

**CITY OF CALHOUN  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM  
109 SOUTH KING ST  
JULY 27, 2015 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

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

**ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator; Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager; George Govignon, City Attorney; Paul Worley, City Clerk; Larry Gilbert, Major CPD; Jeff Defoor, Director of Electric Utilities; Jerry Crawford, Water and Sewer Director**

- 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 Hammond made a motion to approve the agenda and Councilman Barton seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.**
- 4. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2015 City Council Meeting. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.**
- 5. Mayor's Comments:**
- 6. Public Hearings and Comments:**
  - A. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing for a resolution to amend the September 11, 1995 ordinance so as to increase the monthly salary compensation for the elective members of the municipal governing authority.**
    - Mayor Palmer stated that this resolution increases the City Council's pay from \$400 per month to \$700 per month and will get the City more in line with other governing authorities in the area as well as in the State of Georgia. As stated, this has not been addressed since 1995.
    - Councilman Hammond stated that not only the elected official's compensation needed reviewing, but also the management of key personnel will be critical for the City in the next five years seeing as 83% of key management positions will be retiring. The city has looked at these key positions and determine where we were under paying compared to the national averages and put a plan in place to adjust the salaries to get them

more in line with the averages to enable the City to attract and retain quality individuals. This is part of an overall management review of where we are currently at and where we want to be in the future.

- Mayor Palmer asked if there were any comments from the public. There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the resolution as read. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. (resolution attached)

## 7. Old Business:

- A. Judy Peterson gave a power point presentation to address the Mayor and Council concerning new concepts for recycling in Calhoun. Mrs. Peterson presented her ideas to help improve the Calhoun Recycling Center by creating new partnerships, increase recycling awareness, offering new ideas, and hopefully have more people participate in recycling. There are many companies doing great things in recycling such as Shaw Carpet, Mohawk and others. Calhoun could do more to explore new possibilities for collecting, transporting materials while helping to educate the public about the benefits of recycling. Right now only a small percentage of residents recycle and this working structure could help encourage more people to recycle through increased participation and awareness. Increasing the volume of recyclables could help the operation become self-sustaining. Mrs. Peterson volunteered her services to advise the Mayor and Council concerning recycling. As the Recycling Coordinator, Mrs. Peterson would help develop strategies for increased participation in recycling in Calhoun. The Mayor and Council thanked Mrs. Peterson for her dedication and willingness to serve the community in this capacity. Working with department heads to help write grants, build partnerships, and grow local support of recycling could have a very positive affect on our community. Mayor Palmer asked for a motion to appoint Judy Peterson as Recycling Coordinator, to work with Kevin McEntire and other City department heads, and explore the various options discussed. Councilman Barton made a motion to appoint Mrs. Peterson as Recycling Coordinator. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer conducted the second reading of variance requests by Calhoun First Baptist Church at a location of 411 College Street. The first variance request is a 20 foot variance from the required 30 foot buffer on tract A and B. The second variance request is for a 20 foot variance from the required 30 foot butter on tract C and reducing down to a 6.5 foot buffer on one corner. The Zoning Advisory Board will meet on August 6<sup>th</sup> and the public hearing on August 10<sup>th</sup>.
- C. Mayor Palmer conducted the second reading of a variance request by Brad Fitch at a location of 203 Sequoyah Terrace. The variance request is an 8 foot variance from the required 10 foot side yard setback to construct a carport building. The Zoning Advisory Board will meet on August 6<sup>th</sup> and the public hearing on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

**8. New Business:**

- A. Mayor Palmer read a real property agreement with Georgia Department of Transportation for right-of-way acquisition for Streetscape IV. The agreement is to allow for the use of Federal funds to purchase right-of-way and easements for the Streetscape IV project. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the real property agreement. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer read a request to declare a Fender Electronics PX-22160 Powered Mixing Console and four Fender Electronics speakers as surplus property by Downtown Development. Councilman Crowley made a motion to declare the items as surplus property. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- C. Mayor Palmer read a Downtown Development Authority request for reappointment of Andrea Brumlow, Lorene Potts, and Derrick Williams to another three year term to expire on August 1, 2018. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the reappointment requests. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- D. Mayor Palmer read a request from the Historic Preservation Commission to appoint Mrs. Jane Weldon to fulfill the unexpired term of current HPC member Lorene Potts. Mrs. Potts' current term is scheduled to expire on March 1, 2016. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the appointment request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. Mayor Palmer thanked Mrs. Potts for her service to the HPC.
- E. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a beer, wine, liquor package request by Kalpesh Patel, DBA: Party Liquor at a location of 101 Williams Street. The listed manager will be Yogesh Patel. Councilman Barton made a motion to set the public hearing on August 24<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

