordered 28 laptops for vehicles. Started configuring with updates, installing software and drivers.
- Upgraded firmware on server hosting platform.
- Water leak at Telecom Building discovered, located and repaired.
- Employees participated in CPR certification training.
- Started interviewing candidates for new position.
- Opened 17 and closed 13 work orders.

Geographic Information Systems

- Submitted annual census boundary and annexation report.
- Mapped water bacteria sample sites.
- Updated data for Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory project.
- Participated in water modeling sessions with Engineering Department.
- Generated Electric Usage Reports
- Updated data and mapping for the following:
 - Water system and meter updates
 - Fiber
 - Zoning
 - Fire Department pre-plans for building
- Updated Physical addressing, building and billing information.
- Updated City and GIS web sites.

3) Building Inspections

Issued 143 permits for an estimated cost of \$2,599,671, collected \$21,870.50 in permit fees. This included 13 new residential, 9 residential remodel, 1 new commercial, 1 commercial remodel, 0 new industrial, 1 industrial remodel, 18 residential plumbing, 16 residential electrical, 29 residential HVAC, 3 commercial plumbing, 6 commercial electrical, 3 commercial HVAC, 0 industrial plumbing, and 0 industrial electrical. 749 total inspections.

4) Library

- There are 13,500 library card holders, 5,137 library visitors, and 7,009 total circulation.
- There were 277 story time attendance, 276 adult program attendance, 117 new users, 1,350 e-books, 1,317 audio books, 507 computer logins, and 8,574 Facebook visits.

B. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards submitted February reports as follows:

1) **Water and Sewer Operations**

Water Treatment Plant

- Total gallons withdrawn: 325,500,000
- Daily average: 11,224,137
- Wells: 121,530,000
- Big Springs: 4,260,000
- % produced by Brittany Drive: 38.6%
 - Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 36.75%
 - Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 43.04%
 - Rainfall for February – 3.50"

Waste Water Treatment Plant

- Treated a daily average of 7.103 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 10, and an average COD of 73.

Water Distribution

- 286 work orders completed, 50 new water connections, 13 water service leaks repaired, 18 water main leaks repaired, 0 water services changed to new main lines, 21 meter changes, 21 utility locates called in for work orders, 909 utility locates responses.

Wastewater Collection

- 3,000 feet of Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 462 utility locates completed, 10,000 feet sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 3 new sewer connections installed, 3 sanitary sewer services repaired.

2) **Water and Sewer Construction**

Projects Under Construction

- SR 136 @ Coosawattee Bridge Water Relocation - This project includes moving the water main on SR 136 so that the Coosawattee River bridge can be replaced. Construction is now underway and is approximately 90% completed.
- GBI McDaniel Station Rd Sewer Extension. This project includes extending gravity sewer 1,000' from the city's police department towards the Hwy 53 Spur intersection to serve the new GBI building that is now under construction. Materials for this project have been delivered.
- Service Line Inventory – As mandated by the EPA, every water system in the USA has to identify and develop a service line inventory of all services found within their water distribution system. This project is now underway and city crews are identifying water services throughout the distribution system. Project completion percentage approximately 70%.

Projects in Design & Development

- Water & Sewer Maintenance Building
- Fire Tower Water Tank Evaluation
- Water Treatment Plant Modifications
- Brittany Dr & Water Booster Stations Standby Generator Project
- Northwest Booster Station Header Modification Project.
- Peters St. Phase III Water Relocation
- Curtis Pkwy Water & Sewer Relocation
- Engineering Department is Actively Working on Approximately 25 Plan Reviews & Inspections for Developments.

3) **Zoning Advisory Board**

C. Councilman Denmon submitted February reports as follows:

1) **Public Works**

Street Department

1. Completed 28 shop and 30 street dept. work orders.
2. Installed 6 new street signs.
3. Removed fallen trees on Alton Drive and Reeves Street.
4. Cleaned out ditches on North Industrial Boulevard.

Cemetery

1. Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler cemetery.
2. Supervised the opening and closing of 11 grave sites.
3. Sold 19 new grave spaces.

Parks Department

1. The grounds crew picked up litter, mowed, trimmed bushes, hauled garbage to the dump, and maintained records at records room.
2. The maintenance crew maintained designated buildings downtown.
3. Finished painting at City Hall.

