



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 14, 2022 - 7:00 PM  
109 SOUTH KING STREET  
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** James F. Palmer, Mayor  
Ray Mitchell Denmon, Councilman  
Al Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem  
Ed Moyer, Councilman  
Jackie Palazzolo, Councilwoman

**ALSO:** Paul Worley, City Administrator; Kyle Ellis, Assistant Utilities Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief; Commander Ken Carson, Police Department; and, Margaret Boyd, Purchasing Director.

1. **Council Meeting Called to Order**  
**Welcome**  
Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.  
**Invocation**  
Mayor Pro Tem Edwards 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**  
Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to approve the November 14, 2022 agenda as presented. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
4. **Amendment or Approval of Minutes**  
Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of October 24, 2022. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer announced that Calhoun city offices will be closed Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup> in observance of Thanksgiving.
- B. Mayor Palmer welcomed members of the 2022/2023 Youth Leadership Gordon County program noting that this year's class includes 34 seniors which represent the four High School systems in Gordon County. (Calhoun, Gordon Central, Sonoraville, and Georgia Cumberland-Academy). These students represent their school systems as prospective future community leaders. The class is sponsored by the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Program. It will meet for 8 months outside of the school system during the FY 22/23 school year with the mission of introducing the students to Leadership opportunities within their community. Topics the class will be introduced to will include team building, community health and public safety, community economic development, community industry that includes a county tour day of local manufacturing, service and agriculture businesses, and government that includes meetings with the Calhoun City Council, Gordon County Commissioners and a trip to the Capitol to meet with the state legislative delegation. The intent is to introduce class members to the community and how community activities take place through government, local business influence and service industries. The vision of the program is that once the students graduate, they will volunteer and give back to their community. This is the 28th integration of this program conducted over the past 28 years. To date, approximately 1250 High School juniors and seniors have graduated from the program.

6. **Council Comments**

- A. Councilwoman Palazzolo submitted October reports as follows:

1) **Water and Sewer Operations**

**Water Treatment Plant**

- Total gallons withdrawn: 361,910,000
- Daily average: 11,674,516
- Wells: 141,160,000
- Big Springs: 0
- % produced by Brittany Drive: 39.0%
  - Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 38.58%
  - Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 44.50%
  - Rainfall for November – 1.63"

**Waste Water Treatment Plant**

- Treated a daily average of 4.139 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 3, average suspended effluent of 11, and an average COD of 60.

**Water Distribution & Wastewater Collection**

- 296 work orders completed, 17 new water connections, 16 water service leaks repaired, 13 water main leaks repaired, 0 water services changed to new main lines, 164 meter changes, 40 utility locates called in for work orders, 680 utility locates responses.

- 2,350 feet of Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 413 utility locates completed, 5,450 feet sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 6 new sewer connections installed, 3 sanitary sewer services repaired.

2) **Water and Sewer Construction Projects Under Construction**

- Fox Subdivision 2" galvanized water line replacement project 286. Project Complete
- McCraney Water & Sewer Line Extension- Construction has begun.

**Projects in Design & Development**

- South Interceptor Flow Study
- Union Grove North & South Sewer Extension
- Piedmont Water Line Replacement

3) **Library**

- There are 11,446 library card holders, 4,799 library visitors, and 5,609 total circulation.
- There were 152 story time attendance, 120 adult program attendance, 89 new users, 930 e-books, 890 audio books, 498 computer logins, and 2,528 Facebook visits.

B. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards submitted October reports as follows:

1) **Police Department**

- Made 187 cases with 2 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$43,104
- Issued 402 warnings
- Investigated 48 highway accidents, 35 private property accidents
- Obstruction - 4
- Lethal Weapon Encounter - 1
- Alarm responses - 88
- Miles patrolled: 49,286

2) **Municipal Court**

- Total Court cases-214
- Court cases dropped- 47
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 267
- Number of Probation cases- 33
- Failure to appear-31
- Subpoenas served- 3

3) **Fire Department**

<b>Fire Suppression Division</b>	
<b>183</b>	<b>Total reported calls for service for the Suppression Division</b>

