

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
JANUARY 14, 2013 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
George Govignon, City Attorney
Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager
Jeff DeFoor, Director of Electric Utilities
Paul Worley, City Clerk
Jerry Crawford, Water and Sewer Director
Gary Moss, Chief of Police
Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief
Brad Carrick, Telecommunications Director
Danny Stephens, Water Plant Superintendent
Mark Williamson, Superintendent of Water & Sewer Construction
Kevin McEntire, Director of Public Works
Andrea Bramlet, Director of Finance Utilities & General Government
David Burnett, Manager of Engineering Department
Kim Townsend, Recreation Director
Eric Stewart, Golf Professional
Suzanne Roland, DDA/Mainstreet Director
Judith Arnold, Customer Service Manager
Bobby Robertson, Superintendent of Water & Sewer Maintenance
Harold Franklin, Golf Course Superintendent**

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
 - A. City Councilman Crowley 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 Edwards seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.
4. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2012 City Council Meetings. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

5. Mayor's Comments:

- A. Mayor Palmer reminded the public of a sign variance request by Phillip Beamer for Arby's Restaurant at a location of 1098 Red Bud Road. The 30 foot height variance is needed to relocate the existing sign to comply with a Georgia Department of Transportation request. The ZAB will meet on February 7th and the public hearing will be on February 11th.
- B. Mayor Palmer reminded the public of a sign variance request by Haley Stephens at a location of 1052 Red Bud Road. The variance request is for a 185 square foot sign. Current ordinance allows for a 120 square foot sign. Variance request of 65 square feet. The ZAB will meet on February 7th and the public hearing will be on February 11th.
- C. Mayor Palmer announced the 2013 appointments of City Council member's appointments, per sec. 2-33 of the Calhoun Code of Ordinances would stay the same as last year's appointments.
 - 1) Mayor Pro Tem Edwards- Police, Municipal Court, Fire, Zoning Advisory Board, Downtown Development, Main Street Partnership.
 - 2) Councilman Barton- Street, Sanitation, Cemetery, Animal Control, Safety Committee, Recreation and Parks
 - 3) Councilman Hammond- North West Georgia Regional Commission, Electric, Telecommunications and Airport.
 - 4) Councilman Crowley- Water and Sewer Operations, Water and Sewer Construction, Building Inspection, Revolving Loan Committee and Schools.
- D. Mayor Palmer reminded the Council that the Mayor's Day Conference will be on January 26-28, 2013 in Atlanta.

6. Council Comments:

- A. Councilman Edwards gave the December reports as follows:
 - 1) **Police Department**
 - Made 543 cases with 8 DUI's
 - Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$60,817.40
 - Issued 776 warnings
 - Investigated 74 highway accidents, 24 private property accidents
 - Provided 71 escorts
 - 1,585 incident reports
 - Responded to 712 alarms
 - Patrolled 47,273 miles
 - Responded to 4,680 calls for service by E-911
 - 2) **Municipal Court and Probation**
 - Total Court cases- 439
 - Court cases dropped- 80
 - Number of Bond forfeitures- 263
 - Number of Probation cases- 42
 - Probation Payments- \$12,565.00
 - Probation Revocations- 9

- Failure to appear- 46
- Prisoner transports- 21

3) Fire Department

- Responded to 168 calls for service for the suppression division, 6 fire incidents for damages
- Responded to 107 medical service calls
- Responded to 15 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 22 false alarms or false calls, 12 good intent, 2 special incident type
- All shift personnel attended a walk through on the new Calhoun High School project to learn about the construction and fire protection features of the new building.
- Total calls answered by the Fire Suppression Division in 2012 were: 1,858

4) Training Division

- Completed 404 total man hours of in house training
- Total man hours of training for 2012 (March through December)- 7,250

5) Fire Inspection Department

- 78 total reported activities/inspections which included 21 annual inspections, 2 new business inspections, 18 requested inspections, 5 follow-up or re-inspections, 1 plan Review, and 30 consultations
- Total activities for inspections for 2012 were: 1,629