Animal Control

- Housed 11 dogs and 4 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 2
- Number of cats adopted: 0
- Number of dogs rescued: 6
- Number of cats rescued: 4
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 0
- Number of cats reclaimed by owner: 0
- Number of dogs euthanized: 0

- Number of cats euthanized: 0
- Number of warnings given: 14
- Number of bite cases: 1
- Citations issues: 1

2) Recreation Department

PROGRAMS:

A total of 946 youth is participating in Spring sports. We have a 6% increase overall for our Spring Programs compared to 2023.

YOUTH SOCCER – Registration was up 15% from Spring '23 with a total of 505 participants. Registration ended February 8 and assessments were held February 12 and 15. Drafts were held February 19 and 20. Practices began February 21 and games will start March 23.

YOUTH VOLLEYBALL – Registration was up 56% from Spring '23 with a total of 125 participants. Registration ended March 1. Assessments were held March 4 and drafts March 5. Practices began March 7.

YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL – There are a total of 316 boys and girls participating in baseball and softball. Registration ended February 22. Assessments were held February 24 and drafts were February 26 and 27.

202.4 Walk Challenge – This is a free program for all ages. Participants will walk 202.4 miles before December 13, 2024. All that reach the goals set will receive awards. There are currently 51 participants with registration ending March 29, 2024.

PICKLEBALL CLASSES - There were 29 participants in the February morning classes. Friday evening and Saturday morning classes have been added for March along with morning classes.

ADULT FITNESS CLASSES – Classes are available on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and 2 Saturday classes each month. There were 10 participants during the month of February.

YOUTH BASKETBALL - There were 5 teams that represented Calhoun in the GRPA 5th District Basketball Tournaments February 1 – 20. The 9-10 Girls finished district runner-up.

10TH ANNUAL UNITED WAY ALL-STAR BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT - was held February 8-10. There were 30 teams that participated in the tournament. There were 360 participants and 1,080 spectators. This annual event is a United Way fundraiser sponsored by Calhoun Recreation and Gordon County Parks and Recreation. The proceeds from this event go to Gordon County United Way.

TENNIS –

League Play: EVTA Men's/Women's 2.5, 3.0, 3.5; Combo 18 and Over, +40 League (Approx. 75 participants)

Tuesday/Thursday Morning Drills – 20 participants

CMS/CHS Tennis teams – daily practice; Matches began Feb. 8

PARKS/FACILITIES:

The following tasks were completed throughout the month of February:

- 1 – Baseball/Softball field prep work
- 2 – Monthly trimming and deadheading flower beds and trees
- 3 – checked and repaired bleachers
- 4 – laid out soccer fields for spring soccer
- 5 – repainted all soccer fields for CHS/CMS soccer games
- 6 – daily park clean-up

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIS USAGE:

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|--------------------|----------------------------|
| CalhounRec.com | FACEBOOK |
| Page Views – 6,879 | Reach – 20,729 |
| Users – 2,173 | Post Engagements – 3,731 |
| Sessions – 3,352 | Posts – 19 |
| Posts – 17 | New Page Followers – 5,766 |

UPCOMING EVENT:

MIRACLE RUN: SATURDAY, MARCH 16

The annual Miracle Run will be held March 16. This fun run raises funds and awareness for The Winner’s Club and Camp New Adventure. Entry fee is \$20.00 and participant selects which agency he/she would like portion of entry fee to benefit.

3) **Downtown Development Authority**

D. Councilman Moyer submitted February reports as follows:

• **Police Department**

- Made 372 cases with 2 DUI’s
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$38,411
- Issued 504 warnings
- Investigated 60 highway accidents, 30 private property accidents
- Obstruction - 7
- Lethal Weapon Encounter - 4
- Alarm responses - 148
- Miles patrolled: 45,646

• **Municipal Court**

- Total Court cases- 353
- Court cases dropped- 55
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 134
- Number of Probation cases- 11
- Failure to appear- 24
- Subpoenas served-5

• **Fire Department**

Fire Suppression Division

Total Reported Calls for Service for the Suppression Division 169

| <i>Type of Dispatched Calls</i> | Number of Dispatched Calls |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Structure Fires</i> | 2 |
| <i>Mobile Property Fire (Vehicle)</i> | 1 |
| <i>Natural Vegetation</i> | 1 |
| <i>Outside Rubbish Fire</i> | 2 |
| <i>Special Outside Fires</i> | 2 |
| Total Fire Calls | 8 |

