



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019- 7:00 PM  
109 SOUTH KING STREET  
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

**MINUTES**

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

**ALSO:** Eddie Peterson, City Administrator; Larry Vickery, Utilities Administrator; Paul Worley, Assistant City Administrator; George Govignon, City Attorney; Jeff Defoor, Director of Electric Utilities; Tony Pyle, Police Chief; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief; Kyle Ellis, Director of Water & Wastewater; Brad Carrick, Telecommunications Director; Todd Holbert, Battalion Chief; Suzanne Roberts, DDA Director

1. **Council Meeting Called to Order**  
**Welcome**  
Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.  
**Invocation**  
Mayor Palmer 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**  
Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the September 9, 2019 agenda as presented. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
4. **Amendment or Approval of Minutes**  
Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of August 26, 2019. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer announced that the first two public hearings on the 2019 proposed millage rate were held today at 11:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the Depot Community Room. The third and final public hearing will be held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Depot Community Room.
- B. Mayor Palmer announced that October 7<sup>th</sup> will be the last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the November 5<sup>th</sup> General Election.
- C. Mayor Palmer announced that advanced early voting begins on October 14<sup>th</sup> and ends on November 1<sup>st</sup> for the November 5<sup>th</sup> General Election.

6. **Council Comments**

- A. Councilwoman Palazzolo submitted August reports as follows:

- 1) **Public Works**

**Street Department**

1. Completed 32 shop and 25 street dept. work orders.
2. Installed 6 new street signs.
3. Repaired pot-holes and utility cuts using approximately 18 tons of asphalt.
4. Installed 140 feet of 15 inch storm drain pipe on Victory Drive.
5. Built a 50 foot long 16 foot wide berm for long range target practice at the Police Department firing range.

**Cemetery Department**

1. Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler cemetery.
2. Supervised the opening and closing of 3 grave sites.
3. Sold 3 new grave spaces.

**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. Replaced a toilet and unclogged a roof drain at the Library.

**Animal Control**

- A reduced rate rabies clinic will be held on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 12:00pm at the Calhoun Animal Shelter.
- Housed 19 dogs and 15 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 2
- Number of cats adopted: 0
- Number of dogs rescued: 5
- Number of cats rescued: 9
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 6
- Number of cats reclaimed by owner: 4
- Number of dogs euthanized: 0
- Number of cats euthanized: 0
- Number of warnings given: 21

## 2) Recreation Department

1. **FALL SPORTS REGISTRATION** – Registration for fall sports concluded in August for Football, Cheerleading, Soccer, and Girls Volleyball.

**Registration Numbers:**

Football – 223 participants – Rec. Teams                      12U Select Team – 16 participants  
Cheerleading- 52 participants  
Soccer – 308 participants  
Girls Volleyball – 33 participants  
Football Practices began – August 17  
Soccer Practices began – August 24  
Volleyball Practices began – August 22  
Youth Football Opening Day – September 9  
Youth Soccer Opening Day – September 14  
Girls Volleyball – September 14

There is now an additional one mile of walking trail added to the existing 1.5 mile loop. There is a lot of shade on this walking trail and the public has really been excited about this new addition. The Calhoun Dog Park is now under construction.

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

Playground Pavilion – 7 events                      Ratner Pavilion – 3 events  
Recreation Center  
Meeting Room – 2 events  
Community Room – 1 events  
Gym – 270 users (free play)  
**POOL -**  
General Admission – 445  
Pool Parties – 17

3. **STARS** –

Star Readers – 3 participants came to the Gordon County Library August 26 for program. The participants visited with Carl a therapy dog and read book “Willow” and did a craft.  
Stars – August 26 we had a volleyball event for our Stars participants. There were 5 participants that came out to participate in volleyball and have pizza.

4. **TENNIS**

Fall Combo Leagues started  
Quad Practice  
MAP Tennis – Monday and Wednesday  
League Play – Mon – Fri – 14 courts 7:00pm – 9:00pm; Sat. 10:00am – 2:00pm

5. **PARKS** –

The following tasks were completed throughout the month:

- Parks mowed and groomed weekly
- Prepared practice fields for football and soccer
- Top dressed baseball/softball fields at new complex
- Put new rubber mulch in Yellow and Black playground

- Pressure washed soccer and softball buildings
- Prepared high school softball field for games
- Prepared middle school softball field for games
- Prepared Fields 1, 2 and 4 for Friday Night One Pitch Tournament
- Weeded flower beds at new complex
- Sprayed Football Complex Bleachers for wasp
- Groomed grounds at Recreation Center and Tennis Center weekly
- 3 staff members attended GRPA Maintenance Field Day – August 14

**6. WEBSITE USAGE:**

CalhounRec.com	Facebook
2,136 – Sessions	3,585 – Post Engagements
42 – Post	23 - Posts
1,363 - Users	4,082 - reached
5,191 – Page Views	

**SEPTEMBER EVENTS:**

- September 13- One Pitch Tournament
- September 29– USSSA Baseball Tournament
- September 28 – October 3 – GHSA Region 6 – Girls Fast pitch Tournament

3) **Library**

- There are 11,993 library card holders, 7,233 library visitors, and 4,381 total circulation.
- There were 213 story time attendance, 7 adult program attendance, 101 digital new users.