5) Downtown Development Authority and Main Street Program

- The DDA has seen businesses come - and some go from the Downtown area during 2012. Overall, the buildings maintain an occupancy rate of over 90%, with well over 500 employees, a dozen restaurants, government buildings, several professional, service and retail businesses, a library, two entertainment venues, historic buildings, a City Park and much more. A sad note for the DDA district in 2012 was losing the long-time retail anchor, Keene's Fashions. Mrs. Nettie Hollingsworth has retired after many years in the women's fashion business and she will be sorely missed.
- Completed Phase III of the Downtown Streetscape projects - New curbs, guttering, sidewalks, street lamps and furnishings were installed along the east side of Wall Street from City Hall to BB&T Bank. Sod and several new trees were planted during Phase III. We believe it accomplished a safer environment for pedestrians and cleaned up an area of sidewalk that was in need of repair.
- The concept report has been finalized and we are waiting for a Notice to Proceed from GDOT for Phase IV. This phase will be on both sides of Wall Street, beginning at City Hall, going south to the intersection of

Wall and Piedmont Streets. We appreciate the GDOT Transportation Enhancement Grants that were received for both of these two phases, totaling \$600,000.

B. Councilman Barton gave the December reports as follows:

1) **Street Department**

- Completed 9 shop and 9 street department work orders.
- Placed 8 new street signs.
- Inspected and maintained approximately 98 miles of streets and storm drainage.
- Ran the storm water maintenance plan checking all grates and pipes in the City.

2) **Cemetery Department**

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 9 grave sites.
- Sold 9 new grave spaces.
- Worked 9 grave sites.

3) **Rabies Control**

- Housed 17 dogs, and 5 cats
- Issued 11 warnings
- Answered 56 customer calls

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 sidewalks, 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.

5) **Safety Committee**

- Safety topic- Substance abuse
- Safety Inspection- Police Department
- Accidents: Vehicle Accident: 1- meter reading
- Workers Comp: 1- water construction

6) **Recreation Department**

- **Youth Basketball** – Youth Basketball games started on December 14. There were 25 youth basketball games played December 14 through December 20, along with 163 practices held December 1 through 20. The partnership with the Community Education allows us to be able to use the Calhoun Primary and Elementary gyms as our alternate gyms for games and practices. All gym space was maxed out during the month of December.

- **Youth Football** - Youth Football wrapped up with the 9-10 Football team winning the GRPA State Championship. The team was recognized at the December 17 City Council meeting.
- **Youth Soccer** – The U10 and U12 Soccer teams won the GRPA State Championship. Both teams were recognized at the December 17 City Council meeting. Registration for our Spring Youth Soccer program began Monday, January 7, 2013.
- **3rd ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TOURNAMENT:** The 3rd Annual Christmas Youth Basketball tournament was held December 27 – December 31. A total of 16 teams participated in this event. There were 7 teams representing Calhoun Recreation Department; 6 teams representing Gordon County Parks and Recreation; 2 teams representing Pickens County Recreation Department and 1 teams representing Whitfield County Parks and Recreation Department. This event is an annual fundraiser for the Gordon County United Way.

C. Councilman Crowley gave the December report as follows:

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

- Brittany Drive Expansion Project- Forming for the pipe gallery roof is underway.
- Maintenance crews are approximately 75% complete with the upgrades to the Coosawattee intake. The project consists of replacing check valves and switch gears for three of the four raw water pumps.
- Water and Sewer relocation for the Union Grove Interchange has begun and is approximately 90% complete.
- Harris Beamer Water Main – This project is nearing completion.
- Engineering design for the wholesale connection with Floyd County has been completed. Meter pit installation is under construction.
- SR 136 and I-75 GDOT water main relocation- GDOT has given the City a notice to proceed to begin relocation of utilities. Construction has begun and is approximately 65% complete.

2) **Water Treatment Plant Facility**

- Total gallons withdrawn: 270,710,000
- Daily average: 8,732,580
- Wells: 123,660,000
- Big Springs: 0
- Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 45.6
- Rainfall- 6.8"

3) **Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility**

- Treated a daily average of 4.608 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 5, average suspended effluent of 10, and an average COD of 50.

4) Water Distribution

- 1 Water connections, 15 water service leaks repaired, 22 water main leaks repaired, 1 fire hydrant repaired, 2 change out of meters, 78 work orders completed, 33 utility locates called in for work orders, 313 utility locates responded to, and 59 misc. calls
- Completed installing 8" water line along Harris Beamer Road
- Replaced 8" water meter that serves Chatsworth Water with new Omni style meter.
- Installed 8" by-pass line around Pickens County meter pit on Orr Mill Road.
- Replaced 8" water meter that serves Pickens County with new Omni style meter.

