

**CITY OF CALHOUN  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM  
109 SOUTH KING ST  
APRIL 14, 2014 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

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

**ALSO:** Eddie Peterson, City Administrator; Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager; Paul Worley, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Jeff Defoor, Director of Electric Utilities; Garry Moss, Police Chief

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
  - A. Mayor Palmer 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 Barton made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2014 City Council Meeting. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
5. **Mayor's Comments:**
  - A. Mayor Palmer welcomed members of the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Program who were in attendance.
  - B. Mayor Palmer announced that there will be a budget work session April 28, 2014 after the regular City Council meeting which starts at 7:00 P.M. The meeting will be held at the Depot Community Room, 109 South King Street. No official action will take place, however the public is notified and invited to attend.
  - C. Mayor Palmer read a 2014 Manufacturer's Appreciation Week Proclamation to proclaim April 14<sup>th</sup> through April 18<sup>th</sup> as Manufacturer's Appreciation Week. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the proclamation. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. (proclamation attached)
  - D. Mayor Palmer stated that the City of Calhoun's offices would be closed on Friday April 18<sup>th</sup> in observance of Good Friday.
6. **Council Comments:**
  - A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards gave the March report as follows:

1) **Electric Department**

- Construction continues on the New Gordon County Career Academy.
- Construction continues on the GDOT Red Bud Road project.
- Construction continues on the Power Line relocation and underground conversion necessary for Gordon Hospital Expansion.
- Electrical installation continues on the Library Expansion.
- Electrical installation continues for the Cherokee Mills Loft Apartment Complex.
- Electrical installation continues on the new Popeyes Chicken
- The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for March was 36,927,929 kWh. This broke the March record set last year by 177,072 kWh.
  
- The Georgia State Legislature has declared Friday April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 as Lineman Appreciation Day. Lineman work safely with thousands of volts throughout the day to build and maintain the power supply necessary for our jobs and our quality of life. Linemen are often the first to respond during storms and other catastrophic events, working on the scene to ensure the wellbeing of the public and other safety professionals. The next time you flip a switch reflect on the people who work behind the scenes to "Keep the Light On".
  
- April is National Safe-Digging Month, homeowners and contractors need to make the free call to 811 so the utilities have a chance to locate and properly mark the underground power, water, gas and communication lines. One free call could prevent serious injuries, costly repairs and inconvenient outages.

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 66
- Completed and closed- 63
- Consisting of:
  - Capital construction- 10
  - Street and security lighting-11
  - Distribution Maintenance-13
  - Meter maintenance/replacement- 16
  - New customer meter sets- 7
  - Monthly total system locate tickets processed- 197

2) **Telecommunications Departments:**

- Completed installation on one Internet circuit and two point-to-point service connections. Started construction of a new point-to-point circuit.
- Completed fiber construction reroute for Gordon Hospital expansion. Coordinating with Hospital IT department to schedule circuit cutover.
- Pulled fiber for rerouting circuits around new I-75 and Union Grove interchange project.

- Coordinated a week of end user training and completed testing of new billing software. Went live with new billing software on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Would like to recognize Judith Arnold, Melissa Boyd and Joyce Lingerfelt for their hard work and long hours learning the new software, testing software functionality and training city personnel.
- Met with DOT and other utility companies to go over plans for utilities relocation for Red Bud Road / I-75 interchange construction. Started engineering fiber move and transfers affecting 1 mile of fiber.
- Repaired fiber cut at Red Bud Road and Curtis Parkway.
- Built a new server for new online bill payment vendor to interface with new billing software.
- Opened 8 and closed 17 work orders.

**3) Geographic Information Systems:**

- Continue to work with users to configure their smart phones to work with mobile GIS application.
- Setup new layer for mapping manholes and conducted training.
- Updated pre-fire plans for Fire Department and updated fire hydrant mapping.
- Updated fiber mapping software for Telecom Department.
- Setup and configured software for mapping waste water inflow and infiltration.
- Updated zoning maps.
- Updated addresses from changes in billing account data.
- Update water valve mapping.
- Helped Telecom Department pull fiber for I-75/ Union Grove interchange.
- Updated City and GIS websites.

