



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2024 - 7:00 PM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Ed Moyer, Mayor Pro Tem
Ray Mitchell Denmon, Councilmember
Al Edwards, Councilmember

ALSO: Paul Worley, City Administrator; Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief; Christy Nicholson, Police Department.

1. **Council Meeting Called to Order**
Welcome
Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
Invocation
Councilmember 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**
Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer 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 January 22, 2024. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer read a proclamation declaring the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the proclamation as presented. Councilmember Denimon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer announced that advanced early voting for the November 5th General Election will begin on October 15th, and will include Saturday, October 19th and 26th.
- C. Mayor Palmer announced that Downtown trick or treating will be held from 4 pm to 6 pm on October 31st.

6. **Council Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer submitted September reports as follows:

1) **Electric Department**

Current Electrical Department Engineering and Construction:

- The LED Streetlight upgrade continues around the City.
- Electrical Engineering continue for the new townhomes on Newtown Rd, New townhomes on Professional Ct.
- Construction continues on the 53 Townhomes at Old Mill, Home to Suites Hotel on Lovers Lane, Salacoa Subdivision, The new overhead line extension on Marine Dr, and The City of Calhoun building and planning building. The Electric Dept is continuing system upgrades necessary for the new growth and increased reliability.
- Construction also continues for the Exchange Apartments, Manor Lake Cottages of Calhoun on Curtis Parkway, and the new GBI building on McDaniel Station Rd.

WORK ORDERS IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED:

• NEWLY CREATED	88
• COMPLETED AND CLOSED	88
• CONSISTING OF:	
• CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION	44
• DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE	5
• OUTAGES / TROUBLE CALLS	6
• SECURITY / STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE	6
• TEMPORARY POWER HOOK UP	1

• WORK FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS	20
• NEW METER SETS	32
• METER MAINTENANCE/REPLACEMENT	11
• Electric Locate Tickets Processed-	222

The City of Calhoun’s Electrical load for September 2024 is about 32 million kilowatt hours (kWh’s).

The Electric Department assisted in mutual aid for St. Martinsville and Morgan City, Louisiana for Hurricane Francine. Our guys were there 11 days to come home and deploy again to The City of Douglas, Ga which was among the worst hit cities in Georgia. Thank you to all the crew members that are willing to assist.



2) Telecommunications

- Connected one internet service, started fiber construction on another new service and have 3 other installs pending. Disconnected two customers.
- Added 450 megabits of bandwidth to existing customer.
- Repaired a fiber drop cut by tree falling.
- Connected users at new Fire Department Admin Building to network and added Wi-Fi access point.
- Installed network rack, switch, security cameras and tested connection to network at remodeled Building Inspection Building.

- Updated hosting servers' operating systems.
- Filed Annual PSC Telecom report. Thanks to the Finance Department for their hard work in preparing the report!
- Opened 18 and closed 13 work orders.

Geographic Information Systems

- Worked with Engineering Department on water modeling sessions and meetings.
- Updated Pre-Fire Plan Data for Fire Department.
- Updated map data for Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory project.
- Generated Electric Usage Reports
- Updated data and mapping for the following:
 - Water system and meter updates
 - Fiber
 - Zoning
- Updated Physical addressing, building and billing information.
- Updated City and GIS web sites.

3) Building Inspections

Issued 267 permits for an estimated cost of \$7,015,670, collected \$62,946 in permit fees. This included 50 new residential, 2 residential remodel, 1 new commercial, 2 commercial remodel, 0 new industrial, 1 industrial remodel, 45 residential plumbing, 49 residential electrical, 32 residential HVAC, 2 commercial plumbing, 2 commercial electrical, 2 commercial HVAC, 3 industrial plumbing, and 2 industrial electrical. 591 total inspections.

4) Library

- There are 12,480 library card holders, 4,825 library visitors, and 6,386 total circulation.
- There were 107 story time attendance, 22 adult program attendance, 123 new users, 1,445 e-books, 1,679 audio books, 346 computer logins, and 3,922 Facebook visits.

