



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 - 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**  
**Jackie Palazzolo, Councilwoman**

ALSO: Paul Worley, City Administrator; Larry Vickery, Utilities Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Neal Russell, Code Enforcement Officer; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief; Ken Carson, Police Department Major; Todd Holbert, Battalion Chief; Kyle Ellis, Assistant Utilities Administrator.

1. **Council Meeting Called to Order**  
**Welcome**  
Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.  
**Invocation**  
Utilities Administrator Vickery 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**  
Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the September 13, 2021 agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
4. **Amendment or Approval of Minutes**  
Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of August 23, 2021. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. Oath of Office for the appointment of Stephen King to Calhoun City Schools Board of Education Post 3.
- B. Important dates to remember this election:
  - 1) Early voting begins Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> and ends Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. We will have early voting on Saturday October 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Board of Elections and Voter Registration Office, located across the street from the Post Office.
  - 2) October 4<sup>th</sup> is the last day to register to be eligible to vote in the November General Election.
  - 3) October 22<sup>nd</sup> is the last day to mail or issue absentee ballots.

6. **Council Comments**

- A. Councilwoman Palazzolo submitted August reports as follows:

1) **Water and Sewer Operations**

**Water Treatment Plant**

- Total gallons withdrawn: 284,650,000
- Daily average: 9,488,333
- Wells: 0
- Big Springs: 119,600,000
- % produced by Brittany Drive: 42.0%
  - Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 33.78%
  - Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 34.38%
  - Rainfall for November – 3.53"

**Waste Water Treatment Plant**

- Treated a daily average of 5.432 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 11, and an average COD of 48.

**Water Distribution & Wastewater Collection**

- 353 work orders completed, 33 new water connections, 22 water service leaks repaired, 19 water main leaks repaired, 0 water services changed to new main lines, 137 meter changes, 59 utility locates called in for work orders, 592 utility locates responses.
- 2,600 feet of Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 441 utility locates completed, 5,500 feet sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 10 new sewer connections installed, 3 sanitary sewer services repaired.

2) **Water and Sewer Construction**

**Projects Under Construction**

- 319 Grant Lynn Creek Project- Focus has shifted to additional green infrastructure project and agricultural BMP. Meeting with landowners to participate in agricultural projects.
- The two inch galvanized line replacement continues utilizing city forces. Combined efforts between contractor C&S and city crews to replace 2"

galvanized on Hwy 41 in Resaca. This area was a high complaint area due to the galvanized piping. Resaca project complete.

- Georgia Cumberland Academy- Project complete.
- Fox Subdivision 2" galvanized water line replacement project 286. Materials are on site ready for contractor to begin.
- Eastside sewer replacement project- Contractor starting pre construction CCTV survey
- Old Fairmount Hwy Sewer Line Extension- Mainline has been installed; crews are working on cleanup and testing.

#### **Projects in Design & Development**

- South Interceptor Flow Study
- Brittany Drive Standby Generator Grant
- Paul Lusk Lift Station Capacity Study
- Sewer Extension Hwy 41 South

#### 3) **Library**

- There are 10,156 library card holders, 1,292 library visitors, and 2,633 total circulation.
- There were 0 story time attendance, 0 adult program attendance, 75 new users, 894 e-books, 749 audio books, 231 computer logins, and 8,716 Facebook visits.

B. Councilman Edwards submitted August reports as follows:

#### 1) **Police Department**

- Made 285 cases with 2 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$27,388
- Issued 332 warnings
- Investigated 58 highway accidents, 34 private property accidents
- Obstruction - 13
- Lethal Weapon Encounter - 0
- Alarm responses - 176
- Miles patrolled: 36,198

#### 2) **Municipal Court**

- Total Court cases- 287
- Court cases dropped- 38
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 132
- Number of Probation cases- 20
- Failure to appear- 21
- Subpoenas served- 4

