



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 1, 2019- 7:00 PM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
George R. Crowley, Mayor Pro Tem
Ray Mitchell Denmon, Councilman
Al Edwards, Councilman
Jackie Palazzolo, Councilwoman

ALSO: Larry Vickery, Utilities Administrator; Paul Worley, Assistant City Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Jeff Defoor, Director of Electric Utilities; Tony Pyle, Police Chief; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief; Jerry Crawford, Director of Water & Wastewater, Kyle Ellis, Engineering, Brad Carrick, Telecommunications Director; and Neal Russell, Ordinance Officer.

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

Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the July 1, 2019 agenda as presented.

Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

4. Amendment or Approval of Minutes

Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of June 17, 2019. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer announced that Calhoun City offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.
- B. Mayor Palmer thanked Neal Russell and Joey Moore for their efforts with the dilapidated housing issues in the City. Eight structures have been taken down this year and eight other properties have been identified in the Mill Villages. Mayor Palmer also thanked Flipper McDaniel for his involvement with the dilapidated housing issues on Third Street.

6. **Council Comments**

- A. Councilman Edwards thanked Jeff Defoor and members of the Electric Department for their willingness to assist other cities and counties through mutual aid efforts. He stated that he was thanked three separate times while attending the GMA Convention by members of the Lafayette City Council for Calhoun's assistance after recent storms in their area.

7. **Public Hearing 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 speaking having filed a financial disclosure statement five days prior to the hearing if required, 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. Public hearing of an annexation and zoning request of R-1B, for 1.22 acres, at a location of 122 Jones Road (parcel GC49-048), by Mayla Hall Jackson. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held June 27, 2019.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Assistant City Administrator Worley stated that all legal requirements and notices had been met.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board meeting stating that the Board was in agreement with both the annexation and the zoning request.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for public comments. There were none.
 - Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the Annexation Request.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the annexation request of 1.22 acres. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
 - Mayor Palmer called for a motion concerning the zoning request of R-1B.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Public hearing of an annexation and zoning request of C-2, for 1.19 acres, at a location of 1117 South Wall Street, parcel GC42-106, by Ronnie Holbrook, on

behalf of GAH Properties, LLC. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held June 27, 2019.

- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Assistant City Administrator Worley stated that all legal requirements and notices had been met.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board meeting stating the Board voted to recommend approval of the annexation and zoning request, but with reservations regarding the current state of the property and structures. Prior to voting, they were advised by the City Attorney that any contingencies or conditions were for the Mayor and City Council to address tonight. She stated there were also concerns from neighboring property owners about the upkeep of the property.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for public comments beginning with the applicant, Ronnie Holbrook. Mr. Holbrook stated that he knew there were issues with the condition of the property. He noted that the property had been in litigation for several years and the condition of the property was a result of those years of neglect during the litigation. He assured Council members the property would be cleaned up.
 - There being no other comments, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.
 - City Attorney Govignon advised Council members to table the vote concerning the annexation and zoning request until the next meeting of the City Council. This would allow for an outcome of Mr. Holcomb's court appearance pertaining to the property, scheduled for July 3rd in the Gordon County Magistrate Court and avoid conflict of jurisdiction with Gordon County.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to table the vote on the annexation and zoning request to the July 22nd meeting of the City Council, pending the outcome of the applicant's two violations with Gordon County. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- C. Public hearing of a variance request for a side setback of 5 feet, from 10 feet to 5 feet, at a location of 213 Woodland Drive, parcel C40-031, by Josh Long. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held June 27, 2019.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - Assistant City Administrator Worley stated that all legal requirements and notices had been met.
 - Councilwoman Palazzolo gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board stating that the Board was in agreement with the requested variance of five feet.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for public comments. There were none.
 - Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the variance request.

- Councilman Edwards recused himself from voting on the matter as the applicant is his son-in-law.
- Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the variance request of five feet. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all remaining council members voting aye.

8. New Business

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a front setback Variance Request of 20 feet, to vary from 35 feet to 15 feet, at a location of 417 South River Street, parcel C13-001B01, by Apache Mills, Inc. on behalf of Wildstein Realty Company, LLC. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for August 8th and the public hearing is scheduled for August 12th.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a Pawn Shop License Application for Northwest Georgia Pawn at a location of 142 West Belmont Drive, by Brandon Loftih Kempson. Mr. Kempson is listed as the owner and manager. The public hearing will be held on August 12, 2019.
- C. Mayor Palmer stated that he had received a letter from the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission concerning a vacancy for the City of Calhoun on the NWGRC Council. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to appoint Mayor Pro Tem Crowley as the City of Calhoun's representative on the NWGRC Council. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

9. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda

10. Work reports:

- A. Paul Worley, Assistant City Administrator gave a progress report on the dog park to be constructed at the Recreation Department. He stated that he and Kim Townsend, Recreation Director had met with the designer and walked the property. Plans should be finalized in the next few weeks and construction is scheduled to begin in August or September.
- B. Larry Vickery, Utilities Administrator reported that Jerry Crawford, Director of Water and Wastewater is planning to retire on August 2, 2019. Mr. Vickery recommended the appointment of Kyle Ellis, a registered professional engineer employed with the City for several years and currently working in the Engineering Department, as Mr. Crawford's replacement. Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Vickery and appoint Kyle Ellis as the new Director of Water and Wastewater. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved. Mayor Palmer recognized Mr. Crawford, thanking him for his countless contributions to the City of Calhoun during his many years of service.
- C. George Govignon, City Attorney had nothing to report.

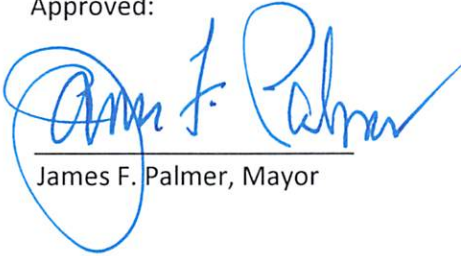
11. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed

12. Motion to return to General Session

13. Motion to Adjourn

Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Sharon Nelson, City Clerk





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