

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
CALHOUN, GA
SEPTEMBER 8, 2008 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

**PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
George R. Crowley, Mayor Pro Tem
Ray Denmon, Councilman
David Hammond, Councilman
Al Edwards, Councilman**

**ALSO: William P. Bailey, City Attorney
Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities
Eddie Peterson, City Administrator**

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Councilman Edwards gave the invocation.
2. Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. Mayor Prom Tem Crowley made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendments of an addition to Mayor's Comments regarding Ms. Chris Painter and an addition of a first reading of Steep Slope Ordinance to New Business. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
4. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2008 regular City Council meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
5. **Mayors Comments:**
 - A. Ms. Chris Painter had concerns about a recent personal water bill of \$1,144.00. Ms. Painter felt that a separate notification letter would have been an appropriate means of informing the water customer of any rate changes.
 - Mayor Palmer explained that prior rate modification notification was sent to every water customer and was on the back of the utility bill. Mayor Palmer also stated that the media was informed several times of water rate changes and processes.
 - B. Mayor Palmer asked Councilman Edwards to review the zoning hearing scheduled for October 13, 2008 with the Zoning Advisory Board meeting on October 9, 2008.
 1. A 6 foot variance request by Neva Faith Wetton to build a 10'x20' open garage at 81 Echota 2nd Street.

2. An annexation and C-2 zoning request by Danny Keith and Hilda Jane Davis for 1.51 acres located at 1367 US 41 North.

6. **Council Comments:**

A. Councilman Edwards gave the August reports as follows:

1) The Street Department:

- Routine maintenance of brush truck, bush hog, and street sweeper routes.
- Placed 11 new street signs
- Completed 21 shop and 30 street department work orders
- Ran storm water maintenance plan on August 21st checking all grates and pipes inside the City
- Finished removing remaining silt fencing. Cut and hauled dead trees and brush along the creek banks at the 58 acre park.
- Shot grade, measured for asphalt paving, removed excess dirt, graded and compacted parking lot around new building at Station # 2 to obtain positive storm water drainage.
- Started clearing path for new mountain bike trails located on approximately 60 acres off Kirby road behind the street and water departments. Clearing was done with an environmentally friendly grind and clear machine contracted thru Ron Change Grinding. Street crews are clearing larger trees, raking paths and cutting low over hanging limbs from path. We are putting down mulch accumulated from the annual tree grinding in low/wash areas and holes. The perimeter trail is near complete and the cross section connector trails are being constructed. Bikers are already using the trails as they are completed.
- Seed and straw banks along entrance road to Chandler Cemetery
- Street Department employees attended D.O.T. traffic flagging school for certification on traffic control.

2) The Parks and Maintenance Department:

- Performed general maintenance on all department buildings where required
- Projects included laying blocks on cemetery lot (part of wall & steps). Removed old tile and replaced with new tile in street department office and bathroom. Completed painting interior of depot and began building cabinets for recreation department tennis court.

3) Cemetery Department:

- Supervised the opening and closing of 13 grave sites
- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemeteries
- Sold 28 new grave spaces
- Assisted Contractors with installation of 8 new monuments
- Worked 10 grave sites

4) Animal Control:

- Housed 24 dogs and 29 cats
- Answered 43 customer calls
- Issued 4 first warnings, 2 second warnings and 2 fines for leash law violation,

5) Safety Committee:

- Had a safety topic of Emergency Preparedness
- Inspected Electric & Telecommunications on August 12, 2008