B. Councilmember Edwards submitted September reports as follows:

1) Water and Sewer Operations

Water Treatment Plant

- Total gallons withdrawn: 0
- Daily average: 0
- Wells: 0
- Big Springs: 0
- % produced by Brittany Drive: %
 - Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: %
 - Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: %
 - Rainfall for November – 3.53"

Waste Water Treatment Plant

- Treated a daily average of 5.326 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 11, and an average COD of 80.

Water Distribution & Wastewater Collection

- 206 work orders completed, 24 new water connections, 29 water service leaks repaired, 33 water main leaks repaired, 0 water services changed to new main lines, 30 meter changes, 50 utility locates called in for work orders, 773 utility locates responses.
- 1,000 feet of Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 563 utility locates completed, 15,500 feet sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 0 new sewer connections installed, 9 sanitary sewer connections installed by contractors, 24 sanitary sewer services repaired.

2) Water and Sewer Construction

Projects Under Construction

- Service Line Inventory – As mandated by the EPA, every water system in the USA has to identify and develop a service line inventory of all services found within their water distribution system. The material verification and data submission portion of this project is now completed, which consisted of identifying approximately 23,500 water service lines in our system. All of the regulatory requirements for this project have been met.
- Water & Sewer Plant Maintenance Department Building – This project consists of constructing a 4,800 sq ft pre-engineered steel building in-between the sewer construction department and the wastewater treatment plant. Construction of this project is nearing completion with the final walk through scheduled for October 14th.
- Northwest Booster Station Header Modification Project – This project consists of upgrading the electrical components and repairing piping configurations within the booster station to eliminate premature pump failure. The first phase of this project is completed, and the final phase of this project is now underway. Anticipated completion date will be approximately near the end of October.
- Brittany Dr & Water Booster Stations Standby Generator Project – This project consists of installing a stationary and portable generator at the Brittany Dr WTP for emergency standby power, and retrofitting 5 water booster stations to accept the portable generator when it isn't needed at the plant. The project is out for rebid since we only received participation from one vendor. The portable 275 kW generator has also already been delivered.

- Redbud & Hwy 41 Intersection Water & Sewer Relocation – This project consists of relocating approximately 600' of water main, along with changing the elevation of a manhole to accommodate GDOT's road widening / turning lane addition project. The construction for this project is now underway.

Projects in Design & Development

- New Fire Tower Water Tank Project – Surveying Completed.
- Water Treatment Plant Modifications
- SR 53 & Brown Lee Mtn. Water Relocation
- Peters St. Phase III Water Relocation
- Curtis Pkwy Water & Sewer Relocation
- Spring Valley Sewer Rehabilitation Project – Surveying Completed.
- Yancey Lift Station Rehabilitation Project
- Engineering Department is Actively Working on Approximately 35 Plan Reviews & Inspections for Developments.

PFAS Update-September 2024

For the month of September, the following updates concerning PFAS are as follows:

- The evaluation of exchanging GAC within the existing filter beds at the Mauldin Rd WTP has been completed. We currently have GAC in 4 out of the 16 filters at this facility, and the task order has been initiated for Insite Engineering to produce bid and project submittal documents for state approval to exchange the remaining filters out. Upon completion, these efforts should produce water with drastically reduced PFAS levels.
- On 05/17/2024, carbon was ordered for the Brittany Dr water treatment plant to exchange out 2 of the 4 filters containing carbon. The exchange would replace two filters that were installed last July. The first filter was exchanged in August, with the second filter postponed for October due to lead times. Improvements with current PFAS levels are expected once completed. The exchange of the remaining two have been scheduled for February, which is a little early, but this should help combat fluctuating lead times.
- All of the pilot studies have been successfully transferred to the Brittany Dr WTP. Once the piloting is completed, we will begin the selection process for the best long-term solution for both of our water treatment facilities.

C. Councilmember Denmon submitted September reports as follows:

1) **Public Works**

Street Department

- Completed 32 shop and 230 street dept. work orders.
- Installed 6 new street signs.
- Cleaned out ditch at Old Red Bud road and College Street.
- Repaired pot holes and utility cuts using 23 tons of asphalt

Cemetery

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 10 grave sites.
- Sold 7 new grave spaces.

Parks Department

- The grounds crew picked up litter, mowed, trimmed bushes, hauled garbage to the dump, and maintained records at records room.
- The maintenance crew maintained designated buildings downtown.
- Restored nativity scene and Christmas sleigh for down town.

