



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2020 - 7:00 PM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
George R. Crowley, Mayor Pro Tem
Ray Mitchell Denmon, Councilman
Al Edwards, Councilman
Jackie Palazzolo, Councilwoman

ALSO: Paul Worley, City Administrator; Larry Vickery, Utilities Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Captain Ken Carson, Police Department; and Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief.

1. **Council Meeting Called to Order**

Welcome

Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Invocation

Utilities Administrator Vickery 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**

Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the October 12, 2020 agenda as presented. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

4. **Amendment or Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of September 28, 2020. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer announced that early voting began today and will continue through Friday, October 30th. He encouraged everyone to vote.
- B. Mayor Palmer stated that the City of Calhoun has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. The certificate of achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. Individual award of Financial Reporting Achievement has been awarded to Andrea Bramlett, Director of Finance.

6. **Council Comments**

- A. Councilwoman Palazzolo submitted September reports as follows:

1) **Water and Sewer Operations**

Water Treatment Plant

- Total gallons withdrawn: 324,440,000
- Daily average: 10,814,666
- Wells: 60,280,000
- Big Springs: 68,500,000
- % produced by Brittany Drive: 39.6%
 - Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 36.37%
 - Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 40.76%
 - Rainfall for November – 0.90”

Waste Water Treatment Plant

- Treated a daily average of 3.742 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 11, and an average COD of 49.

Water Distribution & Wastewater Collection

- 260 work orders completed, 12 new water connections, 26 water service leaks repaired, 11 water main leaks repaired, 0 water services changed to new main lines, 127 meter changes, 56 utility locates called in for work orders, 637 utility locates responses.
- 2,150 feet of Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 503 utility locates completed, 13,800 feet sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 6 new sewer connections installed, 3 sanitary sewer services repaired.

2) **Water and Sewer Construction**

Projects Under Construction

- 319 Grant Lynn Creek Project- We have sent a letter to all the residents of the Lynn Creek Watershed informing them of the grant opportunities. We have completed several septic tank pump outs, and are collaborating with Mohawk on one of the green infrastructure projects.
- The two inch galvanized line replacement continues utilizing city forces.

- Georgia Cumberland Academy Force Main & Lifts Station Project- Force Main contractor is on-site & working. C&S is on-site working on the Lift station.
- Buc-ee's Water Main Relocation Project- Project is 95% complete. Utilities has to wait on road contractor to remove existing Johnson Lake Rd before we can complete project.
- The Water & Sewer Annual Unit Price Bid will expire in October. Bid Documents have been issued and a bid opening is scheduled for October 28th.

Projects in Design & Development

- South Interceptor Flow Study
- Brittany Drive Standby Generator Grant

3) Library

- There are 10,897 library card holders, 0 library visitors, and 486 total circulation.
- There were 0 story time attendance, 0 adult program attendance, 26 new users, 976 e-books, 882 audio books, 0 computer logins, and 10,232 Facebook visits.

B. Councilman Edwards submitted September reports as follows:

1) Police Department

- Made 266 cases with 2 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$14,784
- Issued 209 warnings
- Investigated 51 highway accidents, 37 private property accidents
- Obstruction - 8
- Lethal Weapon Encounter - 0
- Alarm responses - 165
- Miles patrolled: 42,442

2) Municipal Court

- Total Court cases- 0
- Court cases dropped- 0
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 0
- Number of Probation cases- 0
- Failure to appear- 0
- Subpoenas served- 0

Fire Suppression Division

176 Total reported calls for service for the Suppression Division

Dispatched Calls

- 5 Fire Incidents (\$10,451.00 in Estimated damage)
- 1 Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (NO FIRE)

- 106 Emergency Medical Services / Rescue (Injuries, Medical, or Fatality)
- 6 Hazardous Conditions Incidents (NO FIRE; Leaks, Spills, Electrical Hazards; All Other Hazardous Conditions without injuries)
- 9 Service Calls (Water Leak; Assist Other Agencies with Non-Emergency Calls)
- 31 Good Intent Calls (Smoke / Odor check; Investigation of Unknown Problem)
- 15 False Alarms or False Calls
- 0 Severe Weather & Natural Disaster
- 0 Special Incident Type (Citizen Complaint; Other)

Additional Fire Department Activities

- Completed routine Dept. maintenance and duties.
- Continued Participating in meetings on Covid-19 response protocols and issues with local agencies (by video conference).
- Continued Painting and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants.