Number of Calls	Dispatched Calls
0	Mobile Property Fire (Vehicle)
0	Fire, Other
0	Structure Fire
1	Natural Vegetation Fire
1	Outside Rubbish Fire
0	Excessive Heat, Scorch burns with no ignition
<b>2</b>	<b>Total Fire Calls</b>
1	Rescue Emergency Medical call (Other)
49	Medical Assist
75	Emergency Medical Services Incident
1	Lock-In
0	Search for Lost Person
0	Water or ice related rescue
0	Extrication
0	Rescue or EMS Standby
<b>126</b>	<b>Total Medical Calls</b>
0	Flammable Gas or Liquid Condition / other
0	Combustible / Flammable Liquids Spills and Leaks
1	Chemical Release, Reaction or Toxic Condition
1	Electrical Wiring / Equipment problems
<b>2</b>	<b>Total Hazardous Conditions Incidents (NO FIRE: Leaks, Spills, Electrical Hazards; All Other Hazardous Conditions without injuries)</b>
0	Potential Accident
0	Service Call other
0	Water Problem
1	Smoke / Odor Problem
1	Person in Distress
0	Public Service Assistance
1	Good Intent call
1	Unauthorized Burning
<b>4</b>	<b>Total Service / Good Intent Calls (Non-Emergency; Water Leak; Assist Other Agencies; Odors)</b>
25	Dispatched and Canceled En-Route
6	Wrong location / No Emergency Found
0	Controlled Burning
0	Steam or gas mistaken for smoke
0	Haz Mat Release investigation w/ no Haz Mat found
7	False Alarm and False Call Other
0	Bomb Scare (Nothing Found)
0	Malicious Mischievous false alarm

7	System or Detector Malfunction
3	Unintentional System / Detector Operation (No Fire)
<b>48</b>	<b>Total False Alarms or False Calls</b>
0	Severe Weather & Natural Disaster
<b>0</b>	<b>Total Severe Weather &amp; Natural Disaster Calls</b>
1	
1	Special Incident Type (Citizen Complaint; Other)
<b>1</b>	<b>Total Special Incident Type</b>

<b>Additional Fire Department Activities:</b>	
	Assisted with Home Depot Safety Fair with Fire fighter dressed as Sparky the Fire Dog.
	Firefighter Mike Chavez spoke to a class at CHS about Firefighting.
	Had an Engine and crew at the DFACS office for Foster Kids night.
	CFD members attended the Public Safety Appreciation night at the Gordon Central Football Game on Oct.27th.

### Training Division

<b>794</b>	<b>Total Man Hours of training during the month</b>
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<b>Training consisted of:</b>	
<p>Training included firefighter survival, escaping hostile environments, downed firefighter packaging and rescue, pressurized container fires, flammable liquids, forcible entry, fire attack and oriented search. This was for Recruits and was for recertification for on duty personnel. Also, on duty personnel assisted with the instruction in these classes.</p>	

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

<b>138</b>	<b>Total Reported Activities / Inspections completed during the month</b>
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<b><u>Inspections / Enforcement Activities</u></b>	
21	Annual Inspection
2	New Business Inspections
24	Requested Inspections
18	Follow Up, Re-Inspections
2	Burn Site Inspections
4	Plan Reviews
0	Pre-Construction Meeting
0	Sprinkler Permits Issued

0	Fuel Tank Permit (Install, Removal or Service)
42	Consultations
0	Illegal Burning Citations
1	Fire Extinguisher Classes
0	Fire Drills
24	Fire Prevention Programs
0	Zoning / Annexation Meetings
<b>138</b>	<b>Total</b>
<p>-</p> <p>Inspections attended LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) meeting.</p> <p>Fire Safety Programs at: Calhoun Primary - 980 students, Calhoun Pre-K / Kindergarten - 550 students, Brighter Tomorrows Day care - 45 Students.</p> <p>Fire Extinguisher class @ 101 Frank Dickenson Drive.</p>	

4) **Safety Committee**

- No safety meeting was held and no safety inspections were performed in October.
  - Vehicle accidents: 2
  - Workers' compensation: 7

C. Councilman Denmon submitted October reports as follows:

1) **Public Works**

**Street Department**

1. Completed 31 shop and 25 street dept. work orders.
2. Installed 6 new street signs.
3. Built a catch basin on Wexford drive to help with storm water.
4. Began the annual leaf cleanup all over town.

**Cemetery**

1. Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler cemetery.
2. Supervised the opening and closing of 9 grave sites.
3. Sold 1 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. Check Christmas lights and prepare decorations to be put in place.

**Animal Control**

- Housed 11 dogs and 4 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 2
- Number of cats adopted: 0
- Number of dogs rescued: 6
- Number of cats rescued: 4
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 0
- Number of cats reclaimed by owner: 0

- Number of dogs euthanized: 0
- Number of cats euthanized: 0
- Number of warnings given: 14
- Number of bite cases: 1
- Citations issues: 1

2) **Recreation Department**

1. **FALL PROGRAMS –**

**Youth football** – The 2022 youth football regular season concluded on October 29. Twenty-eight games were played throughout the month. Our all-star football teams will play in the GRPA north regionals December 3-4, 2022 at Carrollton.

**Youth Soccer** – The Fall Soccer season concluded on November 1. Ninety-seven games were played throughout the month. Our department will be hosting GRPA District for the u8, u10 and U12 Boys. The tournament will be November 19-20.