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

**10. Work Reports:**

A. Administrator Eddie Peterson

- Mr. Peterson stated that the City has recently made some changes in its investments to obtain a better returns for reserve funds. The submitted cash report reflects these changes. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the cash reports. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

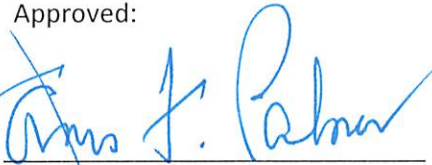
B. General Manager Larry Vickery

- Mr. Vickery gave an update on the Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant rehabilitation project. The rehab of concrete on basin number four is complete. Basin number one and two is underway, and basin number three should start in a few weeks. Also, the lighting project of exit 312 is now complete. Mr. Vickery thanked Jeff Defoor and the Calhoun Electric Department for completing an excellent project for the community. Mayor Palmer stated that studies have shown that a lighted interchange can help increase traffic by as much as 20 percent and helps make the area feel safer.

C. City Attorney George Govignon

11. Councilman Crowley made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hammond with all voting aye, motion approved.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Paul Worley, City Clerk

**CITY OF CALHOUN, GEORGIA**

**RESOLUTION  
TO INCREASE COMPENSATION FOR  
ELECTIVE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNING AUTHORITY  
PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. §§36-42-2(2) and 36-35-4,  
THE CHARTER FOR THE CITY OF CALHOUN, GEORGIA AND  
SEC. 2-103 AND CODE OF CALHOUN, GEORGIA SEC. 2-61**

**WHEREAS** the O.C.G.A. §36-42-2(2) and 36-35-4 authorize and provide the procedure required of the municipal governing authority for the increase of the salary or compensation of the elective members; and

**WHEREAS** pursuant to Section 2-103 of The Charter of the City of Calhoun, Georgia the Mayor and Council members shall receive, as compensation for their services, an amount fixed by ordinance as authorized by general state law; and

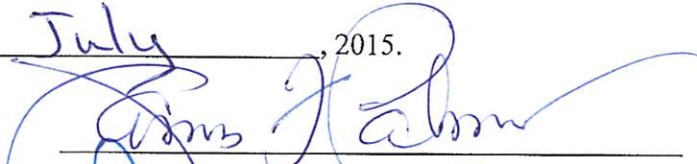
**WHEREAS** pursuant to Section 2-61 of the Code of Calhoun, Georgia the salary and compensation for the mayor, council members and municipal judge of the city shall be as prescribed from time to time by the governing body, which enactments are on file in the office of the city clerk; and

**WHEREAS** the last such modification took place by virtue of the adoption of Ordinance No. 573 on September 11, 1995;

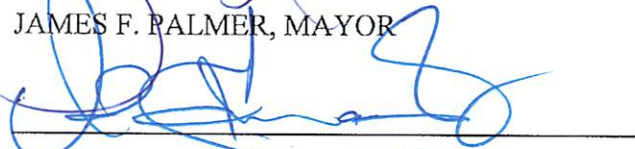
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Calhoun that approve that, with the enactment of the municipal budget for fiscal year 2015/2016, the salary for the individual members of the council shall be raised from \$400.00 per month to \$700.00 per month to make said compensation commensurate with the other local governing authorities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said increase shall not take effect until January 1, 2016 to coincide with the start of the next term of office for the staggered Council elected in the November 2015 ordinary municipal election as mandated by O.C.G.A. §36-35-4(a)(1).

RESOLVED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

  
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JAMES F. PALMER, MAYOR

  
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AL EDWARDS, MAYOR PRO TEM

  
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MATT BARTON, CITY COUNCILMAN

  
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GEORGE R. CROWLEY, CITY COUNCILMAN

  
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DAVID HAMMOND, CITY COUNCILMAN

ATTEST:

  
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PAUL WORLEY, CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

Date of First Reading: June 15, 2015

Date of Second Reading: July 13, 2015

Date of Public Reading: July 27, 2015