- 2 accidents reported
- B. Councilman Denmon gave the August reports as follows:
- 1) The Water Treatment Plant Facility:
 - Pumped a total of 353,110,0000 gallons of water for a daily average of 11,390,645 million gallons
 - The Brittany Drive Treatment Plant produced 26.4% of the City's potable water for the month.
 - 2) The Waste Treatment Plant:
 - Treated a daily average of 5.261 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 6, average suspended effluent of 9, and an average COD effluent of 82.
 - 3) The Water Construction Department:
 - Made 21 water connections
 - Made 40 water connections changed out with new meter
 - Repaired 54 water leaks
 - Installed 11 2" and 2 4" meters
 - Responded to 379 locates
 - Responded to 105 utility locates
 - 40 emergency locates called in for repairs
 - Responded to 129 misc. calls
 - 4) The Sewer Construction Department:
 - Provided 9 sewer connections during the month
 - Repaired 3 sanitary services
 - Repaired 1 sanitary manhole
 - TV Inspected 14,232 ft of sanitary sewers
 - Inspected 235 ft of sanitary sewers
 - Completed 307 utility locates
 - Repaired 1 lift station
 - Responded to 10 calls for sewer service (7 on customer side)
 - Cleaned sewer lines totaling 19,150 feet
 - Cleared 23,300 ft of sewer line right of ways
 - Opened and inspected 133 manholes
 - Installed 6' diameter risers on meter pit at Water Treatment plant
 - Dug pit for septic tank trucks at Sewer Treatment plant
 - Removed scrap metal from Big Springs site
 - Removed scrap metal from Sewer Treatment plant
 - 5) The Sludge Department:
 - Applied 1,792 cubic yards representing 226 dry tons of sludge
 - 6) Building Inspection Department:
 - Issued 63 permits for an estimated cost of \$1,104,300.00. This included 1 grading, 6 new residential, 4 residential remodeling, 3 commercial remodeling, 10 residential plumbing, 6 commercial plumbing, 3 residential HVAC, 5 commercial HVAC, 1 new industrial plumbing, 11 residential electrical, 12 commercial electrical, 1 industrial electrical.

C. Councilman Crowley gave his August reports as follows:

1) The Electric Department:

Long Term Projects Under Construction:

- The new back wash pump is in place at the **Water Plant** and control installation is complete. Testing of the pump and flow-meters will be complete during the first week of September. The utilities construction crews will be supported by electric maintenance personnel as needed to complete all remaining **Waste Treatment plant** projects and controls.
- **Phase II of the System Loss Program for 2007-08** engineering study revision is complete to accommodate system load characteristic changes. Switching equipment bid preparation is complete and the required brackets and switches are on order. Initial training on capacitor controls is complete. As of July, statistics indicate a 3% power factor improvement as a result of continuing work.
- Pump control and electrical installations continue in progress for the **Folsom and Millers Ferry** locations and “soft start” equipment installation is under construction. Maintenance and repair at other sites are in process.
- The electric **AMR Project** has progressed with the completed installation of the first 3 towers on the Hillcrest Tank site, Fire Tower Rd. site and the Antioch Tank site. The first electric meters are due for shipment in August with receiving and installation in September.

Projects and Maintenance Under Construction:

- Inspection and tagging of the existing underground installations and overhead grounding maintenance continue to be scheduled weekly.
- Pole replacement is in process for all tested and rejected poles. The 2008 pole inspections complete an 8 year cycle for the entire electric system. Additional poles needing replacement this year were found.
- Service for the **Badcock Building** on S. Wall St. is waiting on the customer to complete.
- The electric 300 Kva service to the **new El Napol** restaurant has been completed. The transformer has been set. An outdoor lighting installation is complete. Waiting on developer to energize.
- The new **Century Bank** on W. Belmont and **Kobelco** additional service are engineered and waiting on developer construction to progress.
- The **Coosa Senior Complex Phase 2** is in engineering and design with temporary overhead service in process.
- **Tree Trimming and Clearing** continues for Meadow Lane, Curtis Parkway and Mims Drive areas. Spot trimming will also target “Hot Spots” in the Industrial areas.
- Electrical design and engineering is underway for an industrial site addition on **McDaniel Station Rd.**
- Street and security lighting – 23
- New business and maintenance – 72
- After hours trouble callouts – 15

During the Month of August the Electric Department:

- Set 1 meter
- Provided maintenance/replacement for 8 meters
- Purchased over 34 million KWH of electricity in July

2) Telecommunications Department:

- Signed and completed Internet connection with AOSM

- Signed agreement with Parker FiberNet for a 10 Meg connection between Coosa Valley Technical College's Rome and Calhoun campuses
- Added a 10 Meg connection for Apache Mills
- Pulled fiber across I-75 at Dews Pond Road
- Completed connection to AMR collection point on Fire Tower Rd.
- Contractors completed pulling 3 miles of fiber to Antioch water tower for connecting the third AMR tower site. Started splicing fiber for AMR and VTI Transport Internet connection
- Opened 35 and closed 33 work orders.