**Girls Volleyball** – The 10u, 12u, and 14u girls’ volleyball regular season concluded October 6. Twenty-four matches were held at our gym in October. The GRPA District tournament was played October 21-22 at Catoosa County. We had 2 10u girls and 1 12u girls team competing in district. Our 10u Girls teams finished champion and runner-up played in Catoosa County. The 10u Girls will play in the GRPA State Championships November 11-12.

**Tennis** – Fall leagues – Fall Combo, Fall Tennis 101 and Fall Quads.

**Basketball Registration** – registration was open October 1 through October 27.

Assessments were held October 29 and 30.

2. **COACHES APPRECIATION BANQUET** - was held Wednesday, October 5 for all of our volunteer coaches. The event was held at the Depot and recognized our coaches in all of our sports. We had 75 of our volunteer coaches participate. The following sponsors helped to make this event possible – Mohawk, Coca-Cola and United Way.

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

Playground Pavilion –14 events	Ratner Pavilion – 6 events
Community Room – 5 events	Meeting Room – 4 events

4. **WEBSITE USAGE:**

CalhounRec.com	Facebook
4,116 – Views	2,472 – Post Engagements
7 –post	4,560 - Reach
3,422 - Users	

5. **FACILITY MAINTENANCE:**

1-Prepared CHS softball field

- 2-Repainted soccer fields for weekly play
- 3-Repainted football field and flag field for weekly play
- 4-Weekly mowed/weed eat all parks
- 5-Cleaned and pressure washed Yellow/Black Playground Pavilion
- 6-Trimmed and weeded planters –new complex
- 7-Field maintenance – 3 softball/baseball fields – new complex
- 8-Daily maintenance throughout parks

**6. UPCOMING EVENT:**

**Santa's Workshop** – November 20 – ages 4-10 – 1:00pm – 5:00pm –  
Downtown Calhoun – Greenspace/across from City Hall

**3) Downtown Development Authority**

The HPC each held their regularly scheduled meeting. The Gordon County School kids that participated in the fire hydrant contest have selected their winners. They will have them painted in December.

Downtown Trick or Treating was on October 31st from 4-6 PM. It had record attendance. The Christmas Tree Lighting has been scheduled for November 20th at 6:30 PM in front of City Hall. Downtown Open House will also be on November 20th from 1 PM-6 PM. The Christmas Parade is scheduled for December 8th at 7 P.M. Applications are available at the Depot. The annual Moonlight Madness is scheduled for December 16th. Doro's Italian Restaurant located at 114 Court Street opened. The HPC is working on installing six more historic signs for buildings in downtown.

**Downtown Visits**

- 6-Oct GEM Theatre
- 10-Oct Healing Hands
- 13-Oct Owen Security
- 18-Oct Mother Nature's Eden
- 21-Oct Doro's
- 22-Oct Wake Up Barber Shop
- 25-Oct Moxy
- 27-Oct Calhoun Coffee Company
- 31-Oct Downtown Trick or Treat

**Social Media Posts**

- 3-Oct Sweet Table
- 4-Oct Downtown Trick or Treat
- 6-Oct Pumpkin Patch
- 14-Oct Library Dungeons & Dragons Workshop
- 20-Oct Doro's
- 24-Oct Pumpkin Painting
- 28-Oct Downtown Trick or Treat
- 31-Oct Downtown Trick or Treat

D. Councilman Moyer submitted October reports as follows:

**1) Electric Department  
Winter is Coming, are you ready?**

**Preparing Your Home for Winter:**

Block out the cold - check or replace your weather stripping around doors and windows, have your furnace inspected and change the filter, insulate outside faucets and pipes. If you use space heaters, please understand a 1,500-watt space heater running 8 hours per day will cost you over \$30 per month.

**Current Electrical Department Engineering and Construction:**

- Christmas lights are going up. Please drive with caution when approaching the work zone.
- The LED Streetlight upgrade continues around the city.
- Electrical Engineering continues and materials are being ordered for the Exchange Apartments and the Manor Lake Cottages of Calhoun on Curtis Parkway and the 53 Townhomes at Old Mill. Electrical Engineering has also begun for the new Mavis Tire and Brakes, H. D. Fibers and for the I-75 crossings so Calhoun can serve new customers.
- Construction continues on the Hamilton Medical Complex, the new Chipotle Restaurant at 530 East Hwy 53, the new Convenience Store at 601 S. Wall and the system upgrades necessary for the new growth and increased reliability.

