

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
JULY 14, 2014 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

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

ABSENT: David Hammond, Councilman

ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator; Paul Worley, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Garry Moss, Police Chief; Jeff Defoor, Director of Electric Utilities; Jerry Crawford, Water and Sewer Director; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief

1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
 - A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards 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 Crowley seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.
4. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2014 City Council meeting. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
5. **Mayor's Comments:**
 - A. The Mayor and Council of the City of Calhoun officially adopted the operating and capital expense budget for the City of Calhoun on June 16, 2014, for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. The official budget is available for review by the public at City Hall, 226 South Wall Street during regular business hours, or at the Calhoun-Gordon County Library at 100 N. Park Avenue during regular business hours.
6. **Council Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards gave the June report as follows:
 - 1) **Electric Department**
 - o Construction continues on the New Gordon County Career Academy. Campus power and lighting is complete with final phase of re-locating primary lines near completion.
 - o Construction has begun on the new RaceTrac and Dunkin Donuts.

- Construction continues on the new Subway, setting 150 kVA transformer.
- Re-conductoring of primary lines on North 41 is complete. This is part of our system reliability improvements, loss reduction and voltage stabilization program.
- Lighting continues on the New Calhoun Middle School Parking lot.
- Electrical Engineering continues as we work with the Ga. DOT for approval of the Exit 312 lighting design. The next step is pole foundation drawings and soil composition reports.
- The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for June was 39,430,615 kWh.

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 80
- Completed and closed- 94
- Consisting of:
 - Capital construction- 14
 - Street and security lighting-25
 - Distribution Maintenance-13
 - Meter maintenance/replacement- 12
 - New customer meter sets- 6
 - Electric locate tickets processed- 258

2) Telecommunications Departments:

- Completed construction of point-to-point connection for Gordon County School System
- Completed new internet connection.
- Installed and provisioned a new 200 Meg internet connection for Calhoun School System
- Relocated Calhoun Library fiber connection to new data closet.
- Removed all the old phones from Calhoun Middle School prior to demolition. Installed 2 new phones at high school for middle school's main number to ring.
- Replace three network switches.
- Completed year-end inventory.
- Opened 21 and closed 34 work orders.

3) Geographic Information Systems:

- Created new maps documenting natural gas pipelines locations and wastewater sludge sites.
- Assisted Electric department with tracing circuits and fixing connectivity issues on GIS maps.
- Setup new IPADs with GIS app and trained users.
- Updated City Hall GIS software
- Updated pre-fire plans for Fire Department.
- Updated fiber mapping for Telecom Department.
- Updated addresses from changes in billing account data.
- Updated City and GIS websites.

4) Downtown Development Authority

- The DDA director attended a ribbon cutting at the newly renovated Voluntary Action Center in Downtown Calhoun. The VAC director and Board have completely changed the look of the block for the better, and we appreciate their determination and commitment to Downtown.
- We would also like to commend BCE Cleaning Systems on Park Avenue for its efforts in beautifying the corner at Hicks Street and Park Avenue. The DDA is a cosponsor of the Summer Reading Program with the Calhoun/Gordon County Library. The programs are being held at the Calhoun Depot this summer while the library is under extensive renovations. Attendance at the depot for these events has ranged from 50 to 300 children, teens and adults.
- The DDA and HPC held regular monthly meetings in June; both groups toured the Cherokee Mill Lofts project, which is expected to open before year end 2014.
- Friday, July 18th, 7 – 10 pm at BB&T City Park Babe's Bayou Band will be performing, Summer Santa will visit with the kids, free prizes and giveaways will also be part of the event to promote Keep it in the County. The public is invited to attend this free event and bring receipts from items purchased in Gordon County for their chances to win prizes.

B. Councilman Barton gave the June report as follows:

1) Water, Sewer, and Engineering

- The Brittany Drive Expansion Project- The project is approximately 87% complete.
- Clarifier Mechanism Replacement Project- The new mechanisms and troughs are on site. Installation has begun and is approximately 60% complete.
- I-75 & Red Bud Road utility relocate- Construction began on November 18th and the project is projected to be completed by August 2014.
- King Street and Pine Street replacement sewers. The project is under construction with good progress to date.
- The design is complete for the flocculation and sedimentation control project at the Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant. Bid opening was March 4, 2014.
- Coosawatee Intake Screen Replacement- The screens are on site and a pre-construction meeting was held on May 8th. Awaiting electrical panel installations.
- Water system modeling utilizing our GIS data base- proposals reviewed with CH2MHILL being the best and next to the lowest price.
- Timber Ridge Lift Station Replacement- Project is going well and should be completed within the next two weeks.

2) Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Total gallons withdrawn: 308,040,000
- Daily average: 10,268,000

- Wells: 0
 - Big Springs: 144,080,000
 - Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 46.8
 - Rainfall- 6.84"
- 3) **Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility**
- Treated a daily average of 5.505 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 7, average suspended effluent of 9, and an average COD of 49.
- 4) **Water Distribution**
- 6 Water connections, 46 water service leaks repaired, 28 water main leaks repaired, 5 water meters changed out, 2 new water valves installed, 3 fire hydrants repaired, 14 water services changed from old 2" galv. line to larger line, 5 yards or roadway edges repaired due to previous work, 64 utility locates called in for work orders, 442 utility locates responded to, and 76 misc. calls
 - Performed pre-audit inventory of water construction department inventory.
 - Installed 400' of 2" black poly line along Cherokee Drive to replace an old 1" galvanized line that had collapsed.
 - Replaced old 16" valve in middle of King Street and Pine Street and installed new 12" valve in Pine Street to enable the lowering of 50' of 12" water line out of the way of the new King Street sewer main.
- 5) **Waste Water Collection**
- 1,700' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 316 utility locates completed, 2 lift station repairs completed, 3,400' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 78 manholes opened and inspected, 2 new sanitary sewer connections, 3 sanitary sewer services repaired
 - Performed pre-audit inventory of sewer construction shop.
 - Began assisting contractor with Timber Ridge Lift Station replacement.
 - Completed valve installations and line lowering on King Street sewer project.
- 6) **Building Inspection Department**
- Issued 34 permits for an estimated cost of \$2,621,799, collected \$11,269 in permit fees. This included 1 new residential, 1 residential remodeling, 2 new commercial, 2 commercial remodel, 2 residential plumbing, 2 new residential and 2 commercial HVAC, 5 residential electrical, 4 commercial electric, 6 sign permits, 1 grading permits, and 99 total inspections.
- 7) **Recreation Department**
- **ASA NATIONAL QUALIFIER** – The Calhoun Recreation Department was host to a 57 team ASA National Qualifier May 16-18. 16 & under and 18 & under Girls Fast Pitch teams from across Georgia participated in this event which was played at Calhoun Recreation Department, Sonoraville Recreation Complex and Calhoun High School. During this event the economic impact

to the Calhoun-Gordon County is estimated to be \$ 200,070.00. Partnerships with Gordon County Parks and Recreation Department and Calhoun City Schools assisted in this event being a success for our community. Due to inclement weather Sunday was rained out and 6 teams came back to Calhoun on Sunday, May 25 in order to award berths to teams for the ASA/USA National Championships.

- **Youth Baseball and Softball/Adult Softball** – All-Star teams participated in the District tournaments June 20-26, 2014. Eight teams represented Calhoun in GRPA District or Georgia Dizzy Dean tournaments. Teams advancing to State:
 - 7 Year Old Baseball – Dizzy Dean District Champions – Participated in Dizzy Dean State tournament July 4 – 5, 2014 in Canton, Ga.
 - 11-12 Boys – Advanced to GRPA State tournament in Thomasville, Georgia July 8-9, 2014.
 - 9-10 Boys – GRPA 5th District Champions – advanced to GRPA State – July 10 – 12, 2014.
 - 13-14 Girls – Advanced to GRPA State tournament in Brunswick, Georgia July 10 – 12, 2014.
 - Adult Softball – RTS Softball – participated in Men’s GRPA State Equalizer tournament Gwinnett County – June 21.
- **SWIM** – There were 112 boys and girls registered for the Blue Barracudas this summer. Home meets were June 5, 12, and 19. Calhoun Recreation Department and Blue Barracudas hosted the GRPA District Swim meet June 28. There were a total of 281 swimmers competing throughout the day from Calhoun, Gilmer County, Pickens County, and Catoosa County. The estimated economic impact for the GRPA 5th District Swim meet to the community was \$36,530.00.
- **TOURNAMENTS** – GRPA District – 9-10 Boys – June 21 – 26, 2014 There were 5 teams that participated in this 4 day tournament with teams from Calhoun, Pickens County, Tallapoosa and Haralson County. The economic impact for the community is estimated at \$15,600.00.
- Registration for Football, Cheerleading and Fall Soccer are going on now through August 14th.
- Website Usage – total visits 1,238