5) Waste Water Collection

- 1,125' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 221 utility locates completed, 2 lift station repairs completed, 6,200' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 84 manholes opened and inspected

6) Building Inspection Department

- Issued 15 permits for an estimated cost of \$206,495.25. This included 1 new residential, 2 residential remodeling, 2 commercial electrical, 1 industrial electrical, 3 residential electrical, and 5 sign permits

D. Councilman Hammond gave the December report as follows:

1) Electric Department

- Construction has begun on installing a new underground electrical service to the new liquor store on West Line Street
- Electrical Engineering has begun on Haley Stephens new restaurant on Red Bud Road
- Electrical Engineering has begun for Kobelco's new motor grader production line
- Electrical Engineering has begun on Streetscape Phase # 4

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 39
- Completed and closed- 26
- Consisting of:
 - Street and security lighting-11
 - New business and maintenance-4
 - After hours trouble and callouts-6
 - City electrical maintenance-6
 - Meter maintenance/replacement- 22
 - New customer meter sets- 10
 - Monthly total system locate tickets processed- 167

Electric system supplied a new record of 30,493,706 KWH in December

- This is up 0.4% from 2011 which was the previous December record. 2012 fiscal year saw an increase of 8.5% over 2011. The first 6 months of fiscal

year 2013 continues this trend by showing a 6% increase over the same period in 2012.

2) Telecommunications Departments:

- Started work on upgrading a customer's circuit to support 200 Meg.
- Added 10 Meg of Internet to existing customer.
- Temporarily repaired fiber break on Wrights Hollow Rd. Planning reroute to remove fiber run through a field and eliminate the chance for another break.
- Disconnected two Internet customers
- Purchased and successfully tested two IP cameras on the network.
- Opened and closed 12 work orders.

3) Geographic Information Systems:

- Updated and added new pre-fire plans to buildings for the Fire Department
- Mapped changes to mountain bike trails around Kirby Road water tank.
- Worked with Electric Department to verify primary circuit phasing from substation 3.
- Continue to assist Engineering with wastewater inflow/infiltration project, water valve identification tagging, and water hydrant and hydrant valve inventory.
- Updated City and GIS websites

4) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

- The commission is currently focusing on work force development for the 15 county region. One of the new programs is called "Prove It" which is an online assessment program that people will be able to use to evaluate their job skills and areas that they may need to improve to help them get a new job. Gordon County's current unemployment rate is lower than some surrounding counties at 9.3% as compared to Whitefield at 9.7% and Murray at 10.4%.

5) Tom B. David Airport

- The airport is currently doing environmental engineering studies concerning the new taxiway. The airport is the 7th largest permanent based aircraft airport in the state of Georgia.

7. Public Hearings and Comments: None

8. Old Business: None

9. New Business:

- A. Mayor Palmer asked for a motion regarding selection of Mayor Pro Tem for 2013. Councilman Crowley made a motion to nominate Councilman Edwards as Mayor Pro

Tem for 2013. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

- B. Mayor Palmer asked for the following department heads to be re-appointed for 2013.

General Government Division:

City Administrator- Eddie Peterson
City Clerk- Paul Worley
Director of Finance Utilities & General Gov. – Andrea Bramlett
Police Chief – Garry Moss
Director of Probation- Neal Russell
Fire Chief - Lenny Nesbitt
Director of Public Works - Kevin McEntire
Recreation Director – Kimberly Townsend
Golf Professional – Eric Stewart
Superintendent of Golf Maintenance - Harold Franklin
DDA/Mainstreet Director – Suzanne Roland

- Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the reappointment of stated department heads for the General Government Division. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

Utility Division:

Director of Utilities – Larry Vickery
Director of Water & Sewer - Jerry Crawford
Director of Electric – Jeff Defoor
Director of Telecommunications – Brad Carrick
Manager of Engineering Department – David Burnett
Superintendent of Water Treatment – Danny Stephens
Superintendent of Water & Sewer Construction – Mark Williamson
Superintendent of Sewer Treatment – John Banks
Superintendent of Water & Sewer Maintenance– Bobby Robertson

- Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the reappointment of stated department heads for the Utility Division. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

- C. Mayor Palmer read a list of appointments to the following City positions for 2013: City Chaplain- Dr. Bert Vaughn, City Attorney- George Govignon, Municipal Court Judge- Honorable Suzanne Hutchinson-Smith, Indigent Defense Attorney- Ms. Rebecca Paris, and Town Marshal- Randy Jackson.