During the Month of August the GIS Department:

- Exported Police Department data and worked with addresses for mapping into GIS
- Created GIS data layer for fire hydrant locations and attributes
- Finished converting the electric system AutoCAD files into GIS.
- Continue to support AMR project

D. Councilman Hammond gave his August reports as follows:

1) The Police Department:

- Made 982 cases with 5 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$91,523.00
- Issued 415 warnings
- Investigated 44 highway accidents and 32 private property accidents, 5 injuries, 0 fatalities
- Provided 73 escorts
- Filed 1,729 incidents reports
- Responded to 233 alarms
- Patrolled 53,292 miles
- Responded to 5,544 calls for service by E-911
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve a transfer of \$500.00 from the Asset Seizure Account #1 to the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce for Drug Education Week. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

2) The Fire Department:

- Responded to 78 calls for service, 6 fire incidents for damages totaling an estimated \$13,000
- Responded to 29 emergency medical service calls with 21 injuries and 0 deaths
- Responded to 13 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 4 miscellaneous service calls, 20 false alarms, 3 special incident and 3 good intent
- Completed in-house training during the month for all firefighters on State required core skills along with additional department training
- Completed all scheduled station and vehicle maintenance
- Truck committee members traveled to Columbus Ohio to the Sutphen Factory to check on progress of the new Engine being built. Delivery is expected at the end of September or first two weeks of October.
- Conducted Fire Extinguisher class for National Distribution
- Assisted with beginning of the school year fire drills at Calhoun Pre k, Calhoun Middle, Calhoun Elementary, Gordon Central, and Ashworth Middle Schools.
- Conducted a fire drill at Morning Pointe Assisted Living Facility

- Participated in a bon fire for Gordon Central High School
 - Participated in Goodie's Kids Fest
- 3) **Fire Inspection Department:**
- Provided 83 inspections during the month: 12 annual, 4 new business, 40 requested, 11 follow-up re-inspections and 12 consultations
 - Attended 4 plan reviews
 - Inspectors coordinated the fire drills for the schools
 - Completed school inspections for Calhoun City School, Gordon Central and Ashworth schools
 - Inspectors attended LEPC meeting
 - Lt. Dooley attended City Safety Committee meeting
 - Inspectors assisted with some of the final projects on the new buildings
7. **Public Hearings:**
- A. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing on a beer-wine-liquor package request by Yogesh Patel, authorized agent, with a business location of 101 Williams Street.
- Mayor Palmer asked if there were any questions/comments. There were none.
 - The public hearing was closed.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to approve beer-wine-liquor package request by Yogesh Patel, authorized agent, with a business location of 101 Williams Street. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hammond with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
8. **Old Business:**
- A. Mayor Palmer gave a 2nd reading of a taxi license request by Maria Garcia with a business location of 802 North Wall Street.
- Mayor Palmer stated the public hearing is set for September 22, 2008.
9. **New Business:**
- A. Mayor Palmer read a request from Coosa Valley Technical College for the City of Calhoun to donate a 1977 Seagraves Ladder Truck Serial # G175164. This 31 year old truck was declared surplus on May 12, 2008 due to inability to pass required usage inspection and was placed on GovDeals. There have been no bids during the time it was posted on GovDeals. The approximate value of the Seagraves truck is \$10,000.00
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to transfer the title and all vehicle records to CVTC as an intergovernmental donation. Councilman Hammond also stated a hold harmless agreement should be signed between CVRC and the City of Calhoun for any damages or injury associated with the future use as a training vehicle within the Fire Science Technology Department. This intergovernmental donation will provide an educational service for Calhoun and the community. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crowley with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave a 1st reading of a 16' height variance request by Gordon County Development Authority for approximately 42 acres on McDaniel Station Rd.
- Mayor Palmer stated the earliest date for a public hearing would be November 10, 2008.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to set the public hearing for November 10. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hammond with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

- C. Mayor Palmer gave a first reading of the Steep Slope Ordinance.
- Mayor Palmer explained that the 2007 Comprehensive Plan made mention of the need for a Steep Slope Ordinance which would set working criteria for developments on slopes above 33% grade.
 - Mayor Palmer read the heading of the ordinance.
 - Mayor Palmer stated the second reading will be held on September 22, 2008.

10. **Other Written Items Not on the Agenda: NONE**

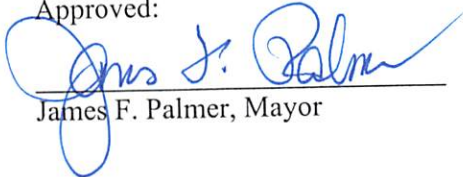
11. **Work Reports:**

A. Kelly Cornwell – Director of Utilities

1. Director Cornwell gave a rainfall report and updated the Mayor and Council on the AMR which is on schedule.

12. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon with all voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Eddie Peterson, City Administrator