

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
CALHOUN, GA
AUGUST 27, 2007 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

**PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Lorene Potts, Mayor Pro Tem
Ray Denmon, Councilman
George Crowley, Councilman
David Hammond, Councilman**

**ALSO: Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities
Eddie Peterson, City Administrator in Training
Cathy Harrison, City Administrator**

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Councilman Crowley 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 as proposed, second by Councilman Hammond with Councilman Crowley, Councilman Hammond, Councilman Denmon, and Mayor Pro Tem Potts voting affirmatively, motion carried.
4. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2007 Regular City Council Meeting as written. The motion was second by Councilman Hammond with Councilman Crowley, Councilman Hammond, Councilman Denmon, and Mayor Pro Tem Potts voting affirmatively, motion carried.
5. Mayors Comments:
 - a. Mayor Palmer reminded the public and the Council members of the Public Hearing scheduled for September 10, 2007 regarding the Comprehensive Plan. He stated Mac Tec would be available to review the City's initiatives to this point and he invited everyone to attend.
 - b. Mayor Palmer reminded the public of the United Way's Unity Run scheduled for August 28. He stated the 1K race for children would begin at 5:00 P.M. and the 5K race for adults and all others will begin at 7:00 P.M. You may call United Way office to register. There is no late registration fee.
 - c. Mayor Palmer reminded the public that this week is qualifying week for city elections. He stated the qualifying period will end August 31, 2007 @ 4:30 P.M.
 - d. Mayor Palmer requested Mayor Pro Tem Potts to review the zoning matters scheduled for October 8, 2007 at 7:00 P.M.
 1. Annexation and zoning request of C-2 for approximately 1 acre at Kelly Court off of South Wall Street by James P. and Shelly H. Rasbury as owners.
 2. Annexation and zoning of C-2 for approximately 3.167 acres on Mauldin Road by Stanley Simpson.

6. Public Hearings and Comments:

- a. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing of a beer and wine pouring license request of Maya, Inc d/b/a Atlanta Gate Restaurant at 203 Richardson Road Suite 110 with Jamil Abraham as the authorized agent.
- Mayor Palmer stated the police report is clear, the location has previously been licensed under the name of Lizzie's Deli, and the area has sufficient parking and is the proper distance from churches and schools.
 - Mayor Palmer asked if there were any comments from the public or the Council. There were none.
 - The hearing was closed.
 - Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the request for the beer and wine pouring license for Atlanta Gate Restaurant at 206 Richardson Road Suite 110 with Jamil Abraham as authorized agent. The motion was second by Councilman Crowley with Councilman Hammond, Councilman Crowley, Councilman Denmon, and Mayor Pro Tem Potts voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- b. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing on the taxi license request of Hermelindo J. Davila for a commercial address of 1116 South Wall Street, Suite A.
- Mayor Palmer asked if there were any comments. There were none.
 - The hearing was closed.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Potts made a motion to approve the taxi license subject to proper signage on the vehicle, insurance, and etc. The motion was second by Councilman Denmon with Mayor Pro Tem Potts, Councilman Denmon, Councilman Hammond, and Councilman Crowley voting affirmatively, motion carried.

6. Old Business: None.

7. New Business:

- a. Mayor Palmer stated the City had received a request from the Calhoun/Gordon Arts Council to close Piedmont Street adjacent to the Arts Council on September 22, 2007 from 7 – 11 P.M. for a band concert outside the center.
- The Randall Bramblett band will be performing and the center is expecting a large attendance.
 - Mayor Palmer asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.
 - Councilman Hammond made a motion to authorize the street closing for September 22, 2007 from 7-11 P.M. The motion was second by Councilman Crowley with Councilman Hammond, Councilman Crowley, Councilman Denmon, and Mayor Pro Tem Potts voting affirmatively, motion carried.

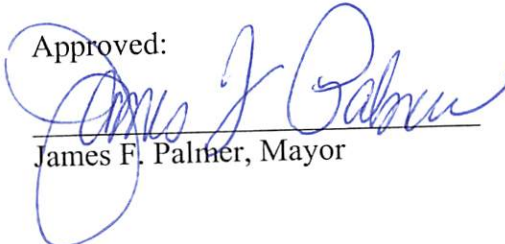
8. Other Written Items not on the Agenda: None

9. Work Reports:

- a. Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities, no report.
- b. Eddie Peterson, Director of Public Safety / Public Works
1. Eddie Peterson stated he had been reviewing the prospect of utilizing bio-diesel fuel.

- He stated he determined the City's average usage per month is 8,000 gallons. He stated with a 5% mix, he has determined it will not cause any damage to existing warranties or repairs scheduled for city vehicles still covered by warranties, he also determined the current supplier can provide the 5% mix. He stated he had studied this matter extensively and had discussed with Charles Dillard who handles purchases for a trucking company that has been using bio-diesel for sometime. He also stated he had reviewed the County's experience for the past six months and determined they had not had any problems with the 5% mix.
 - Mayor Palmer stated he felt the Council would agree to do a trial regarding the 5% mix.
2. Eddie Peterson stated according to accident records from Chief Moss, in 1998 the City had 117 accidents per month. It dropped to 70 accident in 2004 and is down to 52 accidents as an average per month in 2007. He stated DUI's had dropped from 14 in 2004 to 9 in 2007. He stated this drop in accidents has been the direct result of an aggressive traffic enforcement group supervised by Chief Moss. He stated safety is their primary goal and is paying off. He stated these figures have dropped as traffic has increased and as there is more congestion. He stated this record will allow more grant opportunities for safety equipment.
3. Peterson stated the playground area on the 58 acre site will be ready for opening to the public as soon as the pavilion with restrooms is completed, approximately 8 weeks.
- Mayor Palmer stated this would not have been possible without the cooperation of the City and County and the Recreation SPLOST funds. He stated it will provide a state of the art play area for children.
 - Peterson also stated the football field with lights will be ready for the season to begin in September. He stated the stadium seats are not yet available but are on order and it will be necessary to rough it for the first season but the 58 acre area is coming along extremely well.
4. Eddie Peterson stated this prior week, there had been a tennis tournament at the tennis area and the new part time director has several more tournaments scheduled and also training opportunities. He stated he is very hopeful the 15 court complex, with the new lighting, will become a regional playing area.
10. Mayor Palmer stated it was not necessary to move to Executive Session.
11. Mayor Pro Tem Potts made a motion to adjourn, second by Councilman Denmon with Mayor Pro Tem Potts, Councilman Denmon, Councilman Hammond, and Councilman Crowley voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Cathy Harrison, City Administrator