- Councilman Edwards made a motion to appoint the stated City positions for 2013. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- D. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of an annexation and zoning of R-1 for 8.04 acres at a location of 527 Henderson Bend Road for Tolbert Brooks Gallman. The ZAB meeting will be on March 7th and the public hearing will be on March 11th.
- E. Mayor Palmer read the qualifying fees for 2013 General Election- City Council Post 3- currently held by Matt Barton and Post 4- currently held by David Hammond; School Board Post 1- currently held by Amy Atkinson, Post 2- currently held by Rhoda Washington, and Post 3- currently held by David Scoggins.
- City Council- \$144.00
 - School Board- \$1.00
 - Councilman Barton made a motion to set the City Council's qualifying fee at \$144.00. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - Councilman Hammond made a motion to set the School Board's qualifying fee at \$1.00. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- F. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a taxicab license request for Isidro Sanchez Barrera, owner, D/B/A: Taxi El Aguila at a location of 820 North Wall Street. The public hearing will be on February 11th.
- G. Mayor Palmer reviewed an agreement for a traffic control safety project between Georgia Department of Transportation and the City of Calhoun. The agreement is a result of the City receiving a \$93,862.68 grant from GDOT. The grant money will provide safety installations, signage, thermoplastic striping and markings for City streets at no cost to the City. Councilman Edwards made a motion to allow the Mayor to sign the GDOT agreement. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- H. Mayor Palmer reviewed a resolution in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 32-7-2(b)(3) regarding willingness and desire to take over the proposed portions of Linda Lane and East May Street that the County seeks to abandon and transfer to the City. Attorney Govignon explained that Gordon County has scheduled a public hearing concerning the proposed abandonment of these roads on February 5th and that the City passing the resolution stating its willingness to receive the ownership of the roads will help to ease any concerns from citizens about the abandonment process. Mayor Palmer stated that the City plans to take the responsibility of the roads and to make improvements such as curb and guttering which will eventually tie into the future improvements to Peters Street. Councilman Edwards made a motion to allow the Mayor to sign the resolution. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. (copy attached)
- I. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a beer pouring request for Steve Bayzid DBA: Paisano's Mexican Restaurant at a location of 803 South Wall Street. Councilman Hammond made a motion to set the public hearing for February 11th. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- J. Mayor Palmer stated that the Fiscal Year 2012 Financial Audit was submitted to the State of Georgia on December 21st and thanked the Finance Department for all of the hard work put into the process.

10. Other written items not on the agenda: None

11. Work Reports:

A. Eddie Peterson, City Administrator

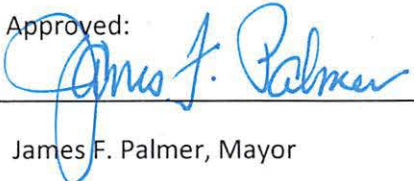
A. Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager

- Mr. Vickery stated that he had emailed the Council a mutual aid agreement with the Georgia Water & Wastewater Agency Response Network for their review and the agreement would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

B. George Govignon, City Attorney

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

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Paul Worley, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION OF
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CALHOUN, GEORGIA**

WHEREAS, the GORDON COUNTY (hereinafter "COUNTY") has initiated the process for abandonment of certain roadways that are part of the county road system located within the municipal limits of the CITY OF CALHOUN (hereinafter "CITY"); and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the COUNTY to abandon Linda Lane and that portion of East May Street running from Linda Lane to Peters Street in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. §32-7-2(b)(1) as they have determined that removal of these thoroughfares from the county road system would be in the best public interest; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTY has provided the CITY with notice of its intention to abandon these streets in accordance with O.C.G.A. §32-7-2(b)(2); and

WHEREAS, the COUNTY will be conducting public hearings on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 6:00 PM regarding the proposed abandonment; and

WHEREAS, the CITY finds a willingness and desire to take over the roadways that the COUNTY seeks to abandon, and therefore assume municipal ownership and responsibility for the public maintenance of same in accordance with O.C.G.A. §32-7-2(b)(3); and

WHEREAS, the adoption of this resolution prior to the public hearing in February would serve to assist the COUNTY in assuring that the abandonment procedure is required for a statutory transfer of these roads to the City map, and that none of the proposed streets will be closed from public traffic; and

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that should the COUNTY be successful in obtaining a statutory certification of abandonment with regard to Linda Lane and that portion of East May Street running from Linda Lane to Peters Street in accordance with O.C.G.A. §32-7-2(b)(1), it is the intent of the City to receive ownership of same by execution of a quitclaim deed, and immediately assume the responsibility for public maintenance of same in accordance with O.C.G.A. §32-7-2(b)(3).

