



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 10, 2017-7:00 PM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Matt Barton, Mayor Pro Tem
Al Edwards, Councilman
David Hammond, Councilman
Jackie Palazzolo, Councilwoman

ALSO: Paul Worley, Assistant City Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager/City Planner; George Govignon, City Attorney; Jeff Defoor, Director of Electric Utilities; Jerry Crawford, Water /Wastewater Director; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief; Garry Moss, Police Chief.

1. **Council Meeting Called to Order:**

Welcome

Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Invocation

Councilman Edwards gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

2. **Amend or Approve Proposed Agenda**

Mayor Pro Tem Barton requested to change the work session scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 7:00 PM to Monday, April 24, 2017 at 12:00PM, to be held at Calhoun Utilities, 700 West Line Street, Calhoun, GA 30701. Mayor Pro Tem Barton stated this change was needed due to a MEAG meeting Council members would be attending. Mayor Palmer called for a motion.

Councilman Edwards made a motion to make the requested change to the agenda. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the April 10, 2017, agenda as amended. Mayor Pro Tem Barton gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

3. **Amendment or Approval of Minutes**

Councilwoman Palazzolo made a motion to approve the regular minutes of the March 27, 2017, City Council meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Barton gave a second with all voting eye. Motion approved.

4. **Mayor's Comments:**

A. Mayor Palmer welcomed the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class to the meeting, noting they were the twenty-ninth such class to attend a Council meeting. Kathy Johnson, President and CEO, and Nichol Linn, both with the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce were in attendance at the meeting in addition to Leadership class members Brent Reynders, M & S Logistics; Waymond Aker, Shaw Industries; Crystal Boone, North Georgia Electric Membership Corporation; and Larken Logan, Floyd Medical Center.

B. Mayor Palmer announced that the City of Calhoun will hold a work session for the fiscal year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, Annual Operating Budget and Capital Plan on April 24, 2017, immediately following the regular Council meeting. The first public hearing will be held on May 8, 2017, at 7:00 PM.

C. Marvin Garner, a local veteran, addressed the Council regarding the erection of a monument at the Gordon County Court House. Mr. Garner requested the formation of a committee consisting of representatives from the City, Historical Society, Elk's Lodge, American Legion, Mohawk and Shaw to create a design for the monument. He felt it should have the Purple Heart, which is awarded to all people who are killed or wounded while trying to keep our country free. It should have the logo of the Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and Air Force. No tax dollars will be spent on the monument. Mr. Garner feels it can be completed with funds donated from the citizens of Calhoun. Mayor Palmer stated the City of Calhoun would be more than willing to work with the County on the monument.

5. **Council Comments:**

A. Councilman Edwards submitted March reports as follows

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

Water and Sewer Systems Active Projects

- The 2" Galvanized Line Replacement Project -The project as a whole is approximately 75% complete. Thor Drive, Hunt's Subdivision, Spring Valley, Davis Road, Edwards Street, Fox Street, Short Street, and West Street are all complete. The area being sections of Cherry Hill Dr., Sherwood Dr., Highland Ct., and Valley Cir. is nearing completion. The next proposed sections are Lewis Dr., Cindy Ln., Kirk Dr. off Peters Street and Beamer Cir., Overland Dr., and Emory Ln. off Beamer Road.
- Flocculation and Sedimentation Control Project at the Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant has been completed.