C. Councilman Crowley gave the June report as follows:

1) **Police Department**

- The Calhoun Police Department has received the 2014 Buckle Up, America! Award from the Georgia Traffic Injury Prevention Institute (GTIPI). The award recognizes agencies who work to reduce injuries and prevent fatalities in Georgia through involvement with traffic safety, seat belt and child safety seat awareness initiatives. “The CPD demonstrated how to effectively address traffic injury prevention and involve other organizations in a community effort,” stated Harris

Blackwood Director of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety. "The CPD demonstrated a strong leadership role at a level of merit in 2014. We are extremely proud of the work these professionals and volunteers do to save lives on Georgia's roads and highways," continued Mr. Blackwood.

- Made 567 cases with 9 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$69,632.34
- Issued 593 warnings
- Investigated 51 highway accidents, 34 private property accidents
- Provided 51 escorts
- 1,553 incident reports
- Responded to 331 alarms
- Miles patrolled: 37,153
- Responded to 8,142 calls for service by E-911

2) Municipal Court and Probation

- Total Court cases- 491
- Court cases dropped- 97
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 209
- Number of Probation cases- 56
- Probation Payments- \$19,502
- Probation Revocations- 24
- Failure to appear- 46
- Prisoner transports- 54

3) Fire Department- Suppression

- Responded to 172 calls for service for the suppression division, 5 fire incidents for damages. (\$100,000 in estimated fire damage)
- Responded to 110 medical service calls
- Responded to 12 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 19 false alarms or false calls, 16 good intent
- Completed flow testing and painting all fire hydrants maintained by the City and completed all fire hose testing.
- Participated with the bike race downtown.
- Hosted with Home Depot the Northwest Georgia Fire Chiefs Association Fire Department Muster completion at Home Depot, supporting the association's scholarship fund.
- Hosted 30 children from Georgia Christian Academy for Fire Safety Education.

Training Division

- Department completed 869 hours of training.
- Training consisted of incident command class, vertical venting, area search and entanglement drills at the old Calhoun High School building before demolition.
- 2 firefighters completed a trench class for GSAR certification.
- 8 GSAR members attended the required State GSAR/ All Hazards and Disciplines drill in Perry, GA.

4) Fire Inspection Department

- 106 total reported activities/inspections which included 29 annual inspections, 2 new business inspections, 27 requested inspections, 14 follow-up or re-inspections, and 29 consultations
- Conducted fire extinguisher training with on duty personnel at Catoosa Senior Village and at the George Chambers Center.
- Conducted the annual inspection of Gordon Central High School and Ashworth Middle School with the State Fire Marshal.
- Assisted Gordon County Fire with inspections of Red Bud Elementary and Sonoraville High Schools.
- Inspectors hosted the Northwest Georgia Code Officials Association meeting.

D. Councilman Hammond was at the MEAG Annual meeting representing the City of Calhoun as the voting delegate and unable to attend the Council meeting. Therefore, Mayor Palmer gave the June report as follows:

1) Street Department

- Completed 22 shop and 11 street department work orders.
- Placed 12 new street signs.
- Inspected and maintained 103 miles of streets and storm drainage.
- Cut and removed a large diseased tree at the Library.
- Repaired utility cuts and pot holes around town using 31 tons of asphalt.
- Cleaned out a 20' section of ditch line on Mauldin Road.

2) Cemetery Department

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 7 grave sites.
- Sold 24 new grave spaces.
- Worked 7 grave sites.

3) Animal Control

- Housed 46 dogs, and 6 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 9
- Number of cats adopted: 0
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 13
- Number of dogs euthanized: 10
- Number of cats euthanized: 5
- Number of warnings given: 27
- Number of bite cases: 2
- Citations issues: 8
- Number of inquiries: 100

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 sidewalk, 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.
- Installed a new irrigation system at the Library expansion.