B. Councilman Edwards submitted August reports as follows:

1) **Electric Department**

Construction continues on pole replacement at South Wall and West Line Street, the Park Avenue renovations, the Wal-Mart expansion, upgrades in the Old Mill Village with renovations to 20 homes plus pole and line improvements to enhance reliability and accessibility, Cookout Restaurant and Steel Roots on Tyler Drive.

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

• NEWLY CREATED	105
• COMPLETED AND CLOSED	104
• CONSISTING OF:	
• CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION	26
• STREET AND SECURITY LIGHTING-	23
• DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE	15
• OUTAGES / TROUBLE CALLS	11
• WORK FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS	29
• NEW METER SETS	7

• METER MAINTENANCE/REPLACEMENT	37
• ELECTRIC LOCATE TICKETS PROCESSED-	295
•	

The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for August is estimated to be about 38,500,000 kilowatt hours (kWh). This is about 5 million kWh less than August of 2018.

The City of Calhoun responded to Mutual Aid requests from the City of Albany Ga. and Myrtle Beach, S.C. Hurricane Dorian spared many communities and devastated others. Calhoun along with Cartersville and Acworth went on the first wave of early deployment to Albany because many Florida locations were staging 10's of thousands of restoration workers from as far as Canada. During the last Hurricane, Cities had to wait for help because the workers were already committed to Florida, causing unnecessary extended power outages. After it was clear Albany would not need help, we joined the Cities of Marietta, Cairo, Dalton, Ft. Valley, Newnan, Griffin and Albany to help Santee Cooper at Myrtle Beach S.C. in the storm restoration. The Calhoun crew of Brett Sane, Alan McCormick, Greg Dodd, Nick Land, Kevin Collins, Colter Faith and Willie Pritchett left August 30th and hopefully will return in the next few days.

2) **Telecommunications**

**Telecommunications**

- Increased existing customers' bandwidth by 50 megabits.
- Worked with vendor to configure new remote phone access system.
- Transferred one half mile of fiber on River Street to new pole line.
- Completed client software installation for phone system upgrade.
- Converted one of the three remaining customers to new access system. Project is now 99% complete.
- Attended Cybersecurity Committee kickoff meeting in Forsyth. Hosted by MEAG and Electric Cities of Georgia. The discussion revolved around IT security challenges for cities in general and for cities with electric utilities.
- Opened 13 and closed 11 work orders.

**Geographic Information Systems**

- Worked with Electric Department on service boundary mapping
- Updated county parcel data
- Completed water modeling project and trained users on new calibrated model.
- Updated the following GIS layers
  - Water system
  - Fire Department fire pre-plans for industrial and commercial buildings
  - Physical addressing for building and billing information
  - Changes to fiber network
  - Zoning
- Updated City and GIS web sites
- City employee GIS login statistics

- Total logins – 1233
- Top three layers accessed
  - Water – 730
  - Metering – 295
  - Electric - 197

3) **Building Inspections**

- Issued 95 permits for an estimated cost of \$10,226,881, collected \$50,089 in permit fees. This included 13 new residential, 2 residential remodel, 1 commercial remodel, 1 new industrial, 1 industrial remodel, 26 residential electrical, 16 residential plumbing, 5 commercial plumbing, and 18 residential HVAC, 1 commercial HVAC, 3 commercial electrical, 1 industrial plumbing, 1 industrial HVAC, 1 industrial electrical. 95 total inspections.

4) **Safety Committee**

- The safety committee met on August 6<sup>th</sup> and the topic of discussion was liquefied petroleum gas (LP).
- A safety inspection was completed on August 13th at the Sewer Plant.
  - Vehicle accidents: 0
  - Workers compensation: 1

C. Councilman Denmon submitted August reports as follows:

1) **Water and Sewer Operations**

**Water Treatment Plant**

- Total gallons withdrawn: 348,900,000
- Daily average: 11,254,838
- Big Springs: 147,120,000
- % produced by Brittany Drive: 42.1%
  - Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 40.21%
  - Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 40.68 %
  - Rainfall for November – 3.17”

**Waste Water Treatment Plant**

- Treated a daily average of 3.358 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 3, average suspended effluent of 9, and an average COD of 54.

