

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
MARCH 11, 2013 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Al Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem
David Hammond, Councilman
George Crowley, Councilman
Matt Barton, Councilman

ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager
George Govignon, City Attorney
Jeff DeFoor, Director of Electric Utilities
Paul Worley, City Clerk
Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief
Terry Mills, Deputy Fire Chief
Brad Carrick, Telecommunications Director
Garry Moss, Police Chief

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
 - A. Councilman Hammond gave the invocation.
2. Boy Scout Troup 39 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 Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2013 City Council Meeting. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the executive session minutes of the February 25, 2013 City Council Meeting. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
5. **Mayor's Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Palmer welcomed Boy Scout Troup 39 to the meeting. Scout Leader Roy Mears and the Troup stated their name and rank.
 - B. Mayor Palmer announced that there will be a City Council planning work session on March 23, 2013 at 10:00am at the Conference Room at Calhoun Utilities 700 West Line Street.
6. **Council Comments:**

A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards gave the February reports as follows:

1) **Police Department**

- Made 545 cases with 8 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$92,142.80
- Issued 634 warnings
- Investigated 55 highway accidents, 29 private property accidents, 1 fatality
- Provided 66 escorts
- 1,378 incident reports
- Responded to 601 alarms
- Miles patrolled: 47,765
- Responded to 4,401 calls for service by E-911

2) **Municipal Court and Probation**

- Total Court cases- 524
- Court cases dropped- 107
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 289
- Number of Probation cases- 82
- Probation Payments- \$30,591.00
- Probation Revocations- 16
- Failure to appear- 43
- Prisoner transports- 33

3) **Fire Department- Suppression**

- Responded to 154 calls for service for the suppression division, 4 fire incidents for damages (\$4,025,000 in estimated fire damage)
- Responded to 98 medical service calls
- Responded to 10 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 24 false alarms or false calls, 6 good intent
- 32 members of the Fire Department were involved with the fire at Brumlow Mills, with 21 being recalled to duty after the initial 11 on duty arrived on scene and began their fire ground operations. According to the owner, due to the efforts of the Firefighters on scene, there was an estimated 15 to 20 million dollars saved at the location beyond the loss. ¼ of the complex was damaged with ¾ of the buildings being saved, including a 3 million dollar machine that would have taken a year to be replaced from Austria.
- Continued assisting at the storm donations center providing various types of help to the staff working there including unloading of many trucks delivering items for the storm victims.

Training Division

- Department completed 804 man hours of training.
- Members completed a structural fire control instructor's class.
- The training tower construction project should be completed soon.

4) **Fire Inspection Department**

- 103 total reported activities/inspections which included 34 annual inspections, 22 requested inspections, 16 follow-up or re-inspections, and 27 consultations

5) **Downtown Development Authority**

- The DDA continues to work with Calhoun Affordable Housing and Landmark Development to begin the Cherokee Mill Lofts project in the former O'Jay Mill building. With a project of this size and importance, much documentation is required.
- The Chamber's Tourism Committee and the DDA have once again partnered to bring **BBQ Boogie and Blues** to Downtown on Friday and Saturday, April 26 and 27. The times will be 5 to 10 pm on Friday and 10 am to 5pm on Saturday.

B. Councilman Barton gave the February as follows:

1) **Street Department**

- Completed 21 shop and 28 street department work orders.
- Placed 10 new street signs.
- Cut and removed 12 dead trees from the recreation department and Laurel Creek Drive.
- Filled in the fountain at the library with gravel and top soil to create a flower bed.
- Cleaned out ditches on 1st Street and Rose Way for a total of 45 feet.

2) **Cemetery Department**

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 7 grave sites.
- Sold 8 new grave spaces.
- Worked 7 grave sites.

3) **Rabies Control**

- Housed 23 dogs, and 6 cats
- Issued 9 warning
- Answered 58 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.
- Mowed and weedeated approximately 19 miles of sidewalk, 29 islands, and 42 other designated places in the City.
- The building and maintenance crew performed routine maintenance on designed city buildings and all fountains.
- Continued to restore benches at the Depot.