This 14th day of January, 2013.

THE CITY OF CALHOUN, GEORGIA

BY: 
JAMES F. PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST: 
PAUL WORLEY, CITY CLERK

**A RESOLUTION
OF THE
CITY OF CALHOUN**

APPROVING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPANT CONTRACT AMONG ALL PARTICIPANTS RESPECTING PARTICIPATION IN ELECTRIC CITIES OF GEORGIA, INC.; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION, DELIVERY AND PERFORMANCE OF SUCH CONTRACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, all 52 political subdivisions or other governmental bodies owning or operating electric distribution systems in the State of Georgia (the "Participants"), including City of Calhoun (the "Participant"), caused to be formed Electric Cities of Georgia, Inc. ("ECG"), as successor to GMA's Electric Section, on September 2, 1992, in order to facilitate increased joint action among the Participants; and

WHEREAS, ECG is a Georgia nonprofit corporation under the Georgia Nonprofit Code and an instrumentality of the Participants under Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code; and

WHEREAS, each Participant has entered into a Participant Services Contract, as amended and supplemented (together, the "Services Contracts") with ECG, evidencing, along with ECG's Articles and Bylaws, (a) each Participants' rights and obligations as an ECG Participant and (b) ECG's rights and obligations to the Participants, including to operate for the benefit of the Participants and in furtherance of ECG's purpose, as set forth in its Articles, "to permit each Participant to make the most efficient use of its powers by enabling it to cooperate with the other Participants on a basis of mutual advantage and thereby to provide services and facilities in a manner ... that will accord the best geographic, economic, population and other factors influencing the needs and development of local communities, thereby achieving economies of scale, maximizing the executive, managerial and professional expertise that can be made available and lessening the burdens of government"; and

WHEREAS, ECG operates on a nonprofit basis on behalf of each of the Participants, having no purpose other than to benefit the Participant directly or through economies of scale, and all of its Annual Costs and benefits are shared and allocated among the Participants; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with its Bylaws, ECG is controlled by its Board of Directors, which is elected by the Participants from nominees that are residents or employees of one of the Participants, and its Directors are obligated to perform their duties in a manner each believes to be in ECG's best interests, which necessarily and at all times includes the Participants' best interests; and

WHEREAS, the Participants desire to effect certain changes to their relationship with ECG and among each other to, among other things, provide more long term stability respecting each independent Service and more flexibility to improve existing Services over time and develop new services while protecting the Participants' rights and options respecting the Services as much as practicable; and

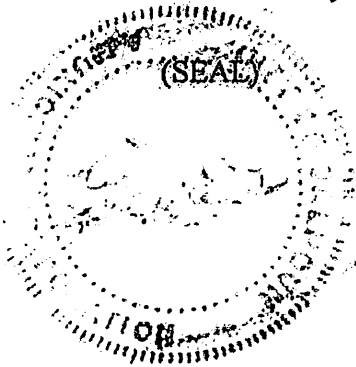
WHEREAS, the Participants and ECG desire that the Services Contracts be terminated effective on June 30, 2013 and have caused to be drafted an Intergovernmental Participant Contract, dated as of February 1, 2013, among the Participants (the "Contract"), which replaces the Services Contracts in their entirety and provides for ECG services to continue beginning July 1, 2013 under the Contract; and

PARTICIPANT:
CITY OF CALHOUN

By: *James F. Palmer*
Print Name: JAMES F. PALMER
Print Title: Mayor

ATTEST:

By: *Paul Worley*
Print Name: Paul Worley
Print Title: City Clerk



[Intergovernmental Participant Contract,
As of February 1, 2013,
Among all ECG Participants]

PARTICIPANT:
CITY OF SANDERSVILLE

By: James W. Andrews
Print Name: JAMES W. ANDREWS
Print Title: MAYOR

ATTEST:

By: Karnie S. Brown
Print Name: Karnie S. Brown
Print Title: City Clerk



[Intergovernmental Participant Contract,
As of February 1, 2013,
Among all ECG Participants]