**Water Distribution & Wastewater Collection**

- 276 work orders completed, 41 new water connections, 28 water service leaks repaired, 18 water main leaks repaired, 0 water services changed to new main lines, 40 meter changes, 13 utility locates called in for work orders, 661 utility locates responses.

- 2,550 feet of Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 445 utility locates completed, 3,250 feet sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 22 new sewer connections installed, 5 sanitary sewer services repaired.

## 2) Water and Sewer Construction

### **Water and Sewer Systems Active Projects**

- As part of the new NPDES requirements, steps are underway to meet the storm water segment of the Watershed Protection Plan. EPD notified us on April 17<sup>th</sup> that our Section 319 Grant for Lynn Creek has been awarded. Contracts have been received, executed, and returned to EPD. Stream Clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday October 12, 2019 at the recreation department on River Street.
- The North Henderson Bend Lift Station is complete.
- The two inch galvanized line replacement continues utilizing city forces.
- Ranger 12" Water Transmission Main – Materials are on site and permits have been acquired. This project is under construction.
- New 2.0 Million Gallon Tank on Pittman Road – Site construction has begun.
- Peters Street Phase II Water and Sewer Relocations – Construction is underway on the water relocation.
- Hwy 41 South Sewer Extension – The project was awarded to Gordy Construction and construction has begun on the 24" gravity sewer line.

### **Water & Sewer Projects in Development**

- North Wall Street and Redbud Road Intersection improvements- GDOT asked for, and was given an estimate to relocate any utilities in conflict with the proposed project.
- S.R. 136 Water Main Relocation for new Bridges at the Coosawattee River.
- Design documents are being prepared for a sewer lift station that will serve the Georgia Cumberland Academy off of Reeves Station Road.

### **Projects in Engineering Conceptual Design**

#### **Sewer**

- Blackwood Creek Trunk Sewer Replacement
- Yarborough Street Replacement Sewer
- Louise Ave., Cherry St., and Florence Ave. Sewer Replacement
- Sewer Main relocation for the airport project.
- Old Fairmount Hwy Sewer Extension
- Hensley Road Sewer Line Extension

#### **Water**

- Bellwood Road Water Transmission Main
- Reeves Station Water Main (replacing existing 6" C. I. with an 8")
- Second Interconnect with Pickens County
- GDOT SR 156/Salacoa Creek Bridges. Scheduled for 2020
- SR 225 8" water main river crossing

3) **Downtown Development Authority**

The DDA and HPC held their regularly scheduled meetings. The HPC had one COA approval. The Downtown Development Authority had another Food Trucks & Friends event on August 23<sup>rd</sup> from at the Depot. The next scheduled event will be Holiday Open House & Christmas Tree Lighting on November 24<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see everyone downtown at these annual events and encourage everyone to shop local.

D. Mayor Pro Tem Crowley submitted August reports as follows:

1) **Police Department**

- Made 383 cases with 9 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$43,537
- Issued 449 warnings
- Investigated 68 highway accidents, 46 private property accidents
- Escorts - 44
- Incident reports -1,283
- Alarm responses - 250
- Miles patrolled: 44,432

2) **Municipal Court**

- Total Court cases- 382
- Court cases dropped- 116
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 238
- Number of Probation cases- 23
- Failure to appear- 43
- Subpoenas served- 2

3) **Fire Department**

**Fire Suppression Division**

**193** Total reported calls for service for the Suppression Division

**Dispatched Calls**

- 7 Fire Incidents (\$7700.00 in estimated Fire damage)
- 0 Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (**NO FIRE**)
- 118 Emergency Medical Services / Rescue (Injuries, Medical, or Fatality)
- 14 Hazardous Conditions Incidents (**NO FIRE**; Leaks, Spills, Electrical Hazards; All Other Hazardous Conditions without injuries)
- 7 Service Calls (Water Leak; Assist Other Agencies with Non Emergency Calls)
- 26 Good Intent Calls (Smoke / Odor check; Investigation of Unknown Problem)
- 18 False Alarms or False Calls
- 0 Severe Weather & Natural Disaster
- 0 Special Incident Type (Citizen Complaint; Other)



#### **Additional Fire Department Activities**

- Assisted with the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT)

#### **Training Division**

- CFD completed 782 Total Man Hours of training during the month.

#### **Training consisted of:**

Training consisted of Search, Pump Operations, Fire Behavior, Fire Department Organization, Survival, and Driver training.

