

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
OCTOBER 10, 2011 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

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

**ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
Bill Bailey, City Attorney
Larry Vickery, Director of Utilities
Jeff DeFoor, Director of Electric Utilities
Paul Worley, Deputy Clerk
Jerry Crawford, Water and Sewer Director
Gary Moss, Chief of Police
Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief
Terry Mills, Deputy Fire Chief
Danny Stephens, Water Treatment Superintendent**

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
 - A. Councilman Edwards gave the invocation.
2. Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the agenda, Councilman Crowley seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.
4. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2011 City Council Meeting. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
5. **Mayor's Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Palmer reminded the public that Harvest Fest 2011 will be held on Saturday, October 29th from 10 to 4 in Downtown Calhoun. Mayor Palmer stated the event has been very successful in the past and encouraged the public to attend this year as well.
 - B. Mayor Palmer announced that the City would observe Halloween on Monday October 31st from 5:00pm to 9:00pm for ages 12 and under. Mayor Palmer encouraged everyone to drive with caution during this time and hoped that everyone would have a good time.

6. Council Comments:

A. Councilman Edwards gave the September reports as follows:

1) Police Department

- Made 656 cases with 7 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$70,260.00
- Issued 622 warnings
- Investigated 69 highway accidents, 30 private property accidents
- Provided 55 escorts
- 1,540 incident reports
- Responded to 308 alarms
- Patrolled 51,271 miles
- Responded to 4,995 calls for service by E-911

2) Fire Department

- Responded to 178 calls for service, 11 fire incidents for damages
- Responded to 0 Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat
- Responded to 116 medical service calls
- Responded to 7 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 25 false alarms, 9 good intent, 1 severe weather & natural disaster
- Assisted with Gordon Central Homecoming and the Fair parades.
- Assisted with the United Way Unity Run.
- Assisted CFD inspectors with fire extinguisher classes at Calhoun High School.

3) Fire Inspection Department

- 112 total reported activities/inspections which included 6 annual inspections, 4 new business inspections, 29 requested inspections, 3 follow-up or re-inspections, 0 burn-site inspections, 0 plan review, 2 sprinkler permit issued, and 67 consultations
- Conducted a fire extinguisher class at Superior Manufacturing
- Attended a LEPC meeting
- 2 sprinkler permits- \$685.00
- Tank permit- \$75.00
- Conducted Fire Extinguisher classes at Calhoun High School- 155 students

4) Zoning Advisory Board

- Councilman Edwards stated that the Zoning Advisory Board met on October 6th at 4:30pm at the Depot.

5) Downtown Development Authority and Main Street Program

- The DDA is in the process of placing fall decorations in the downtown area.
- The DDA is working with Gordon County to raise funds to place a Christmas tree in the downtown area.

B. Councilman Barton gave the September reports as follows:

1) **Street Department**

- Placed 6 new street signs.
- Completed 21 shop and 23 street department work orders.
- Cleaned out ditches with the grade-all on North Industrial Boulevard.
- Repaired pot holes at various locations around the city using approximately 15 tons of asphalt.
- Performed routine maintenance on the mountain bike trails off Kirby Road.
- Inspected and maintained approximately 98 miles of streets and storm drainage.
- Removed trees blown down in a storm on Wildwood Circle and Short North Wall Street.

2) **Cemetery Department**

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 16 grave sites.
- Sold 13 new grave spaces.
- Worked 10 grave sites.

3) **Rabies Control**

- Housed 33 dogs, and 11 cats
- Issued 8 warnings
- Answered 54 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.
- Kept up maintenance on all equipment.
- Cleaned City Hall at weekly intervals.
- The building and maintenance crew performed routine maintenance on designed city buildings and all fountains.

5) **Safety Committee**

- Safety topic- Permit Required- confined spaces
- Safety Inspection- Fields Ferry maintenance building and pro shop
- Accidents: Vehicle Accident-1- Fire Department
- Workers Comp: 3- General Government, Street, and Water Construction

6) **Recreation Department**

- The Calhoun Recreation Department Youth Football program completed 3 weeks of competition in the 5-6 flag; 7-8 tackle; 9-10 tackle; 11-12 tackle. Games were played Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and 1 Saturday during the month.