#### 3) **Fire Department**

##### **Fire Suppression Division**

228 **Total reported calls for service for the Suppression Division**

### Dispatched Calls

0	Fire, other
1	Structure Fire
1	Mobile Property (Vehicle) Fire
1	Natural Vegetation Fire
0	Outside Rubbish Fire
<b>4</b>	<b>Total Fire Calls</b>
40	Medical Assist
112	Emergency Medical Services Incident
1	Lock- In
0	Search for Lost Person
1	Water or ice related rescue
5	Rescue or EMS Standby
<b>158</b>	<b>Total Medical Calls</b>
2	Combustible / Flammable Liquids Spills and Leaks
0	Chemical Release, Reaction or Toxic Condition
4	Electrical Wiring / Equipment problems
<b>6</b>	<b>Total Hazardous Conditions Incidents (NO FIRE; Leaks, Spills, Electrical Hazards; All Other Hazardous Conditions without injuries)</b>
4	Potential Accident
0	Person In Distress
1	Service Call - Other
2	Public Service Assistance
<b>7</b>	<b>Total Service Calls (Water Leak; Assist Other Agencies with Non-Emergency Calls)</b>
0	Good intent Call
<b>0</b>	<b>Total Good Intent Calls (Smoke / Odor check; Investigation of Unknown Problem)</b>
30	Dispatched and Canceled En-Route
3	Wrong location / No Emergency Found
0	Steam or gas mistaken for smoke
4	False Alarm and False Call Other
0	Malicious Mischievous false alarm
12	System or Detector Malfunction
4	Unintentional System / Detector Operation (No Fire)
<b>48</b>	<b>Total False Alarms or False Calls</b>
<b>49</b>	<b>Severe Weather &amp; Natural Disaster</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Total Severe Weather &amp; Natural Disaster Calls</b>
0	Special Incident Type (Citizen Complaint; Other)
<b>0</b>	<b>Total Special Incident Type</b>

### Additional Fire Department Activities

- Completed routine Dept. Maintenance and duties
- Continued Participating in meetings on COVID-19 response protocols and issues with local agencies (by video conference).

### Training Division

673 - Total Man Hours of training during the month.

#### Training consisted of:

- Training consisted of Hazardous Materials, Fire Hose Deployment, Ground ladders.
- Recruit school had an additional 360 Man Hours in class and Hands on training,

### Fire Inspections - Public Safety Education -Code Enforcement Division

74 Total Reported Activities / Inspections completed during the month.

### Inspections / Enforcement Activities

19	Annual Inspection
4	New Business Inspections
24	Requested Inspections
9	Follow Up, Re-Inspections
0	Burn Site Inspections
5	Plan Reviews
1	Pre-Construction Meeting
1	Sprinkler Permits Issued
0	Fuel Tank Permit (Install, Removal or Service)
29	Consultations
0	Fire Drills
0	Illegal Burning Citations
2	Zoning / Annexation Meetings

### Additional Inspection - Public Safety & Codes Division Activities

Inspector Duvall participated with City Safety committee.

Inspector Fox out due to Covid.

#### 4) Safety Committee

- The safety topic of discussion this month was Violence in the Workplace.
  - Safety inspections were performed at the Street and Water Construction departments on August 12, 2021.
  - Vehicle accidents: 1
  - Workers compensation: 1

C. Councilman Denmon submitted August reports as follows:

1) **Public Works**

**Street Department**

1. Completed 29 shop and 30 street dept. work orders.
2. Installed 6 new street signs.
3. Cleaned out ditch on Martin Luther King Boulevard.
4. Repair potholes and utility cuts around town using 8 tons of asphalt.

**Cemetery Department**

1. Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler cemetery.
2. Supervised the opening and closing of 14 grave sites.
3. Sold 11 new grave space.

**Parks Department**

1. The grounds crew picked up litter, mowed, trimmed bushes, hauled garbage to the dump, and maintained records at records room.
2. The maintenance crew maintained designated buildings downtown.
3. Sealed front windows at the library to stop leaking.

**Animal Control**

- Housed 14 dogs and 11 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 2
- Number of cats adopted: 1
- Number of dogs rescued: 1
- Number of cats rescued: 12
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 6
- Number of cats reclaimed by owner: 0
- Number of dogs euthanized: 0
- Number of cats euthanized: 0
- Number of warnings given: 19
- Number of bite cases: 0
- Citations issues: 0

2) **Recreation Department**

1. **FALL SPORTS REGISTRATION** – Registration for fall sports concluded in August for Football, Cheerleading, Soccer, and Girls Volleyball.

**Registration Numbers:**

Football – 232 participants

Cheerleading-60 participants

Soccer – 324 participants

Girls Volleyball – 58 participants

Football Practices began – August 14

Soccer Practices began – August 23

Volleyball Practices began – August 19

Youth Football Opening Day – September 11

Youth Soccer Opening Day – September 11  
Girls Volleyball – September 9

Final numbers for registration were up 225 participants for fall youth sports.