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|---|------------|
| <i>Rescue Emergency Medical Call / Incident</i> | 107 |
| <i>Medical Assist</i> | 12 |
| <i>Motor Vehicle Accidents</i> | 0 |
| <i>Search for Lost Person</i> | 0 |
| <i>Lock in Vehicle</i> | 1 |
| <i>Rescue / EMS Standby/ Other</i> | 1 |
| Total Medical Calls | 121 |

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|---|----------|
| <i>Flammable Gas or Liquid Condition Other</i> | 0 |
| <i>Combustible/Flammable Spills & Leaks</i> | 2 |
| <i>Chemical Release, Reaction, or Toxic Condition</i> | 1 |
| <i>Electrical Wiring / Equipment Problem</i> | 1 |
| Total Hazardous Conditions Incidents (No Fire) | 4 |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| <i>Lock Out</i> | 0 |
|-----------------|---|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Unauthorized Burning</i> | 0 |
| <i>Person in Distress</i> | 0 |
| <i>Public Assistance</i> | 4 |
| <i>Total Service Calls</i> | 4 |

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|--|-----------|
| <i>Dispatched and Canceled En-Route</i> | 17 |
| <i>Good Intent Call</i> | 3 |
| <i>Hazmat Release Investigation</i> | 1 |
| <i>No Incident Found at Dispatch Location</i> | 2 |
| <i>Smoke Scare Odor of Smoke</i> | 0 |
| <i>Steam Other Gas Mistaken for Smoke</i> | 0 |
| <i>CO Alarm Activation</i> | 0 |
| <i>System or Detector Malfunction</i> | 1 |
| <i>Unintentional System / Detector Operation (No Fire)</i> | 3 |
| <i>False Alarm or False Calls Other</i> | 5 |
| <i>Total False Alarms or False Calls</i> | 32 |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Flood Assessment</i> | 0 |
| <i>Wind Storm Assessment</i> | 0 |
| <i>Severe Weather and Natural Disaster Calls</i> | 0 |

Monthly Fire Suppression Activities and Accomplishments

- 7 Members began Basic EMT class in February.
- Hosted Georgia Search and Rescue Task Force Leaders meeting at Calhoun Fire Department to discuss budget and grant opportunities.
- Hosted North West Georgia Fire Chiefs Association quarterly meeting
- **Department Average Response Time for all calls in February was 5minutes 30 seconds. This is 1:45 Turn Out time and 3:45 Travel time. The NFPA 1710 code (National Fire Prevention Association) is 5:20 (1:20 turn out & 4:00 travel).**

Fire Inspection – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Division

Inspections and Enforcement Activities

| | |
|--|-----------|
| <i>Annual Inspections</i> | 26 |
| <i>New Business Inspections</i> | 3 |
| <i>Requested Inspections</i> | 21 |
| <i>Follow Up, Re-Inspections</i> | 4 |
| <i>Burn Site Inspections</i> | 4 |
| <i>Plan Review</i> | 4 |
| <i>Pre-Construction Meeting</i> | 1 |
| <i>Sprinkler Permits Issued</i> | 0 |
| <i>Fuel Tank Permit (Install, Removal, or Service)</i> | 0 |
| <i>Consultations</i> | 13 |
| <i>Illegal Burning Citations</i> | 0 |
| <i>Fire Extinguisher Classes</i> | 0 |
| <i>Fire Drills</i> | 0 |
| <i>Fire Prevention Programs</i> | 0 |
| <i>Zoning / Annexation Meetings</i> | 1 |
| <i>Total Inspection – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Activities</i> | 76 |

Monthly Fire Inspections – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Division Activities and Accomplishments

- Taught 22 community members “CPR and First Aid” certification course.
- February 2, 2024 – A commercial burn permit was issued to Fowler Construction.
- February 4th, 2024 – Inspector McMahan investigated the fire at Engineered Flooring.
- February 7th, 2024 – State Fire Marshal Exchange, Hotel, LaQuinta
- February 7th, 2024 – Division Chief Duvall attended the City Safety Meeting
- Inspector McMahan attended 48 Hours of EMT recertification training.
- February 29th, 2024 – Inspector McMahan performed a fire investigation at Luxury Nails.