**4) Downtown Development Authority**

- BBQ Boogie & Blues 2014 will be April 25 and 26. On Friday evening the GEM Theatre will be host the Sold-Out 2014 Baxter Dean Runway Show. The Harris Arts Center will welcome Norman and Nancy Blake, with James Bryan in concert - a few tickets remain. Select food vendors will be located on the Courthouse Plaza and several downtown restaurants will be open for dinner. The Velo Vineyard on Wall Street will be the site for this year's Beer Garden on Friday evening and Saturday. Street musicians are encouraged at various locations; and visitors are welcome to stroll around the professional BBQ rigs which will be setup around Downtown Friday evening. On Saturday expect live entertainment from *Owens Gin* and *Little Known Letter* from the outdoor stage; tractor rides and children's activities; 2014 Miss Strawberry Pageant; Strawberry Dessert competition; Calhoun's Amazing Race; the Better Start Living (bike) Ride; The Gordon County Fiddlers Convention; many arts, crafts and food vendors; People's Choice and Backyard BBQ Competitions; and Kansas City BBQ Society Professional BBQ Competitions.

B. Councilman Barton gave the March report as follows:

1) **Water, Sewer, and Engineering**

- The Brittany Drive Expansion Project- The project is approximately 82% complete.
- Clarifier Mechanism Replacement Project- The new mechanisms and troughs are on site. Installation has begun and will take about thirty days.
- I-75 & Red Bud Road utility relocate- Construction began on November 18<sup>th</sup> and the contractor is making progress.
- The design is complete for the flocculation and sedimentation control project at the Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant. Bid opening was March 4, 2014 and bids are under review.
- Coosawattee Intake Screen Replacement- The screens have arrived and will be installed this month.
- 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: 302,930,000
- Daily average: 9,771,935
- Wells: 11,200,000
- Big Springs: 125,090,000
- Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 45.0
- Rainfall- 4.43"
- For the second consecutive year the Mauldin Road and Brittany Drive facilities have received the "Gold" award from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals. This award is presented to those water treatment facilities that have no reporting, monitoring or MCL (maximum contaminant level) violations from the previous calendar year (2013).

3) **Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility**

- Treated a daily average of 6.723 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 8, average suspended effluent of 9, and an average COD of 67.

4) **Water Distribution**

- 10 Water connections, 26 water service leaks repaired, 28 water main leaks repaired, 3 water meters changed out, 4 water meters changed for yearly testing, 10 yards or roadway edges repaired due to previous work, 48 utility locates called in for work orders, 447 utility locates responded to, and 66 misc. calls
- Installed 220' of 6" ductile iron pipe along Hwy 53 at Curtis Parkway to replace old 4" cast iron line and installed new fire hydrant for new Popeye's Resturant.
- Began replacing 400 feet of old 1" galvanized line along Daisy Street to Hwy 41.

**5) Waste Water Collection**

- 3,100' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 289 utility locates completed, 2 lift station repairs completed, 4,800' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 96 manholes opened and inspected, 5 sanitary sewer services repaired

**6) Building Inspection Department**

- Issued 48 permits for an estimated cost of \$3,268,550, collected \$15,134.00 in permit fees. This included 2 new commercial, 5 residential remodeling, 2 commercial remodeling, 3 residential plumbing, 2 new residential and 2 commercial HVAC, 9 residential electrical, 2 industrial electrical, 6 commercial electric, 6 sign permits, 3 grading permits, and 138 total inspections.