Animal Control

- Housed 17 dogs and 8 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 4
- Number of cats adopted: 1
- Number of dogs rescued: 2
- Number of cats rescued: 6
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 1
- 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: 0
- Citations issued: 0

2) **Recreation Department**

1) **FALL PROGRAMS:**

Youth Football – Games started on September 7. Thirty-three games were played at our facility throughout the month. Our teams have also traveled to Bartow Co., Cartersville and Gordon Co., recreation facilities to play games during the month.

Youth Soccer – Games started on September 9. Ninety-six were played throughout the month.

Youth Volleyball – Games started on September 5. Twenty-four matches were held in our facility during the month. Our 10u and 12u teams interleague with Gordon County. Our 14u team interleague with Gordon

Co., Bartow Co and Lafayette. Thirty-eight matches were played at our facility throughout the month. Our teams also traveled to Sonoraville Recreation Complex , Bartow Co. and Lafayette Recreation facilities for matches.

Cross Country – Our Cross Country runners participated in 4 meets during September. We hosted 2 of these meets on September 7 and October 2. Agencies participating in Cross Country are Dalton, Catoosa County and Calhoun.

Adult Volleyball – We have nine adult volleyball teams. There have been 16 matches played in the adult league this month.

Adult Fall Softball – Games started on September 17. There are 9 teams participating in the league. There were 12 games played during the month.

2) FACILITIES:

The following facilities were reserved throughout the month for events:

Playground Pavilion: 9 events Ratner Pavilion: 5 events Pool
– 2 events

Meeting Room – 4 events Community Room: 3 events

3) PARK MAINTENANCE:

The following parks maintenance tasks were completed during the month:

- Tree limbs and general park clean up
- Mowed all parks weekly
- Prepared Calhoun High School softball field for games all home games including middle school games
- Turf maintenance on football field
- Groomed flower planters
- Groomed front entrance and grounds of tennis center
- Lay out and painted flag football field
- Repainted soccer fields
- Prepped adult league softball fields
- Fire ant control

4) WEBSITE USAGE:

CalhounRec.com	Facebook
2,739 – Sessions	6,200 – Post Engagements
1,626– Users	44,700 – Reached
4,792 – Page Views	11 – Posts

5) UNITY RUN: 5 staff members assisted with the Unity Run on September 24

6) TENNIS COURT USAGE:

EVTA Men's/Women's 2.5, 3.0, 3.5
Combo 18 and Over, +40 League (75 Approx. Participants), 55+
Daily After 6pm – 90% of all courts are in use.
Tuesday/Thursday Morning Drills – (20 Participants)
Tennis 101/102 – Beginning October
Evening QUADS every Monday – All Courts
Boys and Girls UTR Competition occur every other Saturday
Highschool lessons Thursday afternoons

7) **PICKLEBALL:**

Lessons – 12 Participants per class
Monday/Wednesday 8-12yr 4pm-5pm
Monday/Wednesday 13-18yr 5pm-6:30pm
Beginner Monday Evenings 7-8:30pm All Ages
Beginner Tuesday Evenings 9am-10:30am All Ages
Saturday Performance Pickleball 11am-12:30pm All Ages
Performance Pickleball Wednesday 6:30pm-8pm All Ages

3) **Downtown Development Authority**

Downtown Calhoun Farmer's Market:

Our Fall Harvest Day was a blast! Even with the tricky weather, we had a steady flow of attendees helping our vendors have a very good day. It is always so nice to see couples and families spend a morning at the park together. The market will end the season at the end of October.

Website & Social Media:

We are still working on the website. Our social media reach is growing each month and we are excited to delve deeper into what new marketing data we have access to in order to grow downtown.

Downtown Properties:

New tenants have moved in to two properties downtown. Charlie's Modern Baby, a children's clothing store, is now located at 101 S Wall Street, on the corner of Wall and Court. Owner Scarlet Wright moved from a shopping center near Advent Hospital because she wanted her business to be part of a dedicated business district.

A new men's clothing store is soon to open at 105 S Wall Street (beside Mulkey's). Owners have been dreaming of opening the business for several years and jumped at the chance when a space downtown became available.

Both businesses have communicated that they chose downtown because of the foot traffic of the business district and liking the direction downtown is going. I look forward to partnering with them!