5) **Safety Committee**

- Safety topic- Burn safety
- Safety Inspection- Library and Utility building
- Accidents: Vehicle Accident-3- Building Inspection, Parks Department, and Recreation
- Workers Comp: 3- Golf Maintenance, Water/Sewer Plant Maintenance, and Water Construction

6) **Recreation Department**

- **Youth Basketball:** GRPA District basketball tournaments were played February 16 – 22, 2013. There were seven teams representing Calhoun Recreation Department. Our agency hosted the 5th District 9-10 Girls tournament February 16, 18, 19 and 20 with six teams participating. The economic impact for this 4 day tournament was \$24,960.00. The following teams advanced to the GRPA State tournaments: 7-8 Boys played in Effingham County and finished 3rd in the GRPA State tournament and the 7-8 Girls played in Spalding County and finished 3rd in the GRPA State tournament.
- **Youth Soccer:** The Spring youth soccer league began their season on February 24. A total of 346 boys and girls ages 4 through 12 are participating in our spring soccer program.
- **Youth Baseball/Softball:** The spring baseball and softball registration concluded on Friday, March 8. Assessments were held on Saturday, March 9 and the team drafts will take place March 12 and 13. Games are scheduled to start on April 6.
- **Select Baseball:** Our agency will also have 5 select baseball teams that will compete in a select baseball league based out of Whitfield County. We have 2 -8 year old teams; 1- 10 year old team; 2 -11 year old teams. Select baseball games will also be played at the Calhoun Recreation facilities.

C. Councilman Crowley gave the February report as follows:

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

- The Brittany Drive Expansion Project- Construction of the filter structures, walls for the pipe gallery and roof are complete.
- Maintenance crews are approximately 85% complete with the upgrades to the Coosawattee intake. The project consists of replacing check valves and switch gears for three of the four raw water pumps.
- Water and Sewer relocation for the Union Grove Interchange has begun and is approximately 90% complete. Minor items remaining are being coordinated with the grading contractor.
- Engineering design for the wholesale connection with Floyd County has been completed. Meter pit installation has been completed. Floyd County is installing new mains in the area.
- SR 136 and I-75 GDOT water main relocation- project is under construction and is approximately 85% complete.

- Curtis Parkway Sewer Extension- Approximately 1,800 feet of 8" sewer will be extended by a local developer north along Curtis Parkway from our existing sewer.

2) Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Total gallons withdrawn: 255,060,000
- Daily average: 9,109,286
- Wells: 25,150,000
- Big Springs: 83,210,000
- Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 42.5
- Rainfall- 4.14"

3) Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Treated a daily average of 7.574 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 6, average suspended effluent of 10, and an average COD of 52.

4) Water Distribution

- 4 Water connections, 11 water service leaks repaired, 8 water main leaks repaired, 31 water services changed from old main line to new main line, 13 water meters changed out, 21 calls to patch roads or repair yards, 68 utility locates called in for work orders, 275 utility locates responded to, and 49 misc. calls
- Continued work on 2" line replacement and service line replacement on McDaniel Station Road and Poplar Drive area
- Completed installing new 4" Meter Pit for Flying J
- Completed installation of a new 8" meter for Floyd County Water

5) Waste Water Collection

- 1,800' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 229 utility locates completed, 3 lift station repairs completed, 6,800' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 94 manholes opened and inspected

6) Building Inspection Department

- Issued 14 permits for an estimated cost of \$2,132,849.00 and collected \$8,746.00 in permit fees. This included 1 new residential, 2 commercial remodeling, 1 industrial remodel, 1 residential plumbing, 2 new commercial HVAC, 1 residential electrical, 1 commercial electrical, 2 sign permits, and 39 total inspections.

D. Councilman Hammond gave the February report as follows:

1) Electric Department

- Construction is in final stages of Haley Stephens new restaurant on Red Bud Road
- Construction has begun on the new High Tech Liquor store
- Electrical Engineering is complete for Kobelco's new motor grader production line

- Electrical Engineering continues on Streetscape Phase # 4
- Electrical Engineering continues on power requirements for the April 26th Downtown BBQ Boogie and Blues
- Electrical Engineering continues on the VAC renovation
- Electrical Engineering continues on the new Gordon County Agriculture Center with completion of the lighting plan
- Electrical engineering has begun on the Apache Mills Expansion
- Installation is 80% complete on phase one of the capacitor installation and Power Factor improvement project
- Electrical Engineering continues on the Library expansion with completion of the parking lot lighting plan

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 48
- Completed and closed- 41
- Consisting of:
 - Street and security lighting-26
 - Distribution Maintenance-19
 - Meter maintenance/replacement- 24
 - New customer meter sets- 8
 - Monthly total system locate tickets processed- 128

Electric System supplied – 33,597,982 kwh in February

New February record. This is up 5% from 2012 which was the previous February record.

2) **Telecommunications Departments:**

- Installed temporary 100 Meg point-to-point circuit for the emergency relief center so county could provide phone service to GEMA personnel.
- Completed installation of four new Internet services.
- Continue work on fiber routes to provide service to the new high school
- Worked with vendor to upgrade financial test database to latest version.
- Replaced failed hard drive on backup server.
- Opened 18 and closed 24 work orders.

3) **Geographic Information Systems:**

- Worked with Fire Department adding new pre-fire plans to building on GIS map. Use scanner in Engineering to import building blueprints into GIS.
- Continue to assist Electric Department with phase tracing for each substation circuit.
- Continue to clean up water data connecting hydrants to valves and main lines.
- Continue to add and update utility easement data.
- Assisted Engineering with wastewater inflow/infiltration project.
- Updated addresses from changes in billing account data
- Updated City and GIS websites
- 42 city workers logged into GIS 404 times for total use time of 52 hours.

- 59 public users logged into GIS 97 times for total use time of 15 hours.

4) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

- Councilman Hammond discussed that the Regional Commission oversees 15 counties in Northwest Georgia that helps to reallocate federal dollars to various programs that benefit the citizens such as meals on wheels, workforce training, and community planning. Workforce training is a significant service seeing as the State's unemployment rate is 8.6%, the Northwest region is 9.2%, and Gordon County is 9.7%.

6) Airport

- Still doing engineering studies concerning the new taxiway.

7. Public Hearings and Comments:

A. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing for an annexation and zoning of R-1 for 8.04 acres at a location of 527 Henderson Bend Road for Tolbert Brooks Gallman.

- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
- Councilman Edwards stated that the Zoning Advisory Board met on March 7th, but did not have a quorum to take official action. However, the members present recommended that the annexation and zoning request be granted. The only issue from the Zoning Review Committee concerned the distance of the property from a fire hydrant. The owner has been contacted and realizes that a possible delay could occur due to the need to lay more hose in case of a fire.
- Mayor Palmer asked if there were any comments from the applicant or the public. There were no comments.
- Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.
- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the annexation of 8.04 acres at a location of 527 Henderson Bend Road with the condition that the owner acknowledges that the property was outside the current hydrant distance requirements of the Calhoun Fire Department. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning of R-1 for 527 Henderson Bend Road. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

8. Old Business:

A. Mayor Palmer conducted the second reading of a taxicab license request for Carlos Aldama Robles, owner, D/B/A: Los Buenos Amigos at a location of 360 Piedmont Street. The public hearing will be on March 25th.

- B. Mayor Palmer conducted the second reading of a taxicab license request for Herver Antonio Espinoza, owner, D/B/A: Taxi El Quetzal at a location of 430 South Wall Street. The public hearing will be on March 25th.

9. New Business:

- A. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a beer and wine package license request for Stephen Moore DBA: CVS Pharmacy, LLC #4506 at a location of 402 North Wall Street. Councilman Hammond made a motion to set the public hearing for April 8th. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer stated that a sign variance request by the Harris Art Center to allow for a 4' by 6' sign to be placed on a 6' pole at a location of 212 South Wall Street has been withdrawn.

10. Other written items not on the agenda: None

11. Work Reports:

A. City Administrator Peterson

B. General Manager Vickery

- Mr. Vickery stated that Brad Carrick gave a presentation at the Noon work session regarding an upgrade to the City of Calhoun and City School Systems phones. The new system would be a Voice Over IP phone system. The new High/Middle School complex is requiring VOIP be provided. The project capital would total \$190,000 for the schools and city offices and the vendor recommendation is Shortel Phone System. The capital expenditures would come from the Telecommunication's reserves. Mr. Vickery asked for approval for the new phone system. Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the proposal of the Voice Over IP phone system upgrade. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

12. City Attorney Govignon stated that there was a need to go into executive session with the grounds being attorney/client privilege due to threatened litigation [O.C.G.A. 54-14-2]. Councilman Hammond made a motion to go into executive session. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

13. Councilman Hammond made a motion to return to regular session. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

14. Councilman Barton made a motion to adjourn the regular session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hammond with all voting aye, motion approved.

Approved:

Submitted:


James F. Palmer, Mayor


Paul Worley, City Clerk

CITY OF CALHOUN
Regular City Council Meeting
Depot Community Room
109 South King Street
March 11, 2013

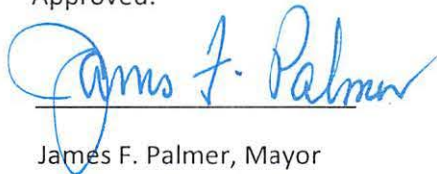
EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Present: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Al Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem
George Crowley, Councilman
David Hammond, Councilman
Matt Barton, Councilman

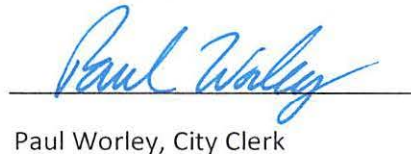
Also: George Govignon, City Attorney
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- A. City Attorney Govignon stated that there was a need to go into executive session with the grounds being attorney/client privilege due to threatened litigation [O.C.G.A. 50-14-2]. Councilman Hammond made a motion to go into executive session. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. The executive session was opened and City Attorney Govignon stated that he wanted to update the Mayor and Council concerning threatened litigation. The litigation concerns the receipt of an *anti litem* notice concerning civil rights violations.
- C. The discussions were concluded and no votes were taken.
- D. Councilman Barton made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session, Councilman Hammond seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Paul Worley, City Clerk

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF GORDON
CITY OF CALHOUN
AFFIDAVIT REGARDING CLOSURE OF OPEN MEETINGS

Personally appeared before the undersigned officer, duly authorized under the laws of the State of Georgia to administer oaths, James F. Palmer, Mayor, who in his capacity as Chairperson or the person presiding over a City Council meeting of the City of Calhoun and after being first duly sworn, certifies under oath and states to the best of his knowledge and belief the following:

At its meeting held on 3-11-2013 the Council's Executive Session voted to go into closed session and exclude the public from all or a portion of its meeting. The legal exceptions applicable to the exempt matters addressed during such closed meeting are as follows (Check or initial, as appropriate:)

- Discussing or deliberating upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action, dismissal, periodic evaluation or rating of a government officer or employee. [O.C.G.A §50-14-3(6)]
- Privileged consultation with legal counsel pertaining to pending or threatened litigation, claims, administrative proceedings or settlements. [O.C.G.A §50-14-2]
- Discussing the future acquisition of real estate, authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property. [O.C.G.A §50-14-3(b)]
- Staff meetings for investigative purposes under duties or responsibilities imposed by law. [O.C.G.A §50-14-3(1)]
- Tax matters made confidential by state law. [O.C.G.A §50-14-2]
- Inspection of physical facilities under the jurisdiction of the City Council. [O.C.G.A §50-14-1(a)(2)]
- Meeting with a governing body, officer, agent or employee of another agency at a location outside the geographical jurisdiction of the City Council at which no final action is taken. [O.C.G.A §50-14-1(a)(2)]
- Other (Explanation and citation to statutory authority required:)

I certify that the subject matter of the closed meeting or the closed portion of this meeting was devoted to matters of official business or policy within the exceptions provided by law as set forth above.

Paul Wally
Witness

James F. Palmer
James F. Palmer, Mayor

Sworn to and subscribed to before
me this 12 day of
March, 2013.

Misty Caudle
Notary Public for the State of Georgia