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

- The new NPDES permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant went into effect March 1, 2016. Several items required under the new permit have been implemented. The required Design Development Report has been submitted to and approved by EPD. The chemical feed system is under construction.
- The Nutrient Trading Monitoring Pilot Program is underway. The first phase was funded by a Section 319 Grant has been completed. We are working on a second 319 Grant application to continue the monitoring. EPD would like for the second phase of monitoring to include a larger scale in conjunction with the small plots. The North Georgia Water resources have agreed to help fund the In-Kind match should the grant be awarded.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Motor Control Center Upgrades Phase I has been completed and Phase II is moving forward.
- Miller's Ferry Loop Water Main has been completed and is in service.
- South Calhoun By-Pass Utility relocations- The section of water main along Union Grove Road is nearing completion.
- Second Interconnect with Chatsworth on Maple Grove Church Road has been completed. Chatsworth has a line extension under construction to our new meter.
- Pisgah Drainage Area Sewer Replacement – Bid opening was January 4, 2017. IPR Southeast was the low bidder at \$1,029,191. The project is budgeted at \$1,045,002. The project has been delayed for seven weeks by GEFA regarding contractor approval.

Water & Sewer Projects in Development

- Airport Sanitary Sewer Relocation- Relocating approximately 4500 feet of sewer main to accommodate the airport expansion.
- S.R. 156 Water Main Relocation (GDOT/ RR Bridge Replacement @ Ranger) - GDOT has contacted us regarding the attachment of the new water main to the proposed bridge.
- North Wall Street and Redbud Road Intersection improvements- GDOT has asked for an estimate to relocate any utilities in conflict with the proposed project.
- Hwy 41 South at Lynn Creek (GDOT Widening Project)

Projects in Engineering Conceptual Design

Sewer

- Blackwood Creek Trunk Sewer Replacement
- Yarborough Street Replacement Sewer
- Louise Ave., Cherry St., and Florence Ave. Sewer Replacement

Water

- Bellwood Road Water Transmission Main
- Curtis Parkway Water Main
- Reeves Station Water Main (replacing existing 6" C. I. with an 8")

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

- Second Interconnect with Pickens County

2) Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Total gallons withdrawn: 283,646,742
- Daily average: 9,149,895
- Wells: 115,236,742
- Big Springs: 0
- Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 37.1%
- Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 31.50%
- Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 33.95%
- Rainfall for March – 5.29”
- Due to the persistent drought, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has revised the current drought response to a Level 1 Drought declaration for Georgia (see Map). No additional watering restrictions have been issued above those already in place for the past several years. The City of Calhoun Water System does not have any type of water supply shortage! Outdoor watering as per the existing guidelines may continue under the Level 1 declaration. The existing outdoor restrictions and the Georgia Drought Response Map can be found at <http://www.cityofcalhoun-ga.com/public-notice-level-1-drought/>

3) Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Treated a daily average of 4.611 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 5, average suspended effluent of 11, and an average COD of 46.

4) Water Distribution

- 312 work orders completed, 13 new water connections, 16 water service leaks repaired, 28 water main leaks repaired, 17 water services changed to new main lines, 122 meter changes, 46 utility locates called in for work orders, 509 utility locates responses.
- Replaced 2,850’ of 2” galvanized line with 2” black poly pipe along Valley View Circle off Owens Chapel Road.
- Completed changing water services from old 2” galvanized line to new 6” line along Rips Road.
- Installed 60’ of 6” ductile iron pipe to lower the water main for Gordon County to repair a road culvert under Moores Ferry Road.
- Installed seven main line tie-ins on 12” and 8” line for new by-pass project to enable relocation of water mains.

5) Waste Water Collection

- 2,650’ Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 279 utility locates completed, 6,600’ sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 7 new sewer connections installed, 5 sanitary sewer services repaired.

6) Police Department

- Made 542 cases with 3 DUI’s

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$61,110
- Issued 449 warnings
- Investigated 59 highway accidents, 51 private property accidents
- Provided 77 escorts
- 1,747 incident reports
- Responded to 317 alarms
- Miles patrolled: 51,541
- Responded to 4,576 calls for service by E-911

7) Municipal Court and Probation

- Total Court cases- 408
- Court cases dropped- 70
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 179
- Number of Probation cases- 28
- Failure to appear- 38
- Subpoenas served- 12

8) Court Services and Enforcement

The following streets were maintained by inmate trash detail for the month of March:

Curtis Parkway, East Line Street, Peter Street, Kenmoreland Drive, Richardson Road, South Line Street, West May Street, Mauldin Road, Pine Street, River Street, Barrett Road, Hawthorne Drive, Mimms Road, High Point Drive, Spring Dale Drive, Pisgah Way, Buena Vista, Boulevard Heights, Forest Avenue, Harlan Street.