Downtown Beautification:

It is officially fall! I hope you've had a chance to view our new fall décor around the historic district. We chose to do something similar to what has been done in the past, only made a little bigger! The feedback so far has been loud and positive.

Maintaining the mums presented a bit of a challenge at first. Sierra and I personally watered them a couple times a week for week 1 and then received support from our lovely Parks Department! We are so thankful to them for helping us keep everything watered. I visited their shop where they showed me an old tank that could be used on the back of one of their Kubota carts. They are now helping us water the mums twice a week. It is saving our backs from carrying water pails and buckets! We do now see the potential for possibly adding flower planters over the summer as further downtown beautification during that season.

Halloween and Fall event:

Please note we have reversed our decision on downtown trick or treating. My last report to you stated we would not be facilitating it but after further discussion with merchants and business owners, we have decided to move forward as usual. I think once a decision was made, some felt they might be missing out on an opportunity and changed their minds. I plan to stress to everyone that their participation is entirely optional. The DDA will market the event for whoever decides to join.

Halloween trick or treating will be held from 4-6 pm on October 31st.

Rocktober Fest planning is in full swing. We are accepting vendors and rocking chair registrations. Please help us share the word about submitting a rocking chair. Our goal is to encourage more organizations, businesses and groups around town to dip their toe into a downtown event at a very low cost of entry. Vendor and Rocker applications can be found on our Facebook page, at the Depot or by emailing CalhounDDA@calnet-ga.net.

We have chosen Hocus Pocus for the outdoor movie and are still securing licensing. We will announce this publicly next week.

D. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer submitted September reports as follows:

1)Police Department

- Made 254 cases with 12 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$30,409
- Issued 308 warnings
- Investigated 65 highway accidents, 26 private property accidents
- Obstruction - 5
- Lethal Weapon Encounter - 0
- Alarm responses - 109
- Miles patrolled: 49,775

2)Municipal Court

- Citations from Police Department-254
- Court cases docketed- 226
- Probation cases assigned- 8
- Probation revocations- 1
- Bench warrants- 4
- Failure to appear- 39

3)Fire Department

Suppression Division

208 Total Calls for the month to include:

3 Fire Calls
146 Medical Calls
8 Hazardous Conditions calls (No Fire)
1 Service Calls
48 False Alarms or False Calls

- Average Total Response Times for Department:
Turn Out – 1:52
Travel – 3:43
Total Response Time – 5:35
- Promoted three Firefighters to the rank of Engineer: Tracy Holsomback (A Shift)
Jacob King (B Shift) and Kyle Dyer (C Shift).
- The Truck Committee, Chief Mills, Battalion Chief Green, Lieutenant Duke,
Lieutenant Gilbert and Engineer Dixon went to Sutphen Fire Trucks in Columbus Ohio for a Preconstruction meeting to finalize the details on the upcoming builds of the 75 foot Ladder Truck and the Pumper Truck. They also got an update on the 100 foot Ladder truck under construction

Inspections Division

94 Total Inspections for the month

Training Division

3343 Total Training Hours for the Department during the month.

14895.50 Total Annual Training Hours for the year.

Training Highlights:

- **Hosted several classes for Firefighters and recruits:**
Recruit Class successfully completed Georgia Public Safety Training Center's Interior Search and Rescue class.
 Officers successfully completed Georgia Public Safety Training Center's Fire Origin and Cause Determination for Company Officer course.
Recruits completed NPQ Firefighter I Certification Testing
 FF2 Cantrell, Dodd, Fowler, Sims, Thompson, Williams, and Engineer Pratt successfully completed NPQ Rope Level 1 Certification.
Hosted and Recruit Class successfully completed Georgia Public Safety Training Center's Crash Victim Extrication class.
Hosted and Recruit Class successfully completed Georgia Public Safety Training Center's Handling Flammable and Combustible Liquids class.
Hosted and Recruit Class successfully completed Georgia Public Safety Training Center's Pressurized Container Fire Control class.
Recruits completed NPQ Firefighter II Certification
 Hosted GSAR Quarterly Training for our GSAR team.
 Hosted State of Ga Structural Fire Control class.