- The Recreation Soccer program completed 3 weeks of competition. Games are played on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturdays.
- We are conducting a Girl's Fast Pitch Clinic for 3 Saturdays during the fall. The first clinic date was Saturday, September 24th. We have 10 girls that are participating in this program and registration is open for the two clinic dates in October.
- The adult coed league plays every Tuesday night at the softball complex through October.
- A total of 35 visits were made to the swimming pool on September 3-4. The pool was closed for the season on September 5th.
- Facility rentals for September: Ratner Pavilion-6, Playground Pavilion-12, Swimming pool events-2, Recreation Center Meeting Room-6.
- Youth basketball registration is in progress now through October 28th.
- Calhoun Recreation Department will be hosting the following GRPA District 5 tournaments in November:
 - Soccer- November 14th-19th- U10 Girls, U12 Girls, U10 Coed, U12 Coed.
 - Football- November 7th-19th- 7/8, 9/10, 11/12
- Recreation advisory board- The recreation advisory board will meet on Wednesday, October 12th at 12:30pm.

C. Councilman Crowley gave the September report as follows:

1) **Water Treatment Plant Facility**

- Pumped a total of 307,490,000 gallons of water for a daily average of 10,249,000 gallons.
- The Brittany Drive Treatment Plant produced 38.9% of the City's potable water for the month, and Big Springs – 0
- Rainfall 8.25"

2) **Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility**

- Treated a daily average of 5.048 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 9, and an average COD of 40.

3) **Water Distribution**

- 5 Water connections, 59 water service leaks repaired, 21 water main leaks repaired, 1 fire hydrant repaired, 4 change out of meters, 88 utility locates called in for work orders, 88 utility located, and 130 misc. calls
- Completed installing approximately 3,720 feet of 8" pvc pipe and 80 feet of 8" ductile iron pipe along Reeves Station Road just west of the river bridge to Hwy. 156 to replace old 8" pvc line.
- Began installing 8" pipe along East Line Street toward Hillcrest Drive.
- Began installing about 7,500 feet of 8" ductile iron pipe and pvc pipe to replace old 8" pvc pipe on Hwy. 156 just east of Everett Springs Road.

4) Waste Water Collection

- 1,050' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 331 utility locates completed, 2 lift station repairs completed, 6,900' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 88 manholes opened and inspected
- Continued work on Brittany Drive Well expansion site.
- Assisted Water Department in relocating "Spring Drain" line along Red Bud Road at College Street for road project.
- Completed replacing 120 feet of 8" concrete sewer main in South King Street.
- Began moving unused power generator from Millers Ferry lift station to Yancy lift station.

5) Building Inspection Department

- Issued 16 permits for an estimated cost of \$247,500.00. This included 0 new residential, 0 new commercial, 4 commercial remodeling, 1 residential HVAC, 1 commercial HVAC, 2 industrial electrical, 1 commercial electrical, 3 sign permits, and 1 pool permit.

D. Councilman Hammond gave the September report as follows:

1) Airport Authority

- The Airport Authority will discuss the two projects that are included in the Transportation SPLOST list at its next meeting.

2) Electric Department

Long Term Projects under Construction

- The utilities construction crews continue to be supported by electric maintenance personnel as needed to maintain all Water Department and Treatment plants and controls.
- Phase II of the System Loss and the System Protection Programs for 2010-2011 continues with our GIS mapping updates. Our consultant, Power Engineering, has updated the system relay and protection coordination data as it becomes available.
- The new water treatment project is underway with the engineering of controls and instrumentation needed for plant operation.

Projects and Maintenance under construction

- The Electric department continues to communicate with Calhoun Schools Construction Team for the new school. Engineering is complete for parking lot, baseball and soccer fields lighting, electric distribution line relocation, and underground conversion of existing facilities. A sample of the new LED light that is being considered is on display at the corner of the Depot parking lot. This new LED light uses less than 1/3 the amount of electricity that our present 175 watt lights use.

- The Electric Department continues to work with GDOT on the intersection improvements. The DOT intersection widening of Red Bud and College Streets in near completion with a scheduled outage on October 16th for necessary load transfer. New intersection lighting will begin as soon as traffic signal construction is complete.
- Engineering has begun to light Liberty Tire's new distribution yard.
- Electric utility pole integrity check has begun with 442 poles to be inspected over the next month.