A total of 78 bags of trash were collected from the above streets.

9) Fire Department – Suppression

- Responded to 190 calls for service for the suppression division, with 9 fire incidents.
- Responded to 119 medical service calls.
- Responded to 12 hazardous conditions incidents.
- Responded to 13 false alarms or false calls, 29 good intent.
- Assisted with Fire Extinguisher class at Highland Rivers.
- Began flow testing of fire hydrants in the city.
- Completed all routine vehicle and station maintenance.

Training Division

- Department completed 859 hours of training.
- Training consisted of: firefighter survival, hose line deployment and management, live fire attach and scene management, and CPR recertification.

10) Fire Inspection Department

- 104 total reported activities/inspections completed during the month.
- Completed 28 annual inspections and 28 requested inspections.

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

- Performed 11 follow up/re-inspections.
- Performed 30 consultations.
- Completed all routine vehicle and station maintenance.

Training Division

- Lt. Duvall attended the City Safety meeting and site inspection.
- Inspections attended LEPC meeting
- Tagged and GPS located 10 new fire hydrants put in service in Parks Place expansion.

11) Building Inspection Department

Issued 51 permits for an estimated cost of \$14,561,414, collected \$38,456 in permit fees. This included 5 new residential, 6 residential remodel, 5 residential HVAC, 1 new industrial, 1 industrial electrical, 2 new commercial, 2 commercial remodel/addition, 1 grading permit, and 153 total inspections.

B. Mayor Pro Tem Barton submitted March reports as follows:

1) Electric Department

- The bad pole replacement project continues on South Industrial.
- New residential construction continues on Quail run, Gilmore, and Meadowbrook with 4 new temporary and 3 permanent power connections.

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 125
- Completed and closed- 120

Consisting of:

- Capital construction- 2
- Street and security lighting-43
- Distribution Maintenance-23
- Outages/trouble calls- 15
- Meter maintenance/replacement-14
- New customer meter sets-10
- Electric locate tickets processed- 211

- The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for March is projected to be 34,530,000 kilowatt hours. This is about 500,000 kilowatt hours 1.5% less than last year. Reduction is primarily due to the mild winter and reduced large Industrial loads. Actual numbers will be released later this week.
- Alan McCormick was elected the 2017 Chairman of The Georgia Electric Municipal Safety Taskforce. According to the U. S. Department of Labor, a Power line worker is one of the "Deadliest Jobs in America". The Safety Taskforce focuses on how to work safely in a very hazardous environment. The primary role for the Safety Taskforce is to share ideas throughout the Georgia

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

Cities, assist Electric Cities of Georgia (ECG) with topics and ideas for the monthly safety meetings, the Foreman and Supervisor Conference, and make improvements in the Line worker Training classes. The Taskforce was influential in starting the "Specialized One Day Training Program" classes. Another important duty is to score the forms for the Electric Cities of Georgia "Jeff Cook Award for Safety Excellence". This award is judged on a comprehensive survey of topics including: safety policy, employee safety awareness, training, accident investigation, facilities / equipment inspection, personal protective equipment, rescue training and lost time accidents.

2) **Telecommunications Department**

- Installed four new internet and one new point-to-point circuits.
- Repaired two fiber breaks due to recent storms.
- New access system project is 42% complete.
- Worked with Engineering and Water Construction to finalized plans to run fiber to Brittany Well. Underground boring to start in April.
- Successfully started Live Streaming of Council Meetings to YouTube Channel. Link to channel can be found on City's website.
- Added an employee to the Telecommunications Department to replace employee retiring in six months. As a transfer from the Electric Department, Telecom will make use of existing skills and begin outside plant fiber optic training.
- Removed last T1 from SONET equipment. Will begin decommissioning equipment, take inventory and have it declared as surplus for disposal.
- Opened 17 and closed 23 work orders.