Training Division

CFD completed 369 Total Man Hours of training during the month.

Training consisted of: Pump Operations (with two Firefighters passing tests for Reserve Driver Status), Strategies and Tactics, Scene Safety Issues, Fire Streams and Hydrants.

Fire Inspections - Public Safety Education - Code Enforcement Division

79 Total Reported Activities / Inspections completed during the month.

Inspections / Enforcement

- 19 Annual Inspection
- 2 New Business Inspections
- 19 Requested Inspections

- 5 Follow Up, Re-Inspections
- 0 Burn Site Inspections
- 3 Plan Reviews
- 0 Pre-Construction Meetings
- 2 Sprinkler Permits Issued
- 0 Fuel Tank Permit (Install, Removal or Service)
- 29 Consultations
- 0 Fire Drills
- 0 Illegal Burning Citations

Additional Inspection - Public Safety & Codes Division Activities

Issued 2 Sprinkler Permits for \$247.00 and \$135.00.
 Inspections Tagged 11 new Fire Hydrants.
 Inspections attended Zoning / Annexation Meeting.

4) **Safety Committee**

- The safety committee did not meet in the month of September.
 - Vehicle accidents: 0
 - Workers compensation: 5
- City schools are working as well as can be expected with COVID-19. Progress is being made on the work site of the Early Learning Center. The target opening date is approximately two years.

C. Councilman Denmon submitted September reports as follows:

1) **Public Works**

Street Department

1. Completed 10 shop and 25 street dept. work orders.
2. Installed 4 new street signs.
3. Repaired utility cuts and pot holes using 28 tons of asphalt.
4. Built a catch basin and laid 18 feet of 12 inch pipe on Barrett Road.

Cemetery Department

1. Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler cemetery.
2. Supervised the opening and closing of 11 grave sites.
3. Sold 20 new grave space.

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. Planted two trees downtown and one at Depot.

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**

1. **FALL PROGRAMS:**

Youth Football – Games started on September 12. Twenty-one games were played throughout the month. A total of 179 participants make up the 12 teams from 5-6 flag through 11-12 tackle.

Youth Soccer- Games started on September 14. Forty-two games were played throughout the month. There are 14 boy's teams and 10 girl's teams and 202 total participants this Fall.

Youth Volleyball – Games started September 10. Our teams are participating with LaFayette, Catoosa County, Trion and Summerville. There are 35 girls participating with 2 10u teams and 1 12u team.

Adult Fall Softball – Games started on September 24. There are eight teams participating in the Men's league.

Tennis Center – EVTA and STA Flex League Play

2. FACILITIES:

The following facilities were reserved throughout the month for events:

Playground Pavilion – 11 events Ratner Pavilion – 8 events

Pool – 1 event

3. PARK MAINTENANCE:

The following parks maintenance items were completed during the month:

- Trash and tree limbs throughout the park
- Mowed all parks weekly
- Prepared high school softball field
- Prepared middle school softball field
- Repaint middle school football practice field
- Mow, weed eat, edged Rec football field
- Groomed flower planters
- Groomed front entrance and grounds of tennis center
- Lay out and painted flag football field
- Repainted soccer fields
- Fertilized rec football field
- Prepped adult softball fields
- Fire ant control
- Disinfected park benches, playground equipment, bathroom door handles, trash cans daily

4. WEBSITE USAGE

CalhounRec.com	Facebook
2,006 – Sessions	3,080 – Post Engagements
713 – Users	9,516 – Reached
3,149 – Page Views	18 - Posts

3) Downtown Development Authority

The downtown businesses will be hosting their Holiday Open House on November 22nd from 1-6 PM and Moonlight Madness on December 18th from 7 PM to 10 PM. The Pumpkin Patch partnership with United Way successfully raised over \$3,200.00. The DDA completed their three year

strategic plan and will be implementing it starting in November. The DDA installed bonded rubber mulch in the tree plots on Court Street. The DDA is encouraging everyone to shop local.

D. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley submitted September reports as follows:

1) **Electric Department**

- Mainline Distribution Maintenance continues as the other joint use utilities transfer off of the bad utility poles to the new replacement poles and we are able to pull the bad poles and get them out of the system.
- System improvements and reliability upgrades continue at Briarwood Apartments with overhead to underground conversion.
- New underground construction continues with the 11 new Townhomes at Millers Lane of the Old Mills Condos.

WORK ORDERS IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED FOR: SEPTEMBER:

• NEWLY CREATED	62
• COMPLETED AND CLOSED	67
• CONSISTING OF:	
• CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION	24
• STREET AND SECURITY LIGHTING-	9
• DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE	14
• OUTAGES / TROUBLE CALLS	7
• WORK FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS	8
• NEW METER SETS	4
• METER MAINTENANCE/REPLACEMENT	5
• Electric Locate Tickets Processed-	282

The City of Calhoun’s Electrical load for SEPTEMBER 2020 is estimated to be about 34 ½ million kilowatt hours (kWh’s). This is about one million less than September of 2019. Actual numbers will be released around October 16th.

American Public Power Association (APPA) has presented a Commendation to the City of Calhoun in recognition of its Mutual Aid work during the reconstruction caused by Hurricane Laura. Joy Ditto, President and CEO of the APPA said “the Public Power community thanks you for stepping up to help a neighbor – whether they are next door or a thousand miles away, Mutual Aid is at the heart of what Public Power does”.

Mutual Aid was requested again by Abbeville, Louisiana with the anticipated destruction caused by Hurricane Delta. Calhoun sent Alan McCormick, Nick Land, Dennis Henry, Colter Faith, Greg Dodd, Nathan Phillips, Nathan Stokes and Willie Pritchett to help with the reconstruction.

2) **Telecommunications**

- Work continues on new switch configurations and installation procedures. Started verifying traffic routing.
- Moved switch at Depot into new data cabinet.
- Removed two obsolete engineering servers from Building Inspection data room.
- Built a new server for Finance to support Tyler Content Manager program.
- Created new email group from security group for Police Department.
- Transferred fiber cable to 12 new poles.
- Due to COVID-19 pandemic, Telecom personnel are still alternating shifts between home and office.
- Opened 28 and closed 26 work orders.

Geographic Information Systems

- Updated the main GIS layers
- Updated City and GIS web sites
- Generated Electric usage reports
- City employee GIS login statistics
 - Total logins – 1119
 - Top three layers accessed
 - Water – 572
 - Electric - 72
 - Metering – 97
- GIS personnel are mainly working from home during the COVID-19 pandemic.

3) **Building Inspections**

- Issued 45 permits for an estimated cost of \$1,006,298, collected \$11,943 in permit fees. This included 5 new residential, 2 residential remodel, 1 commercial remodel, 1 industrial remodel, 5 residential plumbing, 8 residential electrical, 1 commercial plumbing, 4 residential HVAC, 1 commercial HVAC, 2 commercial electrical, 1 industrial HVAC, and 3 industrial electrical. 135 total inspections.

7. **Public Hearing 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 an annexation and zoning request of PRD for 2.43 acres, at a location of Henderson Bend Road (parcel 042-026C), by William D. Edwards Revocable Living Trust.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Mr. Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo reported on the Zoning Advisory Board meeting stating the ZAB is recommending approval of the annexation and zoning request.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments.
 - There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the annexation request of 2.43 acres. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the annexation request. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
 - Mayor Palmer called for a motion concerning the zoning change request of PRD. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the zoning request. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Public hearing of an annexation and zoning request of R1-B for 0.37 acre, at a location of 108 Cherry Street, SW (parcel GC27-110), by Julia Moore.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Mr. Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo reported on the Zoning Advisory Board meeting stating the ZAB is recommending approval of the annexation and zoning request.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments.
 - There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the annexation request of .37 acre. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the annexation request. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
 - Mayor Palmer called for a motion concerning the zoning change request of R1-B. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the zoning request. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- C. Public hearing of an annexation and zoning request of C-2 for a combined total of .70 acre, at a location of 125 and 127 Thomas Street (parcels GC21-014 and GC21-013), by Johnathan Stone.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Mr. Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo reported on the Zoning Advisory Board meeting stating the ZAB is recommending approval of the annexation and zoning request.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments.