Upcoming Classes:

- October 2024 – Recruit Class Continues
- October 7th, 2024 – CPR Calhoun High School
- October 8th, 2024 – CPR Calhoun High School
- October 11th, 2024 – NPQ Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations Testing Calhoun, Georgia
- October 14th, 2024 – Transitional and Intrapersonal Leadership Training Course Calhoun, Georgia
- October 21st, 2024 – Georgia Public Safety Training Center Health and Safety Program Manager Course Calhoun, Georgia
- October 29th, 2024 – Georgia Search and Rescue Quarterly Training Catoosa County, Georgia

4) Safety Committee

- There was no safety meeting in September. Matthew McHugh and Jeremy King inspected the Mauldin Water plant on September 19, 2024.
 - Vehicle accidents: 0
 - Workers' compensation: 3

7. Zoning Hearings 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 zoning request from PRD to R1-B, for 0.382 acres, at a location of 145 Green Row, being parcel C35-032, by Venture Communities. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting was held October 10th.

- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
- City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
- Councilmember Edwards gave the report on Zoning Advisory Board stating that the Board recommended approval of the 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 Zoning Change.
- Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning change request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

8. **Other Hearings and Comments**

9. **Old Business**

A. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an ordinance to amend certain sections of Part II – Code of Ordinances, adding Minimum Landscaping Requirements; to repeal all conflicting ordinances; to fix an effective date; and for other purposes. The public hearing will be held October 28th.

B. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of a beer and wine package application at a location of 235 West Line Street, Suites, 2, 3, and 4, by One Nadia Gas Express LLC d/b/a Amoco Food Mart. Nil Govind Das is the owner and Mamata Kafle is the store manager. The public hearing will be held October 28th.

10. **New Business**

A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a setback variance request of 7 feet, to vary from the required 30 foot setback to a 23 foot setback for construction of a retaining wall, for 1.01 acres, at a location of 495 Highway 53 East, by Jason Toole (Chick-Fil-A). The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on November 7th and the public hearing November 11th.

B. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of an annexation and zoning request of IND-G for 130.3 acres at a location of 1601 Highway 41 S SW, by PV Calhoun Real Estate LLC (Polyventive). The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on November 7th and the public hearing November 11th.

C. Mayor Palmer read a request from Calhoun Police Department to surplus the following vehicles on GovDeals. These vehicles have been replaced by newer fleets.

1)2019 Dodge Charger	Mileage: 63,756	VIN: 693277
2)2018 Dodge Charger	Mileage: 87,721	VIN: 330055
3)2019 Dodge Charger	Mileage: 73,792	VIN: 609291
4)2019 Dodge Charger	Mileage: 84,212	VIN: 609292

5)2019 Dodge Charger	Mileage: 67,123	VIN: 209294
6)2019 Dodge Charger	Mileage: 70,946	VIN: 609287
7)2019 Dodge Charger	Mileage: 98,642	VIN: 647500
8)2019 Dodge Charger	Mileage: 92,962	VIN: 609289

Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the surplus request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

D. Mayor Palmer read a request from Water Distribution Department to surplus the following vehicles on GovDeals. These vehicles have high mileage and need repairs.

1)2014 Ford F-750	Mileage: inoperable	VIN: 533092
2)2012 Ford F-150	Mileage: 166,151	VIN: 001878
3)2014 Ford F-650	Mileage: 83,755	VIN: 711198
4)2002 Ford F-150	Mileage: 155,000	VIN: A57052

Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the surplus request.

Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

E. Mayor Palmer read a request from GEM Theatre for the provision of alcohol for ten (10) additional events for calendar year 2024. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

11. **Other Written Items Not on the Agenda**

12. **Work Reports**

- A. Paul Worley, City Administrator had nothing to report.
- B. Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator had nothing to report.
- C. George Govignon, City Attorney had nothing to report.

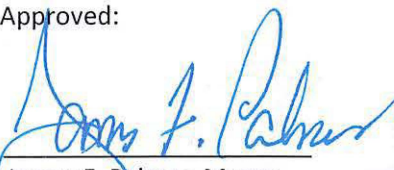
13. **Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed**

14. **Motion to return to General Session**


15. **Motion to Adjourn**

There being no other business to come before the Council, Councilmember Moyer made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Sharon Nelson, City Clerk