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

• NEWLY CREATED	82
• COMPLETED AND CLOSED	89
• CONSISTING OF:	
• CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION	35
• DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE	3
• OUTAGES / TROUBLE CALLS	12
• SECURITY / STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE	6
• TEMPORARY POWER HOOK UP	1
• WORK FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS	20
• NEW METER SETS	7
• METER MAINTENANCE/REPLACEMENT	7
• ELECTRIC LOCATE TICKETS PROCESSED-	290

The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for October 2022 is estimated to be about 28 million kilowatt hours (kWh's). This is about five million kWh's less than October of 2021. Actual numbers will be released around November 18<sup>th</sup>.

In October the Educational Solar Array, a partnership between Calhoun Utilities, Calhoun City Schools and the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA), produced 7,270 kWh's of electricity and provided a carbon offset of 11,399 pounds or the equivalent carbon sequestration of 87 trees.

## 2) **Telecommunications**

- Installed two new internet circuits.
- New Police Department Update
  - Moving Police Department staff and officers into their new offices.
  - Worked with vendor to put camera system and
- Configured network and switch for new Rec Department Maintenance Building.
- Installed permanent replacement switch at Water Plant. Original switch was damaged by lightning in September.
- Financial software go-live was October 20<sup>th</sup>. The transition was not seamless as users had to work with support on several operational and printing issues.
- Already had to add 300 Gigabytes of hard drive space to new server.
- Repaired customer fiber drop damaged by owner doing yard work.
- Continue to work on replacing domain name managed service for city and customer websites.
- Filed quarterly FCC and PSC reports.
- Unable to report opened and closed work orders for the month. Several work order system reports have not been working correctly since their upgrade in June. This is making it difficult for departments to accurately report status.

## **Geographic Information Systems**

- Received requests for utility maps for proposed developments from developers.
- Worked with Engineering Department on water system modeling.
- Updated
  - Water system and water meter location updates and mapping.
  - Cemetery mapping
  - Fiber mapping
  - Zoning
  - Fire Department pre-plan for buildings.
- Generated Electric usage reports.
- Updated Physical addressing, building and billing information.
- Updated City and GIS web sites

## 3) **Building Inspections**

- Issued 70 permits for an estimated cost of \$32,109,356, collected \$171,329 in permit fees. This included 8 new residential, 2 residential remodel, 1 new commercial, 1 commercial remodel, 1 new industrial, 0 industrial remodel, 6 residential plumbing, 6 residential electrical, 0 commercial plumbing, 12 residential HVAC, 0 commercial HVAC, 4 commercial electrical, 0 industrial plumbing, and 5 industrial electrical. 210 total inspections.

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 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 a distilled spirits, wine, and beer pouring license request at a location of 114 Court Street, by Doros Italian Calhoun LLC. Miguel Villegas is the officer of the corporation and will also be 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 Alcohol Request. Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to approve the request. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards 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 to vary from 120 square feet to 400 square feet in size to install a monument sign serving five tenants, at a location of 319 Clarence King Parkway, parcel C47A-001, by Fox & Brindle. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held December 8<sup>th</sup> and the public hearing on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

B. Mayor Palmer read a request from the Gordon County Board of Health to reappoint Lisha Nichelson for an additional six-year term. Lisha's current term expires December 31, 2022. If reappointed the new term will expire December 31, 2028. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to reappoint Ms. Nichelson. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

C. Mayor Palmer read a manager change request at a location of 450 West Belmont Drive, by Walmart #1215. The prior manager was Tien Trinh and the proposed new manager is Austin Dalton. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the manager change request. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

D. Mayor Palmer read a road closure request by the Downtown Development Authority to close Hicks Street between Wall Street and Piedmont Street for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting to be held on the front lawn of City Hall on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. The request is to close the street from 6:00pm till 9:00pm. Due to the potential large crowd, the street closure will help provide a larger area for the participants without vehicular traffic. The lighting will be at 6:30pm and pictures with Santa until 8:30pm. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to approve the

road closure request. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

10. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda

11. Work Reports

- A. Paul Worley, City Administrator announced that a ribbon cutting would be held at the new police department located at 10 McDaniel Station Road, on November 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. He also noted that all divisions should be moved in to the new building this week.
- B. Kyle Ellis, Assistant Utilities Administrator had nothing to report.
- C. George Govignon, City Attorney had nothing to report.

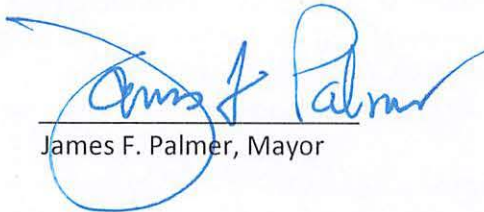
12. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed

13. Motion to return to General Session

14. Motion to Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Council, Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Approved:

  
James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:

  
Sharon Nelson, City Clerk