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

104 Total Reported Activities / Inspections completed during the month.

#### **Inspections / Enforcement**

32	Annual Inspection
5	New Business Inspections
26	Requested Inspections
12	Follow Up, Re-Inspections
0	Burn Site Inspections
2	Plan Reviews
0	Pre-Construction Meetings
0	Sprinkler Permits Issued
0	Fuel Tank Permit (Install, Removal or Service)
27	Consultations
0	Illegal Burning Citations

#### **Additional Inspection - Public Safety & Codes Division Activities**

- Duvall attended meeting with Mapei about changes to the Calhoun Facility.
- Inspections monitored a Fire drill at Ashworth Middle School.
- Duvall attended City Safety Meeting and Inspection
- B. Fox attended board meeting at the George Chambers Center.
- B. Fox attended LEPC meeting about the upcoming Health and Safety Fair.
- Inspections monitored a Fire drill at Calhoun Pre-K.

#### **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 speaking having filed a financial disclosure statement five days prior to the hearing if required, 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 sign size variance request of 125 square feet, to vary from the required 25 square feet limit up to a total of 150 square feet for the face of the sign. Also, a sign height variance request of 15 feet, to vary from the required 15 feet limit up to a total of 30 feet for the height of the sign, at a location of 225 Lovers Lane, by Ortwein Sign, on behalf of Dews Pond, LLC (Food City). The sign variance requests are for a total of two signs; one at the Dews Pond Road entrance to the property and one at the Lovers Lane Road entrance.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
  - Administrator Peterson stated that all legal requirements and notices have been met.
  - The Zoning Advisory Board meeting on September 5<sup>th</sup> did not have a quorum. Therefore, no action was taken.
  - Mayor Palmer restated the ordinance requirement for a non-state route as being limited to 25 square feet for the face of the sign and a limit of 15 feet high. If the business is on a state route the ordinance allows up to 120 square feet for the face of the sign and a limit of 25 feet high.
  - Mayor Palmer asked for public comments concerning the variance request. There were no public comments and the public hearing was closed.
  - Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve a sign variance request up to the same size as what is allowed on the State Routes (up to 120 square feet for the face of the sign and a limit of 25 feet high). Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. Public hearing of a Beer Package License, at a location of 876 North Wall Street, by Kiesha's Produce. The owner/applicant is Lakiesha Cudd, who will also serve as the store manager.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
  - Administrator Peterson stated that all legal requirements and notices have been met.
  - Mayor Palmer asked for comments concerning the beer package request. There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.
  - Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve the beer package license request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

8. **Old Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of a Beer and Wine Package License, at a location of 1133 South Wall Street, by Tajddin Investment, Inc. The owner/applicant is Nooruddin Rajwani. The proposed store manager is Timothy Hight. The public hearing will be on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of amendments to certain sections of Part II-Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Article VI, Microbreweries, to change certain definitions, eliminating minimum size requirements, and to allow for samples with set daily limits. The public hearing will be on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

9. **New Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer read a resolution approving the exercise of the right of eminent domain to acquire permanent sewer easements for the South Sewer Extension, Project 267. Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the resolution and allow the Mayor to sign. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. (Resolution attached)

- B. Calhoun Police Department requests to surplus the following items on Govdeals:

2012 DODGE CHARGER VIN# 2C3CDXATXCH282543  
2012 DODGE CHARGER VIN# 2C3CDXAT0CH282728  
2012 DODGE CHARGER VIN# 2C3CDXAT8CH282542  
2012 DODGE CHARGER VIN# 2C3CDXAT0CH282549  
2012 DODGE CHARGER VIN# 2C3CDXATSCH282594  
2012 DODGE CHARGER VIN# 2C3CDXAT1CH282723  
2012 DODGE CHARGER VIN# 2C3CDXATXCH282588  
2006 FORD CROWN VIC VIN# 2FAFP71W66X163382  
2006 FORD CROWN VIC VIN# 2FAFP71WX6X163398  
2006 FORD CROWN VIC VIN# 2FAFP71W26X163394  
2006 FORD CROWN VIC VIN# 2FAFP71W46X163395  
2006 FORD CROWN VIC VIN# 2FAFP71W51X196690

Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve the surplus request as presented. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

10. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda

11. Work Reports

- A. Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
- B. Larry Vickery, Utilities Administrator
- C. George Govignon, City Attorney

12. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed

13. Motion to return to General Session

14. Motion to Adjourn

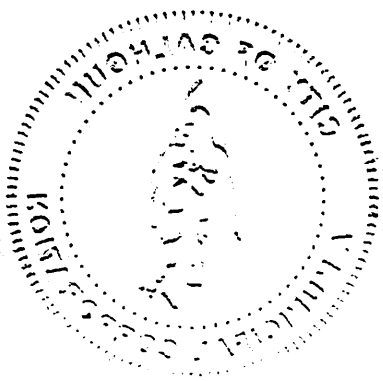
There being no additional business Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

Approved:

Submitted:

  
James F. Palmer, Mayor

  
Paul Worley, Assistant City Administrator



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