**7) Recreation Department**

- Spring Baseball – Softball – Registration for the Spring baseball and softball programs:  
567 recreation participants - baseball and softball – 48 teams in Recreation League. 12 Competitive participants – 1 team in Competitive league based out of Whitfield County.
- 24 teams – Adult Softball including – Men's Open/Industrial; Men's Church and Women's Open.  
All practices began for teams March 15. Youth games begin April 16 and Adult games will begin April 21.
- Spring Soccer- The Spring soccer season concluded on Thursday, April 3.
- United Way – The 2014 allocation request has been submitted. Our agency will be reviewed for United Way allocations in the next several weeks.

**C. Councilman Crowley gave the March report as follows:**

**1) Police Department**

- Made 768 cases with 6 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$84,941.90
- Issued 1,049 warnings
- Investigated 48 highway accidents, 36 private property accidents
- Provided 90 escorts
- 1,593 incident reports
- Responded to 238 alarms
- Miles patrolled: 52,703
- Responded to 5,346 calls for service by E-911
- Chief Garry Moss states four members of the Calhoun Police Department recently attended an active shooter course held in Dalton, Georgia. The training consisted of one third (1/3) classroom lecture and two thirds (2/3) operational training. The instruction, known as L.A.S.E.R (Law Enforcement Active Shooter Emergency Response) is sponsored by Louisiana State University and the Federal Emergency Management Agency and is presented throughout the United States. The training is

designed to familiarize instructors in the newest techniques to deal with an active shooter incident. Lt. Tony Pyle, Lt. Harris Housley, Sgt. Tom Petty and Officer Scott Kilgore volunteered to attend the training and have been tasked with initiating a training program for the entire department. "Active shooters are today's reality," said Chief Moss. "The Calhoun Police Department is committed to being prepared to address any and all situations that may pose a threat to the citizens of Calhoun".

**2) Municipal Court and Probation**

- Total Court cases- 570
- Court cases dropped- 119
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 303
- Number of Probation cases- 89
- Probation Payments- \$26,009.00
- Probation Revocations- 14
- Failure to appear- 55
- Prisoner transports- 55

**3) Fire Department- Suppression**

- Responded to 140 calls for service for the suppression division, 9 fire incidents for damages. (\$68,820 in estimated fire damage)
- Responded to 96 medical service calls
- Responded to 6 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 14 false alarms or false calls, 12 good intent
- Began flow testing all fire hydrants maintained by the City.

**Training Division**

- Department completed 1,135 man hours of in house training.
- Training consisted of experienced and new driver training, officer training, and required core skills.
- Hosted the Georgia Fire Academy TILT (Transitional Interpersonal Leadership Training) class with 5 other departments in attendance.
- Eight personnel attended the PICO (Preparation for Initial company Operations) class at Gordon County Fire.

**4) Fire Inspection Department**

- 131 total reported activities/inspections which included 26 annual inspections, 7 new business inspections, 36 requested inspections, 16 follow-up or re-inspections, 1 burn site inspections, and 37 consultations
- Conducted fire extinguisher training with on duty personnel at First Baptist for pre-school workers, Catoosa Senior Village, and Henkel Corporation.

D. Councilman Hammond gave the March report as follows:

**1) Street Department**

- Completed 20 shop and 10 street department work orders.

- Placed 12 new street signs.
- Cleaned out 200 feet of ditch line on Stewart Drive in Spring Valley.
- Replaced a 20 foot section of pipe under a driveway on East May Street.
- Replaced a 60 foot section of sidewalk at City Hall, installing a Handicap ramp and hand rail.
- Continued work on East May Street preparing for new sidewalks. This is a part of the overall Peters Street improvement project. The City and County have allocated \$4 million dollars to improve this road.

**2) Cemetery Department**

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 12 grave sites.
- Sold 13 new grave spaces.
- Worked 12 grave sites.

**3) Animal Control**

- Housed 26 dogs, and 2 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 4
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 0
- Number of warnings given: 29
- Number of bite cases: 1
- Number of inquiries: 86
- The City of Calhoun Animal Control is hosting their 1st Annual Adoption Day/Open House at the City Shelter on May 3rd from 9am-1pm. We will have some great dogs and cats for adoption, our facility will be open for viewing, Dustin Wilbanks and Clyde Burchett will be here to answer any questions anyone might have about what we do, local rescue groups will be here to meet everyone and explain what they do to help these animals, we are going to try to get some veterinarians here to answer any questions regarding dog health and the spay/neuter process.