5) Safety Committee

- Safety topic- Working in hot conditions
- Safety Inspection- Water/sewer construction
- Vehicle Accidents: 1- Street Department; 1- Police Department
- Workers Compensation: 1- police; 1- Recreation Department; 1- water construction

6) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

7) Tom B. David Airport

7. Public Hearings and Comments:

- A. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing for a taxicab regulatory license application for Hermelindo J. Davila Gonzalez D/B/A: Taxi Chapin at a location of 1116 South Wall Street.
- Mr. Peterson stated that all advertising requirements have been met.
 - Mayor Palmer asked for public comments.
 - There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.
 - Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the taxicab regulatory license request. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing on an annexation and zoning of R-1B for 0.65 acres at a location of 601 Linda Lane for Willbeam Properties, LLC.
- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Edwards stated that the Zoning Advisory Board did not have a quorum for the July 10th meeting and reviewed the Zoning Review Committee minutes of the July 3rd meeting of the Department Heads.
 - Mayor Palmer asked for public comments and Terry Brumlow was in attendance representing Willbeam Properties and stated he would answer any questions.
 - There were no further comments and the public hearing was closed.
 - Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the annexation of 601 Linda Lane. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning of R-1B for 601 Linda Lane. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- C. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing on variance requests by Harold Blalock and Caroline Pitts at a location of 139 Evergreen Place. The first variance request is for a 1,926 square feet variance on the proposed garage building. The second variance request is for a 15' variance from the required 20' rear setback.
- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Edwards stated that the Zoning Advisory Board did not have a quorum for the July 10th meeting and reviewed the Zoning Review Committee minutes of the July 3rd meeting of the Department Heads.
 - Mayor Palmer asked for public comments and the applicants were in attendance, but had no comment.
 - Mayor Pro Tem Edwards stated that the variance request was such a large variance from the ordinance, and there were no particular hardships given for granting the request, that he recommended the variance request be denied. The variance would allow the size of the accessory building as compared to the principal structure of 102% versus the 50% allowance in section 7.3.2(5) of the zoning ordinance and this would set an unwanted precedent.
 - There were no further comments and the public hearing was closed.
 - Councilman Edwards made a motion to deny the 1,926 square feet variance request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion to deny the variance request was approved.
 - Mayor Palmer suggested to the applicants to contact the City's Building Inspector to try to work out an alternate solution.
- D. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing for a taxicab regulatory license application for Gustavo Ayala Bombela D/B/A: Taxi Aztlan at a location of 235 West Line Street Suite 7.
- Mr. Peterson stated that all advertising requirements have been met.
 - Mayor Palmer asked for public comments.
 - There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.
 - Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the taxicab regulatory license request. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- E. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing for an ordinance change to amend Chapter 6: Alcoholic Beverages to provide additional provisions and sections.
- Mr. Peterson stated that all advertising requirements have been met.
 - Attorney Govignon discussed some of the proposed changes in the alcohol ordinance change, such as distance requirement changes, grandfathering of existing license holders, clarification pertaining to corporations and LLC status, and providing a last consumption time frame. Also, there are other

provisions that are still being looked at and discussed, so Attorney Govignon recommended holding another public hearing to allow more time to finalize all the provisions in the ordinance.

- There were no further comments and the public hearing was closed.
- Councilman Barton made a motion to set another public hearing for the alcohol ordinance on July 28th. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

8. Old Business:

- A. Mayor Palmer conducted the second reading of a pawn shop license request by Jerry Holcombe DBA: Calhoun Title Pawn at a location of 1108 Red Bud Road. The public hearing will be on July 28th.
- B. Mayor Palmer conducted the second reading of a beer and liquor pouring request for Derrick Williams DBA: Scores at a location of 235 West Line Street, Suite 2. The public hearing will be on July 28th.
- C. Councilman Barton made a motion to remove the Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Improvements project from the table. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. The Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant improvement project received bids on March 4, 2014. The apparent low bidder was Lakeshore Engineering, LLC with a bid of \$4,754,000. This was \$1,254,000 over the estimated cost. The cost was negotiated down to \$3,869,860. The project consist of concrete repairs for each basin, concrete repairs for each gravity flocculator, a flow control system, plate settlers in each basin, wooden baffles in each flocculator, wooden baffles in each basin, and a sludge collection system. This project is one of the proposed projects under the GEFA/SRF Loan No. 13-003. Mayor Palmer stated that the WTP was built in 1949 and like many other communities we are facing needed infrastructure repairs and maintenance. Peoples and Quigley, Inc. consulting engineers, recommended the bid be awarded to Lakeshore Engineering, LLC. Councilman Barton made a motion to award the bid to Lakeshore Engineering, LLC with a bid of \$3,869,860. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

9. New Business:

- A. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of an annexation and zoning of R-1B for 0.33 acres at a location of 110 Jeep Street for Sandra Salazar. The ZAB meeting will be on August 7th and the public hearing will be on August 11th.