Training and Special Operations Division

Monthly Training Hours

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|---|----------------|
| <i>Company Training</i> | 529.00 |
| <i>Facility Training</i> | 115.00 |
| <i>Officer Training</i> | 378.00 |
| <i>Driver Training</i> | 11.00 |
| <i>Specialized Rescue Training</i> | 0.00 |
| <i>Hazardous Materials Training</i> | 26.00 |
| <i>Medical Training</i> | 260.00 |
| <i>Fire Inspector Training</i> | 6.00 |
| <i>Fire Investigation Training</i> | 0.00 |
| <i>Fire and Life Safety Educator Training</i> | 0.00 |
| Total Monthly Training Hours | 1325.00 |

2024 Annual Training Hours

| | |
|---|----------------|
| <i>Company Training</i> | 1360.00 |
| <i>Facility Training</i> | 134.00 |
| <i>Officer Training</i> | 416.00 |
| <i>Driver Training</i> | 1099.00 |
| <i>Specialized Rescue Training</i> | 0.00 |
| <i>Hazardous Materials Training</i> | 55.00 |
| <i>Medical Training</i> | 262.00 |
| <i>Fire Inspector Training</i> | 6.00 |
| <i>Fire Investigation Training</i> | 0.00 |
| <i>Fire and Life Safety Educator Training</i> | 0.00 |
| Total 2023 Annual Training Hours | 3332.00 |

Monthly Training and Special Operations Team Accomplishments

- February 2nd, 2024 – Division Chief Saylor completed the GEMA Local Volunteer and Donation Management course.
- February 12th, 2024 – Began Calhoun Fire Department’s first Basic EMT program. This course currently has 23 individuals enrolled in the class with 7 of these individuals being from Calhoun.
- February 14th, 2024 – Lieutenant Daniel, Lieutenant Duke, Lieutenant Gilbert, Lieutenant Goss, Lieutenant Mills, Lieutenant Silvers, Battalion Chief Green, and Battalion Chief Holbert completed GPSTC New Fire Chief I: Challenging Issues.
- February 19th, 2024 – 2024-01 Recruit School began in conjunction with Dalton Fire Department
- February 19th, 2024 – Lieutenant Gilbert completed GEMA Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command System Interface.
- February 20th, 2024 - Lieutenant Daniel, Lieutenant Duke, Lieutenant Gilbert, Lieutenant Goss, Lieutenant Mills, Lieutenant Silvers, and Battalion Chief Holbert completed GPSTC New Fire Chief II: Administrative Issues.
- February 21st, 2024 – Division Chief Saylor completed GEMA Continuity of Governmental Operations.
- February 22nd, 2024 - Lieutenant Daniel, Lieutenant Duke, Lieutenant Gilbert, Lieutenant Goss, Lieutenant Mills, Lieutenant Silvers, and Battalion Chief Holbert completed GPSTC New Fire Chief III: Contemporary Issues.
- February 22nd, 2024 – Provided Community CPR Course for 22 members of the community from a local church.
- February 27th, 2024 – Division Chief Saylor and Chief Nesbitt attended the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council Meeting in Forsyth, Georgia.
- February 28th, 2024 – Lieutenant Daniel, Lieutenant Gilbert, Lieutenant Goss, Lieutenant Mills, Lieutenant Silvers, and Battalion Chief Green completed GPSTC Shaping the Future.
- February 29th, 2024 – Hosted Georgia Search and Rescue Task Force Leaders meeting at Calhoun Fire Department to discuss budget and grant opportunities.

Upcoming Important Training and Special Operations Activities

- March – EMT Program and Recruit Program throughout the month
- March 1st, 2024 – Truck Company Operations Course
- March 7th, 2024 – NPQ Firefighter I Examination
- March 8th, 2024 – Fire Extinguisher and First Aid Course
- March 12th, 2024 – Career Day at Calhoun High School
- March 13th, 2024 – Community CPR Course
- March 19th, 2024 – GSAR Quarterly Training Exercise
- March 21st, 2024 – Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council Meetings
- March 26th, 2024 – Northwest Georgia Training Officer and Fire Chief Association Meeting
- March 28th, 2024 – Structural Fire Control Course

4) Safety Committee

- The safety topic of discussion this month was Workplace Safety. Safety inspections were performed at the library and all Utilities

buildings.

- Vehicle accidents: 1
- Workers' compensation: 0

5) Revolving Loan

6) Regional Commission

7. Zoning Hearings and Comments

Announce at this time, public hearings will be held. The public will have the opportunity to make pro and con comments with a ten minute maximum time limit for each side of the matter, with each person giving their name and address. An inquiry should be made to determine if any elected official has filed a disclosure statement regarding ownership or special interest in any of the agenda items. Zoning Land Use Maps on display in Council Chambers for Zoning Advisory Board and Council hearings.