**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.
- Replaced 120 feet of irrigation line at the Library.

**5) Safety Committee**

- Safety topic- Hazard Communications
- Safety Inspection- Street Department
- Accidents: Vehicle Accident-0
- Workers Comp: 0

**6) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission**

- Councilman Hammond discussed that the Regional Commission (RC) oversees 15 counties in Northwest Georgia that helps to reallocate federal dollars to various programs that benefit the citizens such as meals on wheels, workforce training, and community planning. As pertaining to economic development Councilman Hammond stated that the unemployment rate for Gordon County has dropped to 7.8%, the Northwest region is at 7.5%, and the state of Georgia is at 7.1%. Counties close to metro Chattanooga and metro Atlanta have the lowest unemployment rates in the Northwest region.

**7) Tom B. David Airport**

- The engineering plans to build a parallel taxiway to increase frequency of landing and takeoffs is coming to completion and land acquisition is underway. The airport is the 7<sup>th</sup> largest permanent based aircraft airport in the state of Georgia.

**7. Public Hearings and Comments:**

A. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing for a beer package license request by Laiba Noor Corporation DBA: LN Foodmart at a location of 549 Hwy 53 SE. The proposed manager is Arif Shekh.

- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
- Mayor Palmer asked for public comments.
- There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the beer package license request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

B. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing of an ordinance change to amend Article X: Sign Ordinance. Changes include clarification for treatment of "bench" structures and to establish a Highway Interstate Exchange (HIE) zone.

- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
- Attorney Govignon explained the amendments to the sign ordinance, which includes the exemption of "bench" structures from sign ordinance regulations. Also, the ordinance establishes a HIE zone for the Hwy 53/I 75 interchange and the Hwy 156/I 75 interchange which allows businesses within these zones one free standing pole sign that is up to 100 feet in height, not to exceed 300 feet for the face of the sign. These dimensions are the average of many variances allowed in these interstate zones. Attorney Govignon explained that the frequency of variances granted along the interstate has created a new standard.
- Mayor Palmer asked for public comments.

- There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.
- Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the sign ordinance change. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

8. **Old Business: None**

9. **New Business:**

- A. Shelly Lofty with Calhoun Car Care at 212 Oak Street addressed the Council concerning the building material recycling operation owned by Larry Dixon at parcel #C26-202A-1. Mrs. Lofty is concerned that the recycling operation is not conforming to city ordinances, specifically 7.11.1 which regulated Ind-G general industrial districts. Mrs. Lofty stated that the business is creating excessive noise and dust that is negatively impacting her business. Also, she said that the equipment being moved in and out of the recycling operation is tracking mud onto Oak Street. Mrs. Lofty requested that the operation be stopped and should be relocated into the County. Mayor Palmer stated that the City investigated the matter back in 2011 when the operation started and recalled that the neighboring property owners were satisfied with the response. The property is zoned for heavy industrial uses. Mayor Palmer suggested that Mrs. Lofty get other business owners within the area that will collaborate her complaints and bring the issue back to the City Council. Also, Mayor Palmer stated that Councilman Edwards was employed by Larry Dixon and would recuse himself from any of the decision making process about this matter. Mayor Palmer stated that the City could appoint a special master to further investigate the matter. Attorney Govignon continued and stated that if Mrs. Lofty could bring more complainants that have property in this area that the City could appoint a special master, which is a special hearing officer, due to the fact that Dixon Construction Company was a vendor with the City. This would help remove any doubts of Mrs. Lofty not getting a fair audience to voice her complaints. Mrs. Lofty disputed the need to bring other property owners in to the discussion. Attorney Govignon stated that the Mayor and Council needed testimony from more than one business owner as a part of the fact finding process to make a determination. Also, the process of appointing a special master would give all complainants an opportunity to make their case against the recycling operation and also give Mr. Dixon an opportunity to state his side of the case. The special master could then make a recommendation to the Mayor and Council.
- B. Councilman Barton made a motion to move the second monthly city council meeting from May 26<sup>th</sup> to May 19<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- C. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a variance request and zoning change by Carol Nance at a location of 910 Dews Pond Road, a portion of parcel #C52-056, consisting of 0.23 acres. The requests are for a zoning change from R-2 to R-1B and a 12.5 foot variance from the required 50 foot buffer. The requests are to allow a single family home to be built on the property behind the existing apartment complex. The ZAB will meet on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Hammond made a motion to

set the public for May 12<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

- D. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of an annexation and zoning of A-1 for 10.53 and 7.61 acres at a location of parcel #043-114B and parcel #043A-145, respectively, for the City of Calhoun. Mayor Palmer explained that this property was donated to the City by Stanley Simpson, but it was brought to our attention that they are currently county parcels. The ZAB will meet on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Hammond made a motion to set the public for May 12<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- E. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a financial policies and procedures update. The document updates include the Financial Policies and Procedures Manual, Purchasing Manual, and Procurement Card Program. Administrator Peterson explained that the financial policies and procedures were last reviewed and approved by the Council in 2011 and department heads have helped with input to streamline processes, especially concerning the procurement card program. The changes increase the one time purchase limit from \$500 to \$1,000 and also allows department heads to have one time purchase limits increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 with the approval of the City Administrator/General Manager. Also, updates to software applications and vendor packet requirements were updated. The financial policies have been reviewed many times and were under exceptional scrutiny during the City Schools \$45 million dollar bond issue and the underwriters were satisfied that the City had sufficient rules and financial processes in place. Mr. Peterson stated that a reflection of the stability in the City's financial policies is how it came through the Great Recession. The City was able to continue providing services in the face of reducing revenues and even completed necessary capital projects; all while maintaining its financial reserve level policies, clean audits, balanced budgets, and the City's finance department achieved the Certificate of Achievement for Financial Reporting six out of the past seven years. The financial policies provide a roadmap for operations of the City and updates to the policies are needed on an as needed basis.
- F. The DDA, CVB and Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee request street closings in connection with the Annual BBQ Boogie & Blues event. The professional BBQ competitors will be in Downtown to set up for the competition on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. This will require that the short block of King Street between Court Street and Oothcalooga Street be limited access only. This block will remain closed until Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 p.m. In addition to this short block closure, we request that the section of Park Avenue from Harlen Street to Oothcalooga Street be closed/limited access only from Friday afternoon at 2 pm until Saturday at 7 pm (with the exception of the Court Street intersection – which will remain open until Saturday). Plans are to use as much off-street space as possible on Thursday and Friday to limit the areas requiring street closings. The event will not have street vending on Friday night, however activities are planned at the GEM Theatre, Harris Arts Center, The Velo Vineyard, and limited outdoor activities on the Courthouse Plaza. On Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, we request permission to completely close the section of Court Street from King Street to Wall Street from 8 am until 6 pm. The times stated are to give ample time for setup and take down of all booths. Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the road closure requests. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

- G. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a taxicab regulatory license application for Willie De La Cruz D/B/A: Taxi Reyes at a location of 609 North Wall Street Suite #1. Councilman Crowley made a motion to set the public hearing for May 12<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- H. Mayor Palmer read a request to declare items surplus used by the Public Works Department. Items include a 2000 International Street Sweeper, Makita compound saw, 1987 Mitsubishi utility vehicle, 2005 Simplicity mower, and a 1995 Ford Ranger. Councilman Hammond made a motion to declare the items as surplus. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- I. Councilman Hammond made a motion to table a road dedication request by Dwight Wilson. The proposed roads are in the Brookstone Subdivision and include Regency Row, Regency Lane, and Brookstone Boulevard. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- J. Mayor Palmer stated that due to passing the amendments to the sign ordinance that the sign variance request by Popeyes is no longer necessary.

