

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
AUGUST 11, 2014 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

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

ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator; Paul Worley, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney;
Garry Moss, Police Chief; Lee Crump, Electric Utilities; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
 - A. Councilman Crowley 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 Hammond seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.
4. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2014 City Council meeting. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
5. **Mayor's Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Palmer announced that the City of Calhoun has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. The certificate of achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. Individual award of Financial Reporting Achievement has been awarded to Andrea Bramlett, Director of Finance. This is the sixth year in a row the Calhoun Finance Department has received the award.
6. **Council Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards gave the July report as follows:
 - 1) **Electric Department**
 - o Construction continues on the new Race Trac and Dunkin Donuts.
 - o Roadway lighting of North 41 Highway is complete.
 - o Completed Decorative Light Change out on Court Street

- Installed Capacitors on Circuit # N-6422. This is part of our system reliability improvements, loss reduction and voltage stabilization program.
- Started Bad Pole Replacement program with 107 poles to replace. Completed South Industrial Blvd and Richardson Road.
- Electric maintenance continues with the replacement of motor controls at Timber Ridge and Raw Water intake.
- The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for June was 40,004,345 kWh.

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 110
- Completed and closed- 94
- Consisting of:
 - Capital construction- 13
 - Street and security lighting-40
 - Distribution Maintenance-22
 - Meter maintenance/replacement- 12
 - New customer meter sets- 34
 - Electric locate tickets processed- 267

2) Telecommunications Departments:

- Started fiber relocation for Red Bud Road / I-75 interchange construction.
- Connected second Internet backbone provider to main router for service redundancy.
- Finished testing new router equipment and determined it not sufficient for current or future work load. Returned routers to vendor.
- Developed SQL routine to clean up customer home and business phone numbers in the billing database.
- Started working with AT&T to match city and school phone numbers with addresses.
- Connected 1 residential Internet customer.
- Added 19 Megabit of bandwidth to existing internet customers.
- Opened 33 and closed 23 work orders.

3) Geographic Information Systems:

- Assisted Electric department with tracing circuits and fixing connectivity issues on GIS maps.
- GPS software update caused system to go down. Helped find firmware mismatch.
- Updated water meter mapping and performed field verifications.
- Continued to convert natural gas maps into GIS
- Setup new IPADs with mobile GIS app and trained users.
- Updated zoning map.
- Updated pre-fire plans for Fire Department.
- Updated fiber mapping for Telecom Department.
- Updated addresses from changes in billing account data.
- Updated City and GIS websites.

4) Downtown Development Authority

- The DDA will be hosting Harvest Fest this year the last Saturday in October as in years past. October 25th from 10 until 4 in Downtown Calhoun. Vendor applications may be obtained at the Calhoun Depot, or call 706.602.5570.

B. Councilman Barton gave the July report as follows:

1) Water, Sewer, and Engineering

- The Brittany Drive Expansion Project- The project is approximately 90% complete.
- Clarifier Mechanism Replacement Project- The new mechanisms and troughs are on site. Installation has begun and is approximately 65% complete.
- I-75 & Red Bud Road utility relocate- Construction began on November 18th and the utility relocate project is projected to be completed by the end of August 2014.
- King Street and Pine Street replacement sewers. The project is under construction and nearing completion.
- The design is complete for the flocculation and sedimentation control project at the Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant. Work is scheduled to start August 11th and will be completed by June 30, 2015.
- Coosawattee Intake Screen Replacement- The screens are on site and a pre-construction meeting was held on May 8th.
- Water system modeling utilizing our GIS data base- proposals reviewed with CH2MHILL being the best and next to the lowest price.

2) Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Total gallons withdrawn: 330,350,000
- Daily average: 10,656,451
- Wells: 69,590,000
- Big Springs: 75,840,000
- Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 44.0
- Rainfall- 1.16"

3) Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Treated a daily average of 4.426 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 5, average suspended effluent of 9, and an average COD of 64.