3) **Geographic Information Systems**

- Created map for Downtown Development for BBQ, Boogie, Blues event coming up in April.
- Worked with Engineering Department to run water modeling sessions.
- Updated water meter data and physical building addresses for Billing Department
- Updated Zoning map
- Updated fiber map
- Added new fire pre-plans for buildings for Fire Department
- Updated fire hydrant mapping in GIS and Active911 system.
- Added new sections to Storm Water mapping.
- Updated City Park Map
- Updated City and GIS web sites

4) **Downtown Development Authority**

- The DDA director attended a Business Engagement Committee meeting; a Young Professionals meeting; a CVB Tourism meeting; Mainstreet 201 training & Chamber of Commerce Booster breakfast. The DDA & HPC held their regularly scheduled meetings. There was 1 new business opening in the Downtown Historic Business District. The DDA & Chamber of Commerce CVB partnered to

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

develop a marketing package for new businesses. The package will be distributed at the end of April.

- The planning for the annual Barbeque, Boogie & Blues in downtown is underway. There will be tractor rides, arts & crafts vendors, food vendors, & live music featuring Kurt Thomas and The Fly Betty Band. Along with the annual events there will be new additions including a car show cruise-in, & petting zoo. The dates are April 28th & 29th. We look forward to event and hope to have a record crowd.

5) **Safety Committee**

- The safety committee met on March 7th and the topic was seat belt safety.
- A safety inspection was completed on March 14th at the Street Department.
- Vehicle accidents: 3
 - 1 Street Department
 - 2 Fire Department
- Workers compensation: 4
 - 1 Sewer Construction
 - 1 Water Construction
 - 2 Fire Department

C. Councilwoman Palazzolo submitted March reports as follows:

1) **Street Department**

- Completed 35 shop and 22 street department work orders.
- Installed 8 new street signs.
- Repaved River Street from Pine Street to 53 Highway.
- Hauled wood chips to the recreation department.
- Cleaned out ditches on South Moss Parkway and Victory Drive.

2) **Cemetery Department**

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 13 grave sites.
- Sold 6 new grave spaces.

3) **Parks Department**

- The grounds crew picked up litter, hauled garbage to the dump, and maintained records at records room.
- The building and maintenance crew performed routine maintenance on city buildings and all fountains.
- Removed graffiti from back wall of McConnell community center.
- Trimmed tree limbs on sidewalks and at the BB&T Park.

4) **Animal Control**

- Housed 20 dogs and 6 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 4

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

- Number of cats adopted: 0
- Number of dogs rescued: 5
- Number of cats rescued: 6
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 6
- Number of cats reclaimed by owner: 0
- Number of dogs euthanized: 1
- Number of cats euthanized: 0
- Number of warnings given: 28
- Number of bite cases: 0
- Citations issues: 2