**Fall Adult Softball** –There are 8 teams registered to participate in the Fall league. The league will begin games September 13.

**2. SPECIAL EVENT:**

**Bark in the Park:** Bark in the Park was held Saturday, August 28. There were 20 dogs that participated in fun events winning prizes that were donated by local businesses. All dog owners that came out enjoyed the event.

**3. RENTALS** – The following facilities were reserved throughout the month for special events:

Playground Pavilion -9 events                      Ratner Pavilion – 4 events  
Recreation Center  
Meeting Room – 5 events  
Community Room – 3 events

**POOL -**

General Admission – 415 –pool closed on weekdays August 10. Closed for season August 21.  
Pool Parties – 9 parties

**4. TENNIS**

EVTA and STA Flex League Play  
Mixed Doubles and MXS>40 League Play  
MAP Tennis – Saturdays  
League Play – Mon – Fri – 14 courts 7:00pm – 9:00pm; Sat. 10:00am – 2:00pm

**5. PARKS –**

The following tasks were completed throughout the month:

- Parks mowed and groomed weekly
- Prepared practice fields for football and soccer
- Pressure washed soccer and softball buildings
- Prepared high school softball field for games
- Prepared middle school softball field for games
- Prepared Fields 1, 2 and 4 for Friday Night One Pitch Tournament
- Weeded flower beds at new complex
- Sprayed Football Complex Bleachers for wasp
- Groomed grounds at Recreation Center and Tennis Center weekly
- Pool Maintenance daily
- Laid out and painted middle school football practice field

**6. WEBSITE USAGE:**

CalhounRec.com	Facebook
1,640 – Sessions	1,492 – Post Engagements
20 – Post	16 - Posts
713 - Users	5,802 - reached
3,652 – Page Views	346 – Page Views

**UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENT:**

October 3 – Family Movie Night – “The Greatest Showman” – Calhoun Recreation Football Field

**3) Downtown Development Authority**

The Historic Preservation Commission and DDA held their regularly scheduled meetings. The DDA Director attended the annual Georgia Downtown Conference. The DDA approved the CHS Homecoming Parade to be held on September 30th. The Farmer’s Market has extended until the end of September. It is every Monday and Thursday from 10-2 in the Depot parking lot. The 10<sup>th</sup> annual BBQ, Boogie & Blues is scheduled September 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. The DDA has partnered with United Way again to have the Pumpkin Patch in October. The DDA is encouraging everyone to shop local.

**D. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley submitted August reports as follows:**

**1) Electric Department**

- Construction continues on the new Calhoun Early Learning Academy at 380 Barrett Road.
- Construction continues on the Harbin Clinic’s 11,700 sq. ft. expansion.
- The LED Streetlight upgrade continues around the City.
- Construction has begun for the 11 new single family homes at the Old Mill development.

On August 27<sup>th</sup> Electric Cities of Georgia (ECG) received a request for Mutual Aid from Abbeville, Louisiana in preparation of Hurricane Ida. This is the same location we helped last year after Hurricane Delta. On August 28<sup>th</sup> Calhoun sent a crew of volunteers that included: Dylan Joyce, Dennis Henry, DK Nicholson, Nathan Stokes, Nathan Phillips, Jessie Shook and Brett Sane. The crews then went to Morgan City and are now working on restoring power to Houma, one of the hardest hit areas in Louisiana. As of Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, Calhoun rotated home Dylan Joyce, Nathan Phillips and Jessie Shook and sent Matt Rains, Matthew Harrell and Chris Dean. Depending upon conditions, we think the crew will be back around September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**WORK ORDERS IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED FOR AUGUST:**

• NEWLY CREATED	95
• COMPLETED AND CLOSED	78
• CONSISTING OF:	
• CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION	32
• STREET AND SECURITY LIGHTING-	9
• DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE	17
• OUTAGES / TROUBLE CALLS	4
• WORK FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS	29
• NEW METER SETS	7
• METER MAINTENANCE/REPLACEMENT	4
• Electric Locate Tickets Processed-	264

The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for August 2021 is estimated to be about 39.5 million kilowatt hours (kWh's). This is about 2 million kWh's more than August of 2020. Actual numbers will be released around September 17<sup>th</sup>.