4) Water Distribution

- 13 Water connections, 41 water service leaks repaired, 9 water main leaks repaired, 8 water meters changed out, 1 fire hydrants repaired, 4 water services changed from old 2" galv. line to larger line, 5 yards or roadway edges repaired due to previous work, 58 utility locates called in for work orders, 446 utility locates responded to, and 114 misc. calls
- Completed water construction department inventory.

- Began installing new 6" pipe under Hwy 136 at Fite Bend Road to replace old 2" line that feeds a 4" pvc line.
- Began replacing old 2" galvanized line along Alton Drive

5) **Waste Water Collection**

- 1,650' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 298 utility locates completed, 2 lift station repairs completed, 7,300' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 82 manholes opened and inspected, 3 sanitary sewer services repaired
- Completed inventory of sewer construction shop.
- Continued with Timber Ridge Lift Station replacement.

6) **Building Inspection Department**

- Issued 37 permits for an estimated cost of \$4,611,288, collected \$18,202 in permit fees. This included 2 new residential, 5 residential remodeling, 2 new commercial, 1 commercial remodel, 1 new industrial, 4 residential plumbing, 1 new residential and 1 commercial HVAC, 6 residential electrical, 3 commercial electric, 3 grading permits, and 104 total inspections.

7) **Recreation Department**

- **POST SEASON – BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL** - During the weeks of July 4-12 Calhoun Recreation Department had 3 teams that participated in the GRPA State tournaments and 1 team that participated in the Dizzy Dean State tournament. The following teams advanced:
7 Year Old Boys – Finished 11th in the Dizzy Dean State tournament in Canton, Ga.
9-10 Boys – Finished 2nd in the GRPA State tournament in Dublin, Ga.
11-12 Boys – Finished 7th in the GRPA State tournament in Thomasville, Ga.
13-14 Girls – Finished 5th in the GRPA State tournament in Brunswick, Ga.
- **ASA STATE TOURNAMENT** – Our agency hosted the Georgia ASA State tournament for 14U Girls on July 11-13, 2014. There were a total of 29 teams that participated in the ASA State tournament. A total of 3,263 visitors attended this three day event. The estimated economic impact for the tournament is \$169,650.00.
- **SWIM** – There were a total of 2,148 participants that used the pool for the month of July along with 7 pool parties.
The Calhoun Blue Barracudas finished their season with 39 swimmers advancing to the GRPA State Swim meet in Tifton July 18-19. There were 3 1st place winners, 2 second place, 2 fourth place and 2 fourth place relay teams. The Blue Barracudas finished 7th as a team in this year's state meet.
- **ADVENTURE CAMP** – Summer Adventure Camp was offered two weeks during the summer for boys and girls ages 8 – 12. The weeks of June 16-20 and July 21-25 each camp had 12 boys and girls that attended. The campers went on a different adventure each day in either Northwest Georgia or Tennessee.

- Website Usage – total visits 1,009

C. Councilman Crowley gave the July report as follows:

1) **Police Department**

- Made 574 cases with 4 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$56,868.75
- Issued 780 warnings
- Investigated 50 highway accidents, 36 private property accidents
- Provided 68 escorts
- 1,429 incident reports
- Responded to 315 alarms
- Miles patrolled: 60,273
- Responded to 4,620 calls for service by E-911

2) **Municipal Court and Probation**

- Total Court cases- 464
- Court cases dropped- 63
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 217
- Number of Probation cases- 34
- Probation Payments- \$19,920
- Probation Revocations- 18
- Failure to appear- 40
- Prisoner transports- 30

3) **Fire Department- Suppression**

- Responded to 163 calls for service for the suppression division, 6 fire incidents for damages. (\$30,265 in estimated fire damage)
- Responded to 113 medical service calls
- Responded to 6 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 15 false alarms or false calls, 20 good intent
- Completed all routine vehicle and station maintenance.

Training Division

- Department completed 853 hours of training.
- Training consisted of incident command class, 2 weeks of Vent Enter Isolate Search classes with second week in live fire exercises.
- Toured for fire protection features, the new Career Academy and Calhoun Middle School.

4) **Fire Inspection Department**

- 96 total reported activities/inspections which included 22 annual inspections, 2 new business inspections, 31 requested inspections, 21 follow-up or re-inspections, and 16 consultations
- Inspectors participated with the back to school blast at Sonorville Recreation Department.

D. Councilman Hammond gave the July report as follows:

1) **Street Department**

- Completed 16 shop and 10 street department work orders.
- Placed 4 new street signs.
- Inspected and maintained 103 miles of streets and storm drainage.
- Repaired utility cuts and pot holes around town using 26 tons of asphalt.
- Cleaned out a 25' section of ditch line on Lewis Drive.
- Replaced 50 feet of sidewalk and installed three handicap ramps on Timms Road.

2) **Cemetery Department**

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 4 grave sites.
- Sold 6 new grave spaces.
- Worked 4 grave sites.

3) **Animal Control**

- Housed 41 dogs and 5 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 10
- Number of cats adopted: 1
- Number of dogs rescued: 12
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 11
- Number of dogs euthanized: 2
- Number of cats euthanized: 3
- Number of warnings given: 16
- Number of bite cases: 2
- Citations issues: 3
- Number of inquiries: 62

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.
- Removed cabinets, framed and finished a wall at the Police Department.

5) **Safety Committee**

- Safety topic- Safety Awareness
- Safety Inspection- Electric and Telecommunications Departments
- Vehicle Accidents: 0
- Workers Compensation: 2- Water Construction; 1- Sewer Plant; 1- Water/Sewer Plant Manintenance

6) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

- Unemployment rates across the state of Georgia have increased over the past month. The state of Georgia has increased to 7.4%, the Northwest Region has increased to 7.5%, and Gordon County has increased to 8.5%. All of these areas have averaged about a 0.3% increase over the previous month.

7) Tom B. David Airport

7. Public Hearings and Comments:

- A. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing on an annexation and zoning request of R-1B for 0.33 acres at a location of 110 Jeep Street for Sandra Salazar.
- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Edwards stated that the Zoning Advisory Board met on August 7th and made a recommendation to approve the annexation and zoning request.
 - Mayor Palmer asked for public comments.
 - There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.
 - Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the annexation of 110 Jeep Street. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning of R-1B for 110 Jeep Street. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

8. Old Business:

- A. Mayor Palmer conducted the second reading of an ordinance change to amend Chapter 90: Traffic, Article V: Parades and Motorcades to provide additional provisions and sections. Changes include new regulations for special events requiring road closings and temporary permitting of malt beverages and wine at special events. There will be a public hearing on August 25th.

9. New Business:

- A. Larry Vickery discussed needed revisions to the Fiscal Year 2015 Calhoun Utilities Rate Resolution. Revisions included the Environmental Compliance Cost Recovery charges and also changes to the security lights section. All other rates within the resolution are staying the same. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the revisions to the Rate Resolution. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer read a request from the Calhoun Police Department to use funds in the amount of \$13,925.16 out of asset seizure funds for the purchase of Phazzers for patrol officers. The purchase will include 14 Phazzers for patrol officers with all

the necessary training and certification; which will become a part of the CPD standard operating procedures to ensure proper use of the devices. Police Chief Moss stated that the phazzers will be another level of protection for the officers and hopefully prevent an officer from having to use their firearm when facing life threatening situations. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the purchase of the phazzers in the amount of \$13,925.16. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

10. Other written items not on the agenda: None

11. Work Reports:

A. City Administrator Peterson

- Mr. Peterson discussed the recently released Standard and Poor (S&P) credit ratings for Calhoun. S&P raised Calhoun's issuer credit rating for existing bonds from AA- to A+. Also, affirmed Calhoun's AA+ rating for future bonds. Some of the positives from the review showed Calhoun's strong financial policies and practices, maintaining definitive reserve policy three month operational funding levels, budget flexibility is strong, fund balance has a positive history, liquidity is substantial with cash on hand year round, and budget to actual costs are consistent. Some of the negatives from the S&P review showed an overall weak economy based on per capita effective buying power, high unemployment compared to State and National levels, and contingent liabilities referring to potential future SPLOST votes for payment of school bonds. Overall, the credit rating analysis was very positive for the City of Calhoun.

B. General Manager Vickery

- Mr. Vickery reported on new software being used by Calhoun Utilities. The new TWI telephone software has been online since July 28th and has already issued 215 customer calls with disconnect notices and 158 customer leak detection alerts. There has been very positive customer feedback concerning the new alert system.

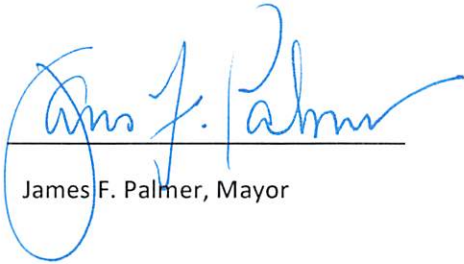
C. City Attorney Govignon

- 12.** City Attorney Govignon stated that there was a need to go into executive session with the grounds being to discuss the possible future acquisition of real estate and privileged consultation with legal counsel. 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 adjourn the executive session. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- 14.** Councilman Crowley made a motion to return to regular session. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- 15.** Mayor Palmer asked for a motion concerning the purchase of real estate discussed in Executive Session. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the purchase of 301

Calhoun City Council Minutes, August 11, 2014


- Peters Street for \$48,100 and allow the Mayor to sign the contract. The purchase of real estate is necessary for intersection improvements at Peters Street and East May Street.
16. Councilman Hammond made a motion to allow the City Attorney to investigate modifications and amendments to the current City of Calhoun Cemetery Trust Fund. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 17. Councilman Hammond made a motion to adjourn the regular session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barton with all voting aye, motion approved.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Paul Worley, City Clerk

CITY OF CALHOUN
Regular City Council Meeting
Depot Community Room
109 South King Street
August 11, 2014

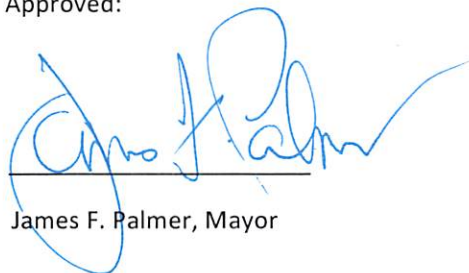
EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

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

Also: George Govignon, City Attorney
Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
Paul Worley, City Clerk
Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager

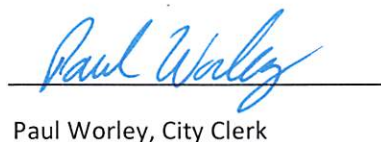
- A. City Attorney Govignon stated that there was a need to go into executive session to discuss the possible acquisition of real estate. OCGA 50-14-3(b) allows for executive session for discussing the future acquisition of real estate, authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property. Also, a matter covered under the privileged consultation with legal counsel pertaining to pending or threatened litigation, claims, administrative proceedings or settlements (OCGA 50-14-2) concerning the City of Calhoun's Cemetery Trust Fund. 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 the Mayor and Council discussed the options of possible acquisition of real estate.
- C. An item was also discussed concerning the City of Calhoun's Cemetery Trust Fund.
- D. The discussions were concluded and no votes were taken.
- E. Councilman Hammond made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session, Councilman Barton 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 8-11-14 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 Wiley
Witness

James F. Palmer
James F. Palmer, Mayor

Sworn to and subscribed to before
me this 11 day of
August, 2014.

Brooke Land
Notary Public for the State of Georgia