5) Calhoun Recycling Center

Calhoun Recycling Center															
March	OCC		Loose OCC		Plastics 1&2		Paperboard		Mixed Plastics		Glass		Aluminum	Steel Cans	
Price	\$170.00 Per Ton		\$135.00		\$0.05 Per lb.		\$100.00 Per Ton				\$15.00 Per Ton		\$0.46 Per lb.	\$0.045 Per lb.	
Date	Shipped To	Number Of Bales	Weight (TONS)	Pounds	Weight (TONS)	Boxes	Weight (POUNDS)	Boxes	Weight (TONS)	Boxes	Weight (POUNDS)	Bin (Roll Off)	Weight (TONS)	Weight (Pounds)	
3/3/2017	Caraustar	25	11.9												
3/8/2017	Caraustar			1,500	0.8										
3/8/2017	PSC Metals					44	2,370							500	
3/10/2017	Marglan														
3/10/2017	Biddle Scrap													1,088	
3/15/2017	Caraustar			1,280	0.6										
3/16/2017	Marglan					43	2,825								
3/17/2017	Rutco									48	3,897				
3/20/2017	Strategic Material											1	4.7		
3/22/2017	Caraustar			1,320	0.7										
3/23/2017	Caraustar							48	5.7						
3/28/2017	Caraustar			1,556	7.8										
3/31/2017	Caraustar	31	13.9												
Total		56 Boxes	25.8 Tons	5,656 lb.	2.8Tons	87 Boxes	5,195 lb.	48 Boxes	5.74Tons	48 Boxes	3,897 lb.	1 Bin	4.7 Tons	500 lb.	1,088 lb.
Revenue			\$4,386.00		\$ 378.00		\$ 258.75		\$ 574.00		N/A		\$ 70.50	\$ 230.00	\$ 43.52
March Revenue			\$3,941.77		From Chkk-ll-a										

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

6) **Recreation Department**

○

CALHOUN PARK

The first pitch was thrown at Calhoun Park for the official opening March 25. The Youth Classic Baseball and Softball tournament for City and County Recreation teams began play after the official opening.

○ **PROGRAMS:**

Youth Baseball and Softball – Registration for spring baseball and softball finished with 385 participants. Registration is in process for Adult Softball. Regular season games will begin week of April 10.

Spring Soccer – The spring soccer season concluded on Friday, March 31.

Tennis – CHS and CMS – held matches 15 days during the month, CMS held region tournament March 27, 28 and 30; Adult Leagues are Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; Calhoun Tennis Academy – Tuesday and Thursday

STARS – Stars program met on Friday, March 24. There were 11 participants.

○ **FACILITY USAGE:**

Billy Bearden Recreation Center

Meeting Room – 5 events
Gym – 2 events
Ratner Pavilion – 1 event

Community Room – 2 events
Playground Pavilion – 4 events

○ **WEBSITE USAGE:**

CalhounRec.com

4,174 views
15- Posts
75 –comments
1, 037 – Users
1, 899 – Searches

Facebook Page

5,934 – People Reached
5,895 – People Engaged
2,100 - Likes
331 Searches
26 Posts

○ **TOURNAMENTS:**

March 11 – USA Softball of Georgia – 1 day tournament with 24 teams. The estimated economic impact - \$121,680.

2017 APRIL EVENTS

April 15 – Baseball Tournament - 1 day
April 22 – 23 – Baseball Tournament
April 29 – USA Softball of Georgia – Fast Pitch Tournament
USTA Tournament – April 8-9
USTA Tournament – April 15-16

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

STA Doubles –April 22-28

Mayor Palmer stated that the opening of the new field noted by Councilwoman Palazzolo was made possible by the voters. The opportunity to have the new park came totally through the SPLOST dollars. The additional field is allowing for seven 3-day tournaments, as well as one tournament that will bring in teams from eight to ten states. The expected economic impact from these tournaments is expected to be over \$1.5 million dollars, totally made possible by the SPLOST. We have another SPLOST coming up in November that will allow us to continue with new projects and other opportunities. Your consideration is very important. Please give some thought to the opportunities that are provided by the SPLOST.