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 97
- Completed and closed- 100
- Consisting of:
 - Street and security lighting-25
 - New business and maintenance-28
 - After hours trouble and callouts-12
 - City electrical maintenance-26
 - Meter maintenance/replacement- 4
 - New customer meter sets- 5
 - Monthly total system locate tickets processed- 258

Electric system supplied- 33,586,308 Kwh in September. This is an increase of 3% over 2010, and 36% over 2009. Large industrial usage was up 8% from 2010 and 79% above 2009.

Gregg Dodd and Lee Crump went to Calhoun's pre-K and explained to nine classes- about 165 students- electrical safety, pole climbing, and bucket truck set-up.

3) Telecommunications Departments:

- Added one point-to-point circuit and three new internet circuits.
- Disconnected one internet circuit
- Increased existing customer bandwidth 17 Meg.
- Repaired distribution fiber destroyed by garage fire and one cut service drop fiber.
- Reconfigured computers, printers, and phones moved from city hall finance to utilities finance.
- Replaced failed hard drive in backup server.
- Opened 43 and closed 42 work orders.

4) Geographic Information Systems:

- Assist with planning water line flushing project.
- Continue to geo-code billing addresses to physical addresses, verify electric and water meter mapping for industrial and downtown commercial meters, and with waste water infiltration project.
- Continue to map fire hydrant and hydrant valve locations. Hydrants in city limits are complete now concentrating more in the county.
- Updated city and GIS websites.
- GIS September viewing statistics-

- 41 City employees logged in 703 times accounting for 71 hours of use.
- 65 public users accessed the public site, 130 times for a total of 12 hours of use.

5) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

- Councilman Hammond gave a report on the monthly Northwest Georgia Regional Commission meeting.
- Councilman Hammond stated that the projects listed on the Transportation SPLOST for Calhoun-Gordon County did make the final cut and will be included in the T-SPLOST if it passes in November 2012.

7. Public Hearings and Comments:

A. Public hearings concerning zoning matters:

- 1) Public hearing for the annexation and zoning change request from AG-1 to C-2 for 0.284 acres at a location of 932 North Wall Street for Stanley Simpson.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Administrator Peterson stated all advertising and notice requirements have been met.
 - There were no comments from the applicant or the public.
 - Councilman Edwards reviewed the Zoning Advisory Board's recommendation to approve the annexation and zoning.
 - Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.
 - Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the annexation request. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning change request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- 2) Public hearing for the zoning change request from R-2 to C-2 for 0.24 acres at a location of 932 North Wall Street for Stanley Simpson.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Administrator Peterson stated all advertising and notice requirements have been met.
 - There were no comments from the applicant or the public.
 - Councilman Edwards reviewed the Zoning Advisory Board's recommendation to approve the zoning change.
 - Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.
 - Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning change request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

- 3) Public hearing for the request for de-annexation at a location of 1066 Sugar Valley Road which is zoned R-1 and contains 5.43 acres for Martha Juanita Treadaway Muse.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Administrator Peterson stated all advertising and notice requirements have been met.
 - There were no comments from the applicant or the public.
 - Councilman Edwards reviewed the Zoning Advisory Board's recommendation to approve the de-annexation. Councilman Edwards stated that Mrs. Muse attended the ZAB meeting. Mrs. Muse stated she wanted to be annexed because she would like to be able to burn her brush, did not want to pay City taxes, and wanted all her land put into a covenant zoned agricultural.
 - Councilman Hammond stated that due to information received at various zoning training seminars he has attended that he could not support this de-annexation. Councilman Hammond felt like the process to annex the property into the City went through the proper reviews and was accepted, so de-annexation should be discouraged.
 - Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.
 - Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the de-annexation request. Councilman Crowley gave a second and Councilman Barton voted aye. Councilman Hammond voted nay. The motion passed with a vote of 3 to 1.