- A. Public hearing of a zoning change request from Ind-G to C-2 for 1.56 acres located at 200 Union Grove Road (C46-031), by First Family Group LLC. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held on March 7th.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
 - Councilmember Edwards gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
 - Terry Brumlow, attorney for the applicant, stated that the property is only 1.56 acres which makes it better suited as commercial. Commercial zoning will allow the applicant to build a gas station on the property.
 - There were no other comments and Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the zoning change. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning of C-2. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Public hearing of an annexation and zoning request of R-1B for 0.341 acres located on Circle Drive (040-023), by Felipe Paez Martinez. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on March 7th.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
 - Councilmember Edwards gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
 - Felipe Martinez, the applicant, stated that he wanted to build a home for himself and his family and another home would be built to sell on his other lot.
 - Shana Stephens, of 319 Circle spoke in opposition of the request.
 - There were no other comments and Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the annexation request. Councilmember Edwards

made a motion to approve the annexation request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

- Mayor Palmer called for a motion concerning the zoning request. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning request of R-1B. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

C. Public hearing of an annexation and zoning request of R-1B for 0.341 acres located on Circle Drive (040-023A), by Felipe Paez Martinez. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on March 7th.

- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
- City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
- Councilmember Edwards gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board.
- Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
- There were no comments and Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the annexation request. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the annexation request. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- Mayor Palmer called for a motion concerning the zoning request. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning request of R-1B. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

D. Public hearing of a sign variance request of 26.6 square feet (sf) in cabinet size, to vary from 8 sf to 34.6 sf, and a height variance request of 2' 4", to vary from a 6' height maximum to 8'- 4" height, located at 415 Curtis Parkway SE (C56A-027), by Patrick Silvia, Exchange Apartments. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on March 7th.

- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
- City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
- Councilmember Edwards gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board.
- Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
- Patrick Silvia, the applicant, stated the request was being made in order to make the sign visible from the street, as he was allowing for the 25 foot right-of-way for the street expansion.
- There were no other comments and Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the variance request. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the variance request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

8. Other Hearings and Comments

- A. Public hearing of a beer, wine and liquor package license request at a location of 920 North Wall Street, by Dilip Patel d/b/a Calhoun Liquor. Mr. Patel is transferring locations from 960 North Wall Street per City Code Section 6-53.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.

- City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
 - There were no comments and Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the alcohol request. Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to approve the alcohol license. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Public hearing of a beer and wine package license request at a location of 1402 US 41 South, by Mubashar Ali d/b/a Food Mart and Tobacco. Mr. Ali will also serve as the store manager.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
 - There were no comments and Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the alcohol request.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to approve the alcohol license. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- C. Public hearing of a beer and wine pouring license request at a location of 427 Hwy 53 East, by Alexia Prasinos d/b/a Gondola Pizza. Ms. Prasinos will also serve as the store manager.
- Mayor Palmer stated that Ms. Prasinos was requesting the item be tabled to the March 25th meeting to allow her husband to obtain his criminal history, scheduled for March 21st, as he has been out of the country.
 - Councilmember Edwards made a motion to table the public hearing to the March 25th meeting. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

9. **Old Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an ordinance to amend, strike or change certain sections of Part II – Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Alcoholic Beverages, to establish Article VII – Licensing For Limited Service and Consumption of Wine or Malt Beverages on Premises of Licensee. The public hearing will be held March 25th.

10. **New Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a front setback variance of 10 feet, to vary from 25 feet to 15 feet, at a location of 187 New Town Road (C50-007C), by David Fowler. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on April 4th and the public hearing on April 8th.
- B. Mayor Palmer stated that the following item has been withdrawn: a sign variance request of 133.8 square feet, to vary from 57.2 square feet to 191 square feet for a wall sign, at a location of 920 North Wall Street (C22-068), by Dilip Patel/Calhoun Liquor.
- C. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of an annexation and zoning request from County residential to R-1B, at a location of 134 Jones Road (049-121), by Iris

Retamar. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on April 4th and the public hearing on April 8th.

