



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 14, 2025 - 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; Christy Nicholson, Police; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief.

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 Edwards made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
4. **Amendment or Approval of Minutes**
Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of March 24, 2025. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. The first public hearing on the City's Annual Operating Budget and Capital Plan for the fiscal year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 will be held on May 12, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. There is a City Council budget work session scheduled for April 28th at noon.
- B. City of Calhoun offices will be closed on Friday, April 18th in observance of Good Friday.
- C. Proclamation recognizing Isabella Segursky as Distinguished Young Woman of Gordon County.

6. **Council Comments**

- A. Councilmember Palazzolo submitted March reports as follows:

1) **Electric Department**

Current Electric Department Engineering and Construction:

- The LED Streetlight upgrade continues around the City.

ENGINEERING

- New townhomes on Newtown Rd (Ridgeview) (65 units)
- New townhomes at Spring Valley (177 units)
- New McDonalds on Red Bud Rd
- Chick-Fil-A remodel
- New development on Peters St (102 homes)
- New field house and hitting facility at Calhoun High School

CONSTRUCTION

- New townhomes at Old Mill (40 units)
- New townhomes on Professional Pl (30 units)
- Salacoa Subdivision (249 units)
- The Ridge at Calhoun (236 units)(28 left to energize)
- Continued system upgrades for new growth and system reliability
- The new Rocket Express Convenient Store

WORK ORDERS IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED:

• NEWLY CREATED	85
• COMPLETED AND CLOSED	109
•	
• CONSISTING OF:	
• CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION	39
• DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE	2
• OUTAGES / TROUBLE CALLS	2

• SECURITY / STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE	10
• TEMPORARY POWER HOOK UP	1
• WORK FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS	17
• NEW METER SETS	39
• METER MAINTENANCE/REPLACEMENT	42
• ELECTRIC LOCATE TICKETS PROCESSED-	285
•	

The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for March 2025 is about 28 million kilowatt hours (kWh's).

2) Telecommunications

- Renewed license for our email filtering software.
- Ran update for Munis ERP software.
- Replaced 2 hard drives.
- Ran software updates on all virtual servers.
- Filed annual report to FCC.
- Trouble shoot watch guard camera system at Police Department.
- Added two new internet services and submitted quotes for two new services.
- Created and submitted new internet service contract for USAC and got the renewal.
- Met with our vendor Calix on future upgrades to our existing fiber management system.
- Opened 11 and closed 11 work orders.

Geographic Information Systems

- Submitted BAS data to Census Bureau
- Updated cemetery mapping data
- Generated Electric Usage Reports
- Updated data and mapping for the following:
 - Water system and meter updates
 - Fiber
 - Zoning
- Updated Physical addressing, building and billing information.
- Updated City and GIS web sites.

3) Building Inspections

Issued 146 permits for an estimated cost of \$10,615,362, and collected \$63,661 in permit fees. This included 24 new residential, 8 residential remodel, 0 new commercial, 3 commercial remodel, 2 new industrial, 0 industrial remodel, 22 residential plumbing, 21 residential electrical, 36 residential HVAC, 2 commercial plumbing, 2 commercial electrical, 0 commercial HVAC, 0 industrial plumbing, and 0 industrial electrical. 524 total inspections.

4) Library

- There are 12,600 library card holders, 6,564 library visitors, and 7,238 total circulation.
- There were 243 story time attendance, 36 adult program attendance, 114 new users, 1,531 e-books, 2,011 audio books, 593 computer logins, and 4,975 Facebook visits.

B. Councilmember Edwards submitted March reports as follows:

1) **Water and Sewer Operations**

Water Treatment Plant

- Total gallons withdrawn: 354,030,000
- Daily average: 11,420,322
- Wells: 99,570,000
- Big Springs: 54,990,000
- % produced by Brittany Drive: 43.6%
 - Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 42.25%
 - Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 39.80%
 - Rainfall for March – 3.35"

Waste Water Treatment Plant

- Treated a daily average of 6.363 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 7, average suspended effluent of 17, and an average COD of 93.