- 4) Public hearing for the request for de-annexation at a location of 1060 Sugar Valley Road which is zoned R-1B and contains 0.78 acres for Martha Juanita Treadaway Muse.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Administrator Peterson stated all advertising and notice requirements have been met.
 - There were no comments from the applicant or the public.
 - Councilman Edwards reviewed the Zoning Advisory Board's recommendation to approve the de-annexation.
 - Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.
 - Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the de-annexation request. Councilman Crowley gave a second and Councilman Barton voted aye. Councilman Hammond voted nay. The motion passed with a vote of 3 to 1.

- 5) Public hearing for the request for de-annexation at a location of 1287 McDaniel Station Road for Betty Brock. The tract is 0.69 acres and is zoned A-1.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Administrator Peterson stated all advertising and notice requirements have been met.
 - There were no comments from the applicant or the public.

- Councilman Edwards reviewed the Zoning Advisory Board's recommendation to approve the de-annexation. Councilman Edwards stated that this was a surveyors' error and the surrounding tracts of land were in the County.
- Councilman Hammond stated that he felt like this was a legitimate reason to approve a de-annexation request.
- Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.
- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the de-annexation request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

8. Old Business: None

9. New Business:

- A. Mrs. Tonya Vondenberger addressed the Mayor and Council concerning recurring flooding in her neighborhood. Mrs. Vondenberger stated that she lived at 118 Northview Drive and has had recurring flooding problems every time it rains hard. She said that water gets so high on Northview Drive that she cannot get her car through it. She also said the water has come all the way into her garage. Mrs. Vondenberger stated that she knew that the City has been working on a solution, but she was frustrated that it was taking so long to solve the problem. Mayor Palmer stated that the City was well aware of the problem and has been working on a solution. The drainage piping seems to be sufficient, but the drainage easement has been silted in over the years and needs cleaning out. Mayor Palmer stated that the difficulty lies within getting access to the drainage easement to be able to clean it out. Various fences and out buildings have been erected over the years within the drainage easement. Mayor Palmer stated that a surveyor has been contacted to get the exact measurements for the drainage easement and assured Mrs. Vondenberger that the City would continue to work towards a solution.
- B. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a beer pouring license request by Richard Hughes, manager, D/B/A: Captain D's, LLC, for a location of 463 Highway 53 East. The public hearing will be held on November 14th.
- C. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a zoning change request from PRD to A-1 for Worth Enterprises, Inc. at a location of Dews Pond Road parcel number CG55-127 which contains 176 acres. The ZAB will meet on December 8th and the public hearing will be on December 12th.
- D. Mayor Palmer read a request by the Calhoun Police Department to contribute \$500.00 from the Asset Seizure Account #1 to the Drugs Don't Work Program through the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Palmer stated that the City has approved this contribution several times in the past and felt like it was a very beneficial program. Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the \$500.00 contribution to the Drugs Don't Work Program. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

10. Other written items not on the agenda: None

11. Work Reports:

A. Eddie Peterson, City Administrator

- Administrator Peterson stated that the City will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 17, 2011 at the McConnell Road Community Center to discuss the approved activities of the City's FY 2008 Community Development Block Grant Program.

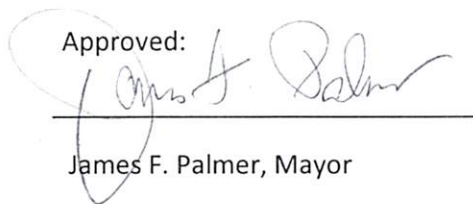
B. Larry Vickery, General Manager/Utilities

- Mr. Vickery stated the Finance Department had made a recommendation to accept a banking agreement with BB&T. Mr. Vickery stated that only two banks submitted a proposal during the bidding process and BB&T had the most favorable terms. The proposal from BB&T was reviewed, and the Finance Department was able to negotiate better interest rates and lower service fees on various accounts. Some of these accounts have never earned interest and will now be interest bearing accounts. The approval of this banking agreement would make BB&T the City of Calhoun's authorized banking entity. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the two year banking agreement with BB&T. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

Before closing the meeting Councilman Barton wanted to recognize the accomplishment of the Calhoun Fire Department for receiving a 4 in the Insurance Services Office Report. Councilman Barton stated that receiving a rating of 4 puts the Calhoun Fire Department within the top 15% in the nation for providing public protection.

12. Councilman Barton made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hammond with all voting aye, motion approved.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Eddie Peterson, City Administrator