10. Other written items not on the agenda: None

11. Work Reports:

- A. City Administrator Peterson

- B. General Manager Vickery
- C. City Attorney Govignon

- 12. City Attorney Govignon stated that there was a need to go into executive session with the grounds being to discuss the possible future acquisition of real estate. Councilman Crowley made a motion to go into executive session. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- 13. Councilman Barton made a motion to adjourn the executive session and return to regular session. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- 14. Councilman Crowley made a motion to adjourn the regular session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barton with all voting aye, motion approved.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Paul Worley, City Clerk

CITY OF CALHOUN
Regular City Council Meeting
Depot Community Room
109 South King Street
July 14, 2014

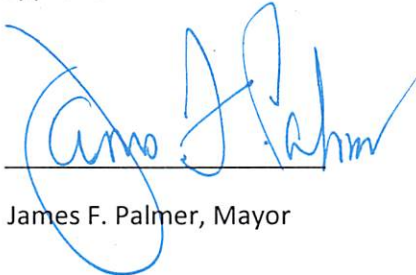
EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Present: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Al Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem
George Crowley, Councilman
Matt Barton, Councilman

Also: George Govignon, City Attorney
Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
Paul Worley, City Clerk

- A. City Attorney Govignon stated that there was a need to go into executive session to discuss the possible acquisition of real estate. Section 50-14-3(b) allows for executive session for discussing the future acquisition of real estate, authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property. Councilman Crowley made a motion to go into executive session. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. The executive session was opened and the Mayor and Council discussed the options of possible acquisition of real estate.
- C. The discussions were concluded and no votes were taken.
- D. Councilman Barton made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session, Councilman Crowley seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Paul Worley, City Clerk

**STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF GORDON
CITY OF CALHOUN
AFFIDAVIT REGARDING CLOSURE OF OPEN MEETINGS**

Personally appeared before the undersigned officer, duly authorized under the laws of the State of Georgia to administer oaths, James F. Palmer, Mayor, who in his capacity as Chairperson or the person presiding over a City Council meeting of the City of Calhoun and after being first duly sworn, certifies under oath and states to the best of his knowledge and belief the following:

At its meeting held on 7-14-14 the Council's Executive Session voted to go into closed session and exclude the public from all or a portion of its meeting. The legal exceptions applicable to the exempt matters addressed during such closed meeting are as follows (Check or initial, as appropriate:)

- Discussing or deliberating upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action, dismissal, periodic evaluation or rating of a government officer or employee. [O.C.G.A §50-14-3(6)]
- Privileged consultation with legal counsel pertaining to pending or threatened litigation, claims, administrative proceedings or settlements. [O.C.G.A §50-14-2]
- Discussing the future acquisition of real estate, authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property. [O.C.G.A §50-14-3(b)]
- Staff meetings for investigative purposes under duties or responsibilities imposed by law. [O.C.G.A §50-14-3(1)]
- Tax matters made confidential by state law. [O.C.G.A §50-14-2]
- Inspection of physical facilities under the jurisdiction of the City Council. [O.C.G.A §50-14-1(a)(2)]
- Meeting with a governing body, officer, agent or employee of another agency at a location outside the geographical jurisdiction of the City Council at which no final action is taken. [O.C.G.A §50-14-1(a)(2)]
- Other (Explanation and citation to statutory authority required:)

I certify that the subject matter of the closed meeting or the closed portion of this meeting was devoted to matters of official business or policy within the exceptions provided by law as set forth above.

Paul Walley
Witness

James F. Palmer
James F. Palmer, Mayor

Sworn to and subscribed to before
me this 14 day of
July, 2014.



Misty Caudle
Notary Public for the State of Georgia.