In August the Educational Solar Array, a partnership between Calhoun Utilities, Calhoun City Schools and the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA), produced 6,930 kWh's of electricity and provided a carbon offset of 10,600 pounds or the equivalent carbon sequestration of 123 trees.

# Monthly Energy Production Report

Generated for Jeff DeFoor  
on 09/07/2021

Calhoun Utilities

Calhoun, GA

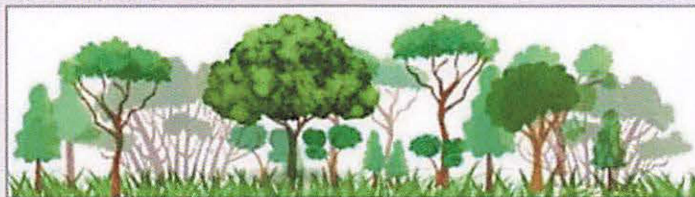


This report provides energy production for August.

Week	Peak Power	Energy Produced
08/01/2021 - 08/07/2021	39.1 kW	1.61 MWh
08/08/2021 - 08/14/2021	39.1 kW	1.82 MWh
08/15/2021 - 08/21/2021	39.1 kW	1.25 MWh
08/22/2021 - 08/28/2021	39.1 kW	1.82 MWh
08/29/2021 - 08/31/2021	39.0 kW	428 kWh
<b>August 2021 Total:</b>		<b>6.93 MWh</b>
<b>Previous Month Total:</b>		<b>7.36 MWh</b>
<b>Year to Date:</b>		<b>28.9 MWh</b>
<b>Lifetime Production:</b>		<b>30.7 MWh</b>

Your **Carbon Offset** for this month: 10,600.0 lbs

You have offset the equivalent of: 123 Trees



## 2) Telecommunications

- Added four new internet customers.
- Added 400 Megabit of bandwidth to existing customer.

- Moved three customer's services between existing locations.
- Replace electronics at three customer sites due to lightning strikes.
- Repaired one customer broken fiber drop.
- Mounted three antennas for Airport.
- Updated firmware on firewalls.
- Worked with vendor to resolve call rejections on calls placed to toll free numbers from analog lines. Have converted 2 of 14 lines.
- Researching for better Wi-Fi solutions for several departments.
- Opened and closed 14 work orders.

#### **Geographic Information Systems**

- Worked on water modeling with Engineering.
- Performed GIS System updates.
- Updated water meter data and mapping.
- Updated zoning map and parcel data.
- Generated Electric usage reports.
- Updated Fiber maps.
- Updated Fire pre-plan for buildings
- Updated Physical addressing, building and billing information.
- Updated City and GIS web sites
- City employee GIS login statistics
  - Total logins – 1475
  - Top three layers accessed
    - Water – 531
    - Electric – 238
    - Metering – 184

#### **3) Building Inspections**

- Issued 85 permits for an estimated cost of \$1,569,412, collected \$17,064 in permit fees. This included 2 new residential, 2 residential remodel, 1 industrial remodel, 11 residential plumbing, 21 residential electrical, 3 commercial plumbing, 34 residential HVAC, 1 commercial HVAC, 2 commercial electrical, 1 industrial plumbing, and 1 industrial electrical. 255 total inspections.

#### **4) Revolving Loan**

- Revolving Loans are available for small businesses based on job creation. Applications are available at City Hall for those interested in applying.

### **7. Public Hearing and Comments**

- A. 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 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.

1) Public hearing of an annexation and zoning request from County A-1 to Ind-G for 155.49 acres at a location of 336 Salem Road (046-034 and 046-118) by HREG Acquisitions, LLC. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held September 9<sup>th</sup>.

- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
- City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
- Councilwoman Palazzolo gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board stating that they were in favor of the annexation and zoning request.
- Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
- Terry Brumlow, 1287 Curtis Parkway, attorney speaking on behalf of the applicant requested Council table the item until the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting to allow time for the Federal Aviation Administration to respond to the 7460 permit sent by the applicant as required under the Code of Federal Regulations. As the response may contain pertinent information which would need to be considered by all parties this would allow for inquiries regarding any requirements that the FAA might call for in its reply.
- Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to table the public hearing until the September 27<sup>th</sup> regular scheduled meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

2) Public hearing of an annexation and zoning request from County Ind-G to C-2 for 3.485 acres at a location of Newtown Church Road and Conference Drive (055-053) by Lamar Worley. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held September 9<sup>th</sup>.

- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
- City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
- Councilwoman Palazzolo gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board stating that they were in favor of the annexation and zoning request.
- Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
- There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning annexation request. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the annexation request. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- Mayor Palmer called for a motion concerning zoning request. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the zoning

request. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

- 3) Public hearing of an annexation and zoning request from County R-3 to C-2 for 0.12 acres at a location of Conference Drive (055-051) by Lamar Worley. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held September 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
  - City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
  - Councilwoman Palazzolo gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board stating that they were in favor of the annexation and zoning request.
  - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
  - There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning annexation request. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the annexation request. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
  - Mayor Palmer called for a motion concerning the zoning request. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the zoning request. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
  
- 4) Public hearing of a zoning change request from Ind-G to PRD (planned residential development) for 11.31 acres at a location of 410 through 420 Beamer Road (CG33-099) by Thomas Layson. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held September 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
  - City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
  - Councilwoman Palazzolo gave the report on the Zoning Advisory Board stating that they were in favor of the zoning request.
  - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
  - There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the zoning change request. Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the zoning change request. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
  
- 5) Public hearing of a beer and wine package license request at a location of 711 South Wall Street, Suite 3 by Whheguru, LLC, d/b/a Lucky 7 Lotto. The owner, Rekha Awatramani will also serve as the store manager.
  - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
  - City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.

- Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
- There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the alcohol license request. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made a motion to approve the alcohol license. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

8. **Old Business**

None

9. **New Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a variance request of 610 feet less than the minimum floor area requirement for R-1B, from 1,150 feet to 540 feet, at Beamer Road and Harris Beamer Road, (CG33-098) by Tiny House Hand Up, Inc. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup> and the Public Hearing on October 11<sup>th</sup>.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a zoning change request from R-2 to PRD (planned residential development) for 39+/- acres located at the end of Millers Lane (C35-031 & C35-032), by Venture Communities, LLC. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup> and the Public Hearing on October 11<sup>th</sup>.
- C. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a beer and wine package license request at a location of 703 Oothcalooga Street, by Samrat Business, LLC d/b/a ABC Convenience Store. The owner, Kumar Tharpa will also serve as the store manager. Mayor Palmer called for a motion to set the public hearing for October 11<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Denmon made the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- D. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of updates to the City of Calhoun Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Alcoholic Beverages, Article III, Operating Regulations For Licensed Establishments, to set fee amounts as prescribed by the governing body, to require a Georgia criminal history for employees serving malt beverages, wine and/or distilled spirits in pouring establishments, to allow for fine amounts for violations to be set by the City of Calhoun Municipal Court, and for other purposes. City Administrator Worley stated that he had been working with the Police Department reviewing the ordinance and the changes requested will help to streamline operations. The ordinance will do away with the fingerprint cards due to COVID. We will continue to do the criminal history for all servers. Mayor Palmer called for a motion to set the public hearing for September 27<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Denmon made the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- E. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of updates to the City of Calhoun Code of Ordinances, Chapter 26 Cemeteries, to include a cremation only section to Fain Cemetery, lot sizes for crematory spaces, updates to the grant of easement and

burial rights, and other purposes. Mayor Palmer called for a motion to set the public hearing for September 27<sup>th</sup>. Councilwoman Palazzolo made the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

- F. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of updates to the City of Calhoun Code of Ordinances, Chapter 86, Taxation, to incorporate changes pertaining to HB317, to include updates to definitions, and for other purposes. Mayor Palmer called for a motion to set the public hearing for September 27<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley made the motion. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- G. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of the proposed 2021 property tax millage rates for the City of Calhoun and Calhoun City Schools and will be eligible for a public hearing and adoption at the next scheduled City Council meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup>. The City of Calhoun proposed millage rate remains the same as 2020 at 2.70. The Calhoun City Schools proposed millage rollback rate is 17.557. The City of Calhoun current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years was advertised in the Calhoun Times on September 11<sup>th</sup> and is available for review at [www.cityofcalhoun-ga.com](http://www.cityofcalhoun-ga.com). The Calhoun City Schools current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years was advertised in the Calhoun Times on September 8<sup>th</sup> and is available for review at [www.calhounschools.org/departments/finances/tax-digest](http://www.calhounschools.org/departments/finances/tax-digest). Mayor Palmer gave the floor to City Administrator Worley to review the proposed millage rates. City Administrator Worley stated that the Five Year Tax Digest and M&O Levy History had been ran in the Calhoun Times as required. The millage rate for the City will remain the same as last year at 2.70 mills. This year's net M&O digest is \$853,984 compared to last year at \$869,426. This is due to the completion of our exemptions as we are currently at 100% Freeport. Freeport caused an additional \$71 million increase in exemptions. We have had a 4% growth rate in residential, 1% reduction in commercial and 8% increase in industrial. Calhoun City Schools propose to set the rollback 17.557 mills, which results in a net 3% tax reduction. Mayor Palmer reminded everyone that the documents can be reviewed on the websites.