**10. Other written items not on the agenda: None**

**11. Work Reports:**

A. City Administrator Peterson

B. General Manager Vickery

- Mr. Vickery discussed the need to complete exterior renovations to the old Stephens School Gymnasium on West Line Street. Community input was sought out to help pick out colors and communicate the City's plans on preserving the gym. Mr. Vickery stated that the roof replacement and exterior renovations were put out on bid and he recommended the low bidder of Chris Taylor Construction at \$42,013. Also, additional fencing for security reasons were needed and recommended the low bid of Gordon County Fence Company for \$9,992. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the low bids. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

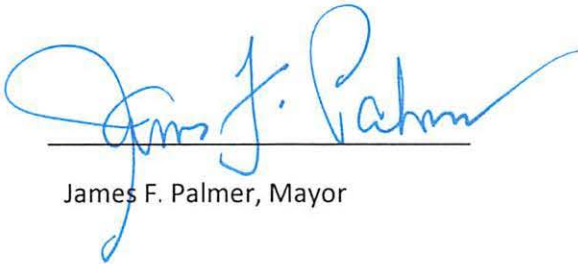
C. City Attorney Govignon

- Attorney Govignon discussed that the City had accepted Enterprise Drive into the City's road system last year. The street department signed off on accepting the street. However, with acceptance of the road, there came obligation to maintain the storm water drainage. To achieve this, an easement would also need to be given to the City. Attorney Govignon indicated that a new tenant/owner on the property using the road sought specific language providing for uninterrupted access were the street department required to "dig up" the only points of ingress and egress at the same time. Attorney Govignon asked for an acceptance by the Council of a storm drainage easement located at Enterprise Drive, subject to his final approval of the requested language.

Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the acceptance of the storm drainage easement. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

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

Approved:



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James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



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Paul Worley, City Clerk

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Manufacturing Appreciation Week (MAW) was developed by the Technical College System of Georgia and the Georgia Department of Economic Development. Manufacturing Appreciation Week will be celebrated April 14-18, 2014.

WHEREAS: Nearly 9,500 manufacturing facilities are located in Georgia providing jobs for approximately 350,000 Georgians. Georgia's manufacturing operations such as transportation equipment, aerospace, computers and electronics, food, paper, metal fabrication, textiles and plastics create state wealth by adding value to raw materials through the application of people skills and investment in tools, technology and talent;

WHEREAS: Georgia's manufacturers provide opportunities through educational partnerships, company-sponsored community involvement efforts, volunteer programs and civic involvement;

WHEREAS: We congratulate Evco Plastics and their employees for being nominated for the prestigious award, "Small Manufacturer of the Year"; and all manufacturers in the City of Calhoun for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter and stronger future for the State;

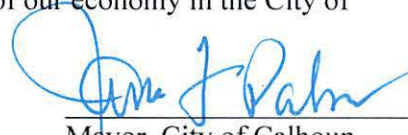
WHEREAS: The Manufacturer of the Year Award will be presented at a luncheon on April 17 at the Georgia International Convention Center to companies in small, medium and large categories that exhibit a high degree of corporate responsibility and economic impact on Georgia and demonstrate a commitment to workforce excellence;

WHEREAS: Manufacturing is vital to Georgia's economy and has been the primary source of economic growth in the United States;

WHEREAS: An important component of the week's festivities is an educational one, making school children aware of industry and manufacturing as providing viable career options. Students from throughout the state of Georgia participated in a placemat, poster and t-shirt design contest, respectively, with themes to honor manufacturing in Georgia; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the week of April 14-18 be designated Manufacturing Appreciation Week, the 20th annual celebration to acknowledge the critical and fundamental importance to the prosperity of our economy in the City of Calhoun and in Gordon County.

This 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014

  
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Mayor, City of Calhoun

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_