- D. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a beer, wine and liquor pouring license transfer request, at a location of 106 North Wall Street, Suite 1, by Brittney Bullock. Ms. Bullock is transferring locations from 201 South Wall Street per City Code Section 6-53. Eligible for a public hearing on March 25th.
- G. Mayor Palmer read a request from Sewer Construction to purchase a trailer from Temple Trailer Sales. The department would like to trade in a used flatbed trailer and box trailer that are out of service. The cost of the trailer they need is \$5,699 and the trade in amount Temple is offering is \$3,000 for the old trailers. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- H. Mayor Palmer read a recommendation from the Utilities Administrator to accept the bid of \$627,570.48 from Jason Everts, Everts Construction, for a Water and Sewer Maintenance Building to be constructed off West Line Street. Utilities Administrator Ellis stated that Everts Construction was the lowest responsible bidder for the project. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- I. Mayor Palmer read a request for a Temporary Outdoor Alcohol Special Event Permit request for Calhoun Coffee Company, in association with the BBQ, Boogie & Blues Special Event Permit Request by the Downtown Development Authority. To allow the provision of alcohol by Calhoun Coffee Company, currently holding a valid Class E beer, wine, and liquor license for on premise consumption. Calhoun Coffee Company will apply for their Alcohol Special Event permit with the Georgia Department of Revenue upon City approval. The permit request is for Friday, April 26th from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 27th from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

11. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda

12. Work Reports

- A. Paul Worley, City Administrator, gave an update on the pickleball courts stating that additional lighting will be added to the courts. The City is working with the vendor to add the lights during construction. The hard surface courts have a thirty-day cure time after installation and are still a few months out on completion.
- B. Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator, gave a report on the law suit filed against the city by the Coosa River Bason Initiative and reviewed the city's remediation methods currently in progress. (copy attached)
 - The following people also addressed council members regarding the suit:
 - i. William Brooks, Pine Chapel Road
 - ii. Matthew Williams, 101 Montclair Drive
 - iii. Shelly Mullinax, 260 Briar Patch Lane
 - iv. Colleen Brooks, Pine Chapel Road
 - v. Brittney Cumbie, 391 Cartecay Drive
 - vi. Shana Stephens, 319 Circle Drive

C. George Govignon, City Attorney had nothing to report.

13. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed

14. Motion to return to General Session

15. Motion to Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Council, Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Approved:

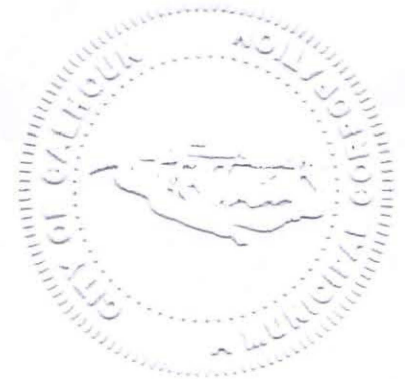


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Sharon Nelson, City Clerk



As most of you are aware ^{the} Coosa River Basin Initiative
filed a lawsuit against the City of Calhoun last week.
Related to PFAS

PFAS are a group of 5,000 or more man made chemicals that have been manufactured and placed into the environment for over four decades. These "forever chemicals" were manufactured and sold by their producers to end up in a number of industries worldwide in everyday products found in businesses and homes throughout the country. These products vary and include non-stick cookware products such as Teflon, women's make-up, grease resistant food packaging and most of all in stain, water and fire resistant fabric treatments.

Calhoun Utilities has and will continue to work towards PFAS safe drinking water for the consumers of our products.

Granular Activated Carbon has already been installed in 3 of the 4 deep bed gravity filters at our Brittany Drive drinking water plant with the 4th expected to be delivered by the end of April. Already underway well before the filing of either law suit, our efforts with the use of GAC filtrations has produced promising results for drinking water well within the proposed Federal limitations at this facility. This plant should be in full compliance with the proposed regulations by the end of next month, absent supply chain issues with the carbon supply.

GAC has already been ordered and is to be installed in the deep bed gravity filters at the Mauldin drinking water plant, but the depth of the gravity filters at this facility are approximately 30% smaller in volume than those at the newer plant on Britany Drive. *Significantly*

Both measures are currently the quickest method to remove PFAS from the water supply, but are not permanent or cost effective solutions for long term efforts and treatment. Prior to either law suit the City had already obtained grant funding and retained a specified and experienced engineering firm to develop long term solutions. Included in these efforts are multiple pilot tests to determine the effectiveness of other means to remove PFAS such as reverse osmosis and ion exchange resin, in addition to the GAC pilot testing already underway since February of 2022.

In the coming weeks the City is also creating a procedure to notify and identify consumers of ground water wells that will need to be tested for possible PFAS contamination. If a property presently served by a contaminated well, the City is prepared to provide a connection to the municipal supply with a waiver of the connection fees ~~and~~ if immediately available.