#### 10. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda

#### 11. Work Reports

- A. Paul Worley, City Administrator thanked City of Calhoun employees for their dedication in providing essential government services during the pandemic at the risk of exposure to COVID-19. He stated that the Federal Legislation American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 allows for premium pay for essential government employees as an authorized use of the funds. The ARPA funds are from the Federal Government and have very specific rules and requirements for using the funds. He asked Council to approve a resolution that would provide all City employees classified as full-time employees by the Human Resource Department a one-time payment of \$2,000 and

all City employees classified as part-time by the Human Resource Department who average a minimum of 18 hours per week a one-time payment of \$1,000. He noted his appreciation to all employees and stated that the City will continue to monitor the ARPA funds moving forward which may present other opportunities. Council members are in the process of planning some Saturday work sessions to discuss use of the funds.

- B. Larry Vickery, Utilities Administrator expressed his thanks to the employees in the Electric that volunteered to go to provide mutual aid in preparation for Hurricane Ida. He stated that this was the third time that Abbeville, Louisiana had specifically requested the City of Calhoun Electric department
- C. George Govignon, City Attorney had nothing to report.

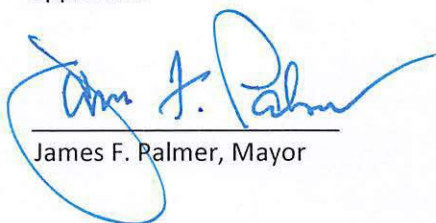
12. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed

13. Motion to return to General Session

14. Motion to Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Council, 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 7:43 p.m.

Approved:

  
James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:

  
Sharon Nelson, City Clerk



**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH PREMIUM PAY  
FOR ESSENTIAL CITY OF CALHOUN EMPLOYEES USING FUNDS RECEIVED  
UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021**

This Resolution by the City of Calhoun Mayor and Council authorizes Premium Pay for Essential City Government employees using funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARPA").

**Whereas**, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021. The City of Calhoun, Georgia has received "ARPA" funding from the United States Treasury. The "ARPA" rules are very specific in limiting the purposes for which cities may spend the funds. The City of Calhoun has identified premium pay for essential government employees as an authorized use of "ARPA" funds.

**Whereas**, "Essential Worker" is "Any work performed by an employee of the state, local or tribal government or workers needed to maintain continuity of operations of critical infrastructure sectors." "Essential Work" is "work involving regular in-person interactions or regular physical handling of items that were also handled by others, but does not include a worker who teleworked from a residence."

**Whereas**, City of Calhoun employees continued to provide (and do continue to provide) essential government services during the pandemic at the risk of exposure to COVID-19. The City is losing essential workers to other private and government employers that are paying higher wages. There is a legitimate public need to pay premium pay under the terms of this resolution.

**Now therefore**, the City of Calhoun Mayor and Council hereby resolves and authorizes the use of Federal "ARPA" funds to establish and make a payment of premium pay to all essential employees who meet the following criteria:

- A. City employees classified as full-time employees by the Human Resource Department are to receive a one-time payment of \$2,000.
- B. City employees classified as part-time by the Human Resource Department who average a minimum of 18 hours per week are to receive a one-time payment of \$1,000.

The Mayor and Council hereby instruct the Finance and Human Resource Departments to carry out the terms of this resolution and make the payments contemplated herein at the earliest opportunity.

So resolved, decided and approved on September 13, 2021.

AUTHORIZED:

  
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JAMES F. PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
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SHARON NELSON, CITY CLERK