- There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the annexation request of .70 acre. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the annexation request. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
 - Mayor Palmer called for a motion concerning the zoning change request of C-2 . Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the zoning request. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- D. Public hearing of a beer, wine and distilled spirits pouring application at a location of 235 W Line Street, by Guadalupe V Bejarano DBA Lupitas Mexican Restaurant.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Mr. Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments. Doug Hall of 101 Jackson Street asked where the business would be located. Mayor Palmer stated it would be on 235 W Line Street next to Warehouse Liquor.
 - There being no other comments, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the alcohol license request. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to approve the alcohol request. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

8. **Old Business**

9. **New Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a beer, wine, and distilled spirits package license at a location of 960 North Wall Street, by Dilip Patel (Calhoun Liquor). Mr. Patel will also serve as the store manager. Mayor Palmer stated the request is eligible for a public hearing on November 9th and called for a motion to set the public hearing for this date. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made the motion. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a beer, wine, and distilled spirits package license at a location of 241 Highway 53 East, by Kamlesh Patel (ABC Liquor & Tobacco Outlet). Mr. Patel will also serve as the store manager. Mayor Palmer stated the request is eligible for a public hearing on November 9th and called for a motion to set the public hearing for this date. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made the motion. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- C. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a beer, wine, and distilled spirits pouring license at a location of 165 Outlet Center Drive, Suite 5, by Craig Johnson (Guacamoles). Mr. Johnson will also serve as the store manager. Mayor Palmer stated the request is eligible for a public hearing on November 9th and called for a motion to set the public hearing for this date. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made the motion. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- D. Mayor Palmer stated that Gregg Sims, Architect, had submitted a recommendation of bid award for the Police Station, Vehicle Service Building, and Recreation Parks Maintenance Building SPLOST project to the lowest responsible bidder, Felker Construction Co., Inc. in the base bid amount of \$4,802,490. He then gave the floor to Mr. Worley to give a review of the police station and recreation maintenance building project. Mr. Worley

stated this is a 2018 SPLOST project and the largest project in this cycle. He stated that the City has been working on the design for the past two years and credited Chief Pyle and Major Randy Gallman for their work on the design of the police station. He also credited Kim Townsend, Recreation Director for her work on the design of the recreation maintenance building. He stated that he was pleased with the designs of both and felt they would serve the city for years to come. The police department will be a 13,754 square foot building and will allow for more divisions under one roof. Also included is a 5,000 square foot vehicle service building and an indoor/outdoor kennel for the K-9 force. The recreation maintenance facility will be a 4,000 square foot building and plans are to eventually remove the old maintenance building and build a new basketball court. The bids were published and those wishing to submit bids were given five weeks to put them together. The bids were opened on October 1st with 11 bidders. He then read the recommendation of Gregg Sims as follows: "After evaluating the bids from the five lowest bidders for the construction of your projects, we recommend accepting the low bid submitted by Felker Construction Co., Inc. We have met with their project management team and believe they understand the scope of the project, the expected quality of construction and that they will be committed to providing excellent service." Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to accept the recommendation and award the bid to Felker Construction Co., Inc. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

10. **Other Written Items Not on the Agenda**

11. **Work Reports**

- A. Mr. Worley had nothing to report.
- B. Mr. Vickery had nothing to report.
- C. Mr. Govignon had nothing to report.

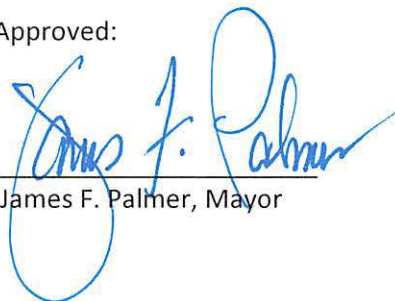
12. **Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed**

13. **Motion to return to General Session**

14. **Motion to Adjourn**

There being no other business to come before the Council, Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Sharon Nelson, City Clerk