D. Councilman Hammond submitted March reports as follows:

1) **Northwest Georgia Regional Commission**

- **Revolving Loan Fund:** In 1983 a \$300,000 UDAG (Urban Development Action Grant) loan was made to Carriage Carpet. This was the beginning of the Revolving Loan program. The program has resulted in 692 jobs created. The program currently has a 2% interest rate with a 50% match from another source required from the loan applicant. There is currently \$794,130 available to be loaned. \$2.4 million dollars have been utilized from the \$300,000 initial grant of 1983.
- **Census Planning:** Every ten years a census of our citizens is completed. Redistricting on a congressional level is based on population numbers. Multiple grants are available as well based on our poverty rate. The first meeting regarding the census will be tomorrow at the Gordon County Agricultural Center beginning at 9:00 AM.
- **Workforce:** The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act provides education, training and employment opportunities for individuals in Northwest Georgia. The RDC works in a fifteen-county area that includes Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, and Whitfield counties. The Northwest Georgia Regional Commission administers the federally-funded program for the chief elected officials in our fifteen counties.

The regional unemployment rate is 5.3%; the state unemployment rate is also 5.3%. We are now getting back to where we have employment viability in our area. Manufacturing has also increased in Gordon County.

Georgia Trend Magazine places Gordon County as number nine (9) in the State in rankings as far as growing communities.

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

Gordon County per capita income is ranked at number six (6) with a median income of \$33,059.

- **Area on Aging:** The Georgia Department of Human Resources has designated the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission as the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and in this capacity, the RDC plans, coordinates and administers programs for older Georgians throughout the planning and service area. An Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council, which includes consumers, advises on senior programs. The provision of services is administered by the AAA through contracts with service-provider agencies. This program provides services such as meals on wheels, homebound clients, individuals suffering with memory loss, and care provider respite. These services are all available to citizens in Gordon County who need assistance.
- **Planning:** The Northwest Georgia Regional Commission assists member local governments with implementing the Georgia Planning Act of 1989. Local comprehensive plans address community needs and objectives for economic development, community facilities, natural and historic resources, housing, and land use. Plans must be updated every ten years.

The NWGRC encourages counties and municipalities to work together to identify common problems and opportunities and to seek countywide solutions through joint plans. Local plans were used to develop a joint regional plan that identifies opportunities for counties and municipalities to work together on a multi-county basis. The Northwest Georgia Regional Commission has prepared a regional plan for the 15-county State Service Delivery Region 1. The NWGRC also assists local governments with preparing solid waste management plans as required by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act. These services are implemented in partnership with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Further information on planning in Georgia can be found on-line at [Georgia Planning.com](http://GeorgiaPlanning.com).

- The RDC is assisting the City of Calhoun with their Comprehensive Plan, which must be updated every ten years. Larry Vickery, City Planner, will be working with Jim Ledbetter of Gordon County in revising the plan. He will be conducting a meeting with Calhoun representatives that currently sit on the RDC to talk about the vision for the City for the next ten years.

2) **Library**

The Calhoun-Gordon County Library is jointly funded by the Calhoun City Council and Gordon County Commissioners. It is an Authority made up of volunteer servants that are appointed by the governing bodies. The City currently owns the building, which was updated last year with SPLOST funds.

- There are 10,972 library card holders, 7,017 library visitors, and 5,025 total circulation.

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

- There were 203 story time attendance, 64 adult program attendance, 151 digital new users, 208 e-books, 180 audio books, 1,367 computer logins, and 4,870 Facebook visits.
- Free Basic English classes are offered every Saturday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Free child care is offered for those that are attending the Basic English classes.

3) **Tom B. David Airport**

- The Airport is an authority supported by both Gordon County and the City of Calhoun. The airport is the 7th largest permanent based aircraft airport in the state of Georgia. There are currently 118 airplanes based at the airport. The six counties that have more aircraft have populations of 150,000 or greater, where Gordon County only has 56,000. The airport has a 6,000 foot runway, where most others only have 5,000. Therefore, our airport can handle larger corporate jets for local industry. Also, the airport will receive 90% in Federal funding to build a parallel taxiway that will enable the airport to handle more traffic in and out. Future expansions will allow the airport to grow even more and grow the positive local economic impact. Finally, the Airport Authority is looking at expansions of corporate hanger space and long term plans for the airport. Future expansions will allow the airport to grow even more and grow the positive local economic impact.

7. **