Water Distribution & Wastewater Collection

- 423 work orders completed, 59 new water connections, 16 water service leaks repaired, 14 water main leaks repaired, 0 water services changed to new main lines, 234 meter changes, 48 utility locates called in for work orders, 749 utility locates responses.
- 2,500 feet of Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 564 utility locates completed, 14,160 feet sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 4 new sewer connections installed, 34 sanitary sewer connections installed by contractors, 13 sanitary sewer services repaired.

2) **Water and Sewer Construction**

Projects Under Construction

- Brittany Dr & Water Booster Stations Standby Generator Project – This project consists of installing a stationary and portable generator at the Brittany Dr WTP for emergency standby power, and retrofitting 5 water booster stations to accept the portable generator when it isn't needed at the plant. All components for this project have arrived, and construction is now underway.
- Redbud & Hwy 41 Intersection Water & Sewer Relocation – This project consists of relocating approximately 600' of water main, along with changing the elevation of a manhole to accommodate GDOT's road widening / turning lane addition project. The construction for this project is now completed, with exception to lowering one manhole.

- Spring Valley Sewer Rehabilitation Project – This project consists of improving an older segment of our sewer system to reduce I&I and free up additional capacity of this sub-basin. The scope will include upgrading approx. 3,000' of sewer main from a 12 inch to 15 inches, and replacing an additional 3,000' of 12-inch pipe. Material for this project is on order, with construction expected to begin in the spring.

Projects in Design & Development

- New Fire Tower Water Tank Project – Surveying Completed.
- Water Treatment Plant Modifications
- SR 53 & Brown Lee Mtn. Water Relocation – GDOT had bid out this project in January, with construction expected to begin in the upcoming months.
- SR 156 @ Salacoa Bridge Water Relocation
- Peters St. Phase III Water Relocation – Under preliminary review.
- Curtis Pkwy Water & Sewer Relocation – Right-of-way acquisition is currently underway, and the water & sewer design process is in the final stages.
- Yancey Lift Station Rehabilitation Project – Material for this project has been delivered, with construction scheduled to begin May 5th.
- Spring Valley Sewer Phase II Rehabilitation Project
- Comprehensive Nutrient Optimization Plan (CNOP), which is a regulatory requirement for NPDES permit compliance
- Asset Management Plan Development – A regulatory requirement to renew our Permit to Operate at our Drinking Water facilities.
- The Engineering Department is actively working on 14 plan reviews, along with 20 inspections of developments and projects that are progressively under construction.

PFAS Update March 2025

For the month of March, the following updates concerning PFAS are as follows:

- The well sampling program is now underway and all questionnaires have been mailed to potential participants. The responses from our questionnaires will help determine eligibility of the program. The focus of this program is to provide clean water for residents throughout Gordon county who utilize wells as their primary drinking water source. Sampling events will begin around May 1st.
- The piloting program utilizing advanced technologies for PFAs removal at the Brittany Dr WTP is completed. Pilot summaries for this project are currently under development. Once all of the pilot summaries have been provided, we will begin the selection process for the best long-term solution for both of our water treatment facilities.
- The installation of GAC within all of the filters at our Mauldin Rd water treatment plant has been completed. Samples have been collected and

results for all individually regulated compounds have come back as non-detectable.

- The two additional filter exchanges for fresh GAC at our Brittany Dr WTP was completed in March. After samples were collected, the results from this facility came back as non-detectable for all individually regulated compounds as well. The information from both facilities has been uploaded to our website.

3) Zoning Advisory Board

C. Councilmember Denmon submitted March reports as follows:

1) Public Works

Street Department

- Completed 30 shop and 25 street dept. work orders.
- Installed 6 new street signs.
- Repaired a storm drain on Pisgah Way.
- Repaired potholes and utility cuts around town using approximately 10 tons of asphalt.

Cemetery

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 11 grave sites.
- Sold 7 new grave spaces.

Parks Department

- The grounds crew picked up litter, mowed, trimmed bushes, hauled garbage to the dump, and maintained records at records room.
- The maintenance crew maintained designated buildings downtown.
- Painted offices at city hall.

Animal Control

- Housed 18 dogs and 1 cat
- Number of dogs adopted: 8
- Number of cats adopted: 0
- Number of dogs rescued: 2
- Number of cats rescued: 1
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 2
- Number of cats reclaimed by owner: 0
- Number of dogs euthanized: 1
- Number of cats euthanized: 0
- Number of warnings given: 28
- Number of bite cases: 2
- Citations issued: 1

2) Recreation Department

Baseball and Softball – The 2025 baseball and softball season has started. Practices began March 3. We have 20 baseball teams and 9 softball teams. The scheduled games started Tuesday, April 1 as Monday, March 31 was rained out.

Youth Soccer – The 2025 spring soccer season started March 20. There are 44 teams participating. Sixty-eight games were played March 23-March 31.

Youth Volleyball – The 2025 Spring volleyball season started March 12 with practices. There are 12 teams participating this spring. Matches started Monday, March 31.

6th Annual Miracle Run – The Miracle run was held March 15. There were 24 participants and 8 sponsors. A total of \$1,970.72 was donated to both the Winner’s Club and Camp New Adventure.

202.5 2025 Walk Challenge – There are 20 participants in the 202.5 Walk Challenge. Participants will have until December 31 to walk 202.5 miles.

Tennis – CMS and CHS tennis matches were played throughout the month
Combo 18 and over and +40 league had 75 participants
Tuesday and Thursday morning drills – 20 participants
Flex – 100 participants

Parks/Facilities –

Check and repair fences
Pressure washed softball building
Set-up Bernstein Park for Calhoun Community Education T-ball
Field Maintenance prep for baseball/softball season
Prep fields for middle school baseball games
Prep fields for middle and high school soccer
Prep field for Rec soccer games
Mow all parks grounds
Weed eat all parks grounds
Pool maintenance

Website Usage-

CalhounRec.com	Facebook
Page Views – 4,535	Reach – 18,650
Users – 3,405	Post Engagements – 4,756
Sessions – 2,366	Post – 19
Post – 19	Photo Views – 2,047
	Page Views – 2,551

Community and Professional Involvement

Young Professionals Meeting – March 27 – 2 staff members
GRPA Maintenance Management II Workshop – March 10-13 – 1 staff member

CPSI Course and Certification Test – March 3 – 5 – 1 staff member

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 12 –Touch of Calhoun – 110 Recreation Drive

3) Downtown Development Authority

D. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer submitted March reports as follows:

1) Police Department

- Made 249 cases with 7 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$28,656
- Issued 409 warnings
- Investigated 64 highway accidents, 39 private property accidents
- Obstruction - 3
- Lethal Weapon Encounter - 0
- Alarm responses -139
- Miles patrolled: 47,326

2) Municipal Court

- Citations from Police Department-246
- Court cases docketed-239
- Probation cases assigned-23
- Probation revocations-3
- Bench warrants-4
- Failure to appear-15

3) Fire Department

Fire Suppression Division

203 Total Reported Calls for Service for the Suppression Division

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

<i>Structure Fires</i>	0
<i>Mobile Property Fire (Vehicle)</i>	3
<i>Natural Vegetation</i>	2
<i>Outside Rubbish Fire</i>	4

<i>Special Outside Fires</i>	3
Total Fire Calls	12

<i>Rescue / Emergency Medical Call</i>	125
<i>Medical Assist</i>	9
<i>Motor Vehicle Accidents</i>	0
<i>Search for Lost Person</i>	0
<i>Water or Ice Related Rescue</i>	0
<i>Rescue / EMS Standby</i>	0
Total Medical Calls	134

<i>Flammable Gas or Liquid Condition Other</i>	0
<i>Combustible/Flammable Spills & Leaks</i>	1
<i>Chemical Release, Reaction, or Toxic Condition</i>	0
<i>Electrical Wiring / Equipment Problem</i>	3
Total Hazardous Conditions Incidents (No Fire)	4

<i>Lock Out</i>	0
<i>Unauthorized Burning</i>	1
<i>Person in Distress</i>	0
<i>Public Assistance</i>	4
Total Service Calls	5

<i>Dispatched and Canceled En-Route</i>	22
<i>Good Intent Call</i>	2
<i>Hazmat Release Investigation</i>	0
<i>No Incident Found at Dispatch Location</i>	11
<i>Smoke Scare Odor of Smoke</i>	0
<i>Steam Other Gas Mistaken for Smoke</i>	1
<i>CO Alarm Activation</i>	0
<i>System or Detector Malfunction</i>	4
<i>Unintentional System / Detector Operation (No Fire)</i>	4
<i>False Alarm or False Calls Other</i>	4
<i>Total False Alarms or False Calls</i>	48

<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

- Division Chief Duvall and Division Chief Saylor participated in the LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) meeting with local business and industry.
- Training Division Coordinator Jason Underwood completed and met all requirements set forth and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the Training Division.

Fire Inspection – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Division

Inspections and Enforcement Activities

<i>Annual Inspections</i>	36
---------------------------	----

<i>New Business Inspections</i>	1
<i>Requested Inspections</i>	29
<i>Follow Up, Re-Inspections</i>	9
<i>Burn Site Inspections</i>	0
<i>Plan Review</i>	4
<i>Pre-Construction Meeting</i>	0
<i>Sprinkler Permits Issued</i>	0
<i>Fuel Tank Permit (Install, Removal, or Service)</i>	0
<i>Consultations</i>	24
<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>	0
Total Inspection – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Activities	103

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

- McMahan assisted State Fire Marshal’s office on inspections at Walmart, New GBI office, Gordon Hospital, the bowling alley, and Cicis pizza.
- Conducted inspections of fire stops in buildings with City Building officials.

Training and Special Operations Division

Monthly Training Hours

<i>Company Training</i>	929.00
<i>Facility Training</i>	171.00
<i>Officer Training</i>	6.00

<i>Driver Training</i>	10.00
<i>Specialized Rescue Training</i>	0.00
<i>Hazardous Materials Training</i>	138.00
<i>Medical Training</i>	280.00
<i>Fire Inspector Training</i>	0.00
<i>Fire Investigation Training</i>	128.00
<i>Fire and Life Safety Educator Training</i>	0.00
Total Monthly Training Hours	1662.00

2025 Annual Training Hours

<i>Company Training</i>	2015.00
<i>Facility Training</i>	359.00
<i>Officer Training</i>	104.00
<i>Driver Training</i>	19.00
<i>Specialized Rescue Training</i>	0.00
<i>Hazardous Materials Training</i>	152.00
<i>Medical Training</i>	894.50
<i>Fire Inspector Training</i>	104.00
<i>Fire Investigation Training</i>	134.00
<i>Fire and Life Safety Educator Training</i>	0.00
Total 2025 Annual Training Hours	3781.50

Monthly Training and Special Operations Team Accomplishments

- EMT Program continued with 18 Students Enrolled
- March 7th, 2025 – Division Chief Saylors successfully completed Fire Investigation Module 2 at GPSTC and received his State Fire Investigator Certification.

- March 7th, 2025 – Lieutenant Silvers, Lieutenant Underwood, Engineer Benton, and Firefighter Peach completed the Active Attack Integrated Response Training course.
- March 13th, 2025 – Hosted three days of joint training with Gordon County Fire Rescue provided by the Southern Company on Emergency Response to Gas Emergencies.
- March 15th, 2025 – Training Division Coordinator Jason Underwood met the requirements set forth and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.
- March 20th, 2025 – Division Chief Duvall and Division Chief Saylor participated in the Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting.
- March 27th, 2025 – Division Chief Saylor and Inspector McMahan attended the IAAI Spring Fire Investigation Conference.
- Active Fire Investigations
 - Apache Mills – Oak St
 - Taco Bell – Hwy 53

Upcoming Important Training and Special Operations Activities

- Basic EMT Program continues on every Monday.
- April 1st, 2025 – Fire Extinguisher Training
- April 2nd, 2025 – GSAR Meeting with GEMA about future opportunities and requirements
- April 3rd, 2025 – Fire Safety Education – Calhoun Early Learning Academy
- April 7th, 2025 – Emergency Management Agency Spring Conference
- April 15th, 2025 – GSAR Quarterly Training – Calhoun
- April 25th, 2025 – Community Helpers Day First Baptist Church

4) Safety Committee

- The safety meeting was held on March 5th and focused on treating different levels of burns on the skin. Our Guest speaker was Lisa Jo Green, BSN, RN, CWOCN, CWWA, from Advent Health Gordon Murray, Clinical Nurse Manager, Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine.
- A safety inspection was completed March 10, 2025, by our representative from LRMG, Steve Shields, and Alan McCormick at the Electric Department. Everything looked very good.

- Vehicle accidents: 0
- Workers compensation: 0

5) **Revolving Loan**

There is approximately \$700K in the revolving loan fund available for lending. Please contact Paul Worley for more information.

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. Motion needed to take from the table to resume for consideration, a PRD Site Amendment at a location of 1391 & 1392 US Hwy 41 North, being parcels C42A-013 & C42A-015, by Echota Fabrics, Inc. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held March 6th.

- Councilmember Edwards made a motion to remove the item from the table. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- Mayor Palmer reopened 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 Zoning Advisory Board stating that a motion was made and failed for want of a second.
- Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
- Terry Brumlow of 1287 Curtis Parkway, attorney for the applicant, stated that the applicant has made significant efforts to address all concerns raised at the initial Zoning Review Committee (ZRC) meeting, and that the most recent meeting was very positive. He noted that the applicant will include additional restrictions to prohibit vinyl siding on vertical exterior wall areas. Mr. Brumlow emphasized that this is a much-needed development given its proximity to I-75, and that similar developments are limited in the area. He also confirmed that the proposed townhomes will each have 1,350 square feet of heated living space. He concluded by stating that his role is to protect his client's constitutional rights.
- There were no other comments and Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning PRD Site Amendment.
- Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the amendment. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

B. Public hearing of an annexation and zoning request from County A-1 to C-2, for 1.93 acres, at a location of 633 Peters Street, being parcel 071-037A, by Curtis & Peters LLC. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held April 10th.

- 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 reported on the Zoning Advisory Board meeting, stating that the annexation was unanimously recommended for approval. The zoning request was also approved, with two members voting in favor and one voting against the recommendation.
- Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
- Terry Brumlow of 1287 Curtis Parkway, attorney for the applicant, noted that he brings a unique perspective to this matter, as he is also an adjoining property owner. He introduced the applicant, Rocky Patel, who was present along with his developer, Dan Bumgardner, to answer any questions. Mr. Brumlow explained that a house previously existed on the property before Mr. Patel purchased it and that the surrounding area is primarily commercial, emphasizing that zoning transitions must occur somewhere. He shared that Mr. Patel had communicated with the previous property owner and acquired the site with ambitious development plans in mind. Mr. Brumlow offered copies of the site plan to those in attendance and presented an alcohol survey confirming the proposed liquor store meets all required distance regulations from the nearby church. Additionally, he reviewed a prepared property tax packet, highlighting the anticipated tax increase resulting from the property's commercial designation and comparing it to similar-sized stations, which generate significant property taxes and utility usage. He concluded by expressing his belief that this is a much-needed project and encouraged the Council to approve the C-2 zoning.
- Lauren Deperro of 223 Melea Lane addressed the Council to express her opposition to the annexation and zoning request. She noted that several departmental concerns were raised during the Zoning Review Committee meeting. Ms. Deperro pointed out that a school bus stop is located directly across from the proposed development site, and a handicap-accessible bus also travels along Peters Street. While she acknowledged that improvements to Phase Three of Peters Street are underway, she emphasized that the project does not include road widening, which she believes is necessary. She also noted that there are currently no commercial buildings on Peters Street and argued that the area is not a safe location for a gas station. Additionally, she expressed concern over the proximity of a gymnastics school to the proposed liquor store, citing the presence of children of all ages in the area.
- Mayor Palmer stated that improvements are being made to Peters Street that will increase safety.
- Terry Brumlow gave his rebuttal stating that Mark Chamblin had contacted EXP and was informed that the proposed development would not interfere with the Peters Street Phase 3 plan—in fact, it would enhance it. He also noted that there are other subdivisions and residential areas located near gas stations without issue. Additionally, Mr. Brumlow emphasized that the applicant has rights protected under both federal and state law.
- Councilmember Palazzolo inquired whether sidewalks would be extended along Curtis Parkway.
City Administrator Worley responded that there should be pedestrian connectivity at the intersection. The developer confirmed that sidewalks will be

installed along Curtis Parkway and stated he is committed to following any safety recommendations made by the engineers.

- Kenny Rogers of 251 Hardwood Court, Adairsville, addressed the Council, identifying himself as the pastor of East Gate Church, which is located adjacent to the proposed development. He acknowledged that the applicant meets the required 300-foot distance for liquor sales, with the church being 301 feet away. However, he respectfully urged the Council to deny the request due to the site's close proximity to the church. Pastor Rogers expressed concern for the safety and comfort of individuals who are often at the church during evening hours, stating that the presence of a gas station could create an unwelcoming or unsafe environment for them.
- Robert White of 104 Community Drive addressed the Council, stating that he is a member of East Gate Church and respectfully requested that the zoning request be denied. He expressed concern about the visual impact of the proposed development, stating that the last thing one should see upon leaving church is a flashing Budweiser sign. Mr. White emphasized the importance of the city growing in a direction that supports spiritual values, and asked Council members to consider how they would feel if this development were taking place next to their church.
- There were no other comments and Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning annexation request.
- Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the annexation request. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with council members Edwards, Denmon and Moyer voting aye, and council member Palazzolo voting nay. Motion approved.
- Mayor Palmer called for a motion concerning the zoning request of C-2. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning request. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with Councilmembers Edwards and Denmon voting aye and Councilmembers Moyer and Palazzolo voting nay, resulting in a tie vote. Mayor Palmer stated that he believed the application should be approved, as the applicant is exercising his constitutional right to develop the property. City Attorney Govignon concurred, affirming that the applicant is within his legal and constitutional rights. Mayor Palmer then voted aye, breaking the tie vote. Motion approved.

8. **Other Hearings and Comments**

9. **Old Business**

10. **New Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a zoning request from C-2 to R-2, for 0.11 acres, at a location of 110 Mac Avenue, being parcel C26-127, by Kevin Osborne. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on May 8th and the public hearing on May 12th.

- B. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a beer, wine and liquor package request, at a location of 510 West Belmont Avenue, by RINI, LLC d/b/a Calhoun Bottle Shop. Sejalben Shah is the owner and will also serve as the store manager. Eligible for a public hearing May 12, 2025.
- A. Mayor Palmer gave the floor to Utilities Administrator Ellis for consideration of Amendment No. 1 to the Letter Agreement, dated October 18, 2007, pertaining to the sale of excess power by the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia and the City of Calhoun to the City of Acworth. Mr. Ellis noted that Acworth has been a reliable partner. Due to the small size of their system, they are seeking to reduce their reserve capacity purchase from 5 MW to 3.2 MW, resulting in a 1.8 MW reduction. If approved, any additional excess capacity will be sold on the open market, ensuring the city is made whole from any resulting difference. Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to allow Mayor Palmer to sign the agreement. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- D. Mayor Palmer read a request from the Purchasing Department to recycle various electronic equipment no longer used by Calhoun Utilities. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer read a request from the Purchasing Department to surplus the following items:
- i. A printer no longer used by Community Development
 - ii. Various copiers and printers used by various department within Calhoun Utilities
 - iii. 2011 zero-turn lawnmower used by the Parks Department
 - iv. 2017 twenty-one inch mower used by the Parks Department
 - v. 2007 Stihl hedge trimmer used by the Parks Department
 - vi. 2016 John Deer riding mower used by the Parks Department
 - vii. 2017 backpack blower used by the Parks Department
 - viii. 2013 Echo power head used by the Parks Department
 - ix. 2018 Stihl handheld vacuum used by the Parks Department
 - x. 2015 straight-shaft weed eater used by the Parks Department
 - xi. 2015 Stihl straight-shaft weed eater used by the Parks Department
 - xii. 2018 Stihl Straight-shaft weed eater used by the Parks Department
 - xiii. Trailer no longer used by the Parks Department

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

- E. Mayor Palmer announced that the Downtown Development Authority currently has two vacant board seats due to recent departures. The DDA has reviewed potential candidates and has provided the list of those candidates for City Council's consideration. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to appoint Jason Everts to fill the seat of Andrea Brumlow, and Kristy Brown to fill the expired seat of Brian Ruddell.

Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved. These are four year terms with Jason Everts term to expire August 1, 2026, and Kristy Brown's term to expire August 1, 2027.

- F. Mayor Palmer read a request from the Downtown Development Authority to temporarily close the following streets in support of the Summer in the City Block Party events, scheduled for May 19, June 20, and July 18: Park Avenue from Court Street to just past Oothcalooga Street and Oothcalooga Street from South Wall Street to Park Avenue. The street closures would begin at 2:00PM, with the event running from 6:00PM to 10:00PM and streets reopening at 11:00PM. These community events will feature live music, yard games, food trucks, and participation from downtown merchants, including street-side beer and wine sales. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

- G. Mayor Palmer read a joint request from the Downtown Development Authority and the Calhoun Fire Department to host a Veterans Walk event in coordination with Carry the Load, a nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring and remembering the sacrifices of military veterans. The event will take place on May 19th and the proposed walk will begin at 4:00PM at the Calhoun Recreation Department parking lot, follow the trail system to Calhoun City Schools, and proceed downtown via Wall Street, concluding at the city park. A public gathering will follow in the park featuring guest speakers and food trucks and will end at 9:00 PM. A police escort will accompany participants for safety; however, no road closures are planned for the event. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Edwards 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 had nothing to report.

- C. Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator
 - a. Mr. Ellis addressed councilmembers with a request to purchase a new wood chipper. He stated that the Electric Department is in need of a new woodchipper, as the engine in the current unit has failed. While replacing the engine would cost \$35,000, the chipper is outdated, and the investment is not considered worthwhile given its condition. The department has received two quotes for new chippers, priced at \$125,000 and \$103,000, respectively. Although funds are available within the Electric Department's budget, the woodchipper was not included in the approved budget and will require Council approval for purchase. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the purchase request. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

b. Mr. Ellis also took a moment to recognize Brad Carrick, who retired last month, acknowledging his instrumental role in building the Telecommunications department into what it is today. Although retired, Mr. Carrick will continue to serve as a consultant through the end of the year. Mr. Ellis announced that Davie Crawford has been appointed as the new Telecommunications Director. Mr. Crawford has also been a significant contributor to the organization, having successfully built the GIS department from the ground up.

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

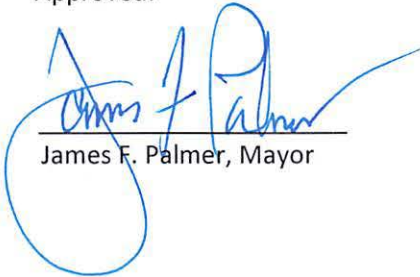
13. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed

14. Motion to return to General Session

15. Motion to Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Council, Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Sharon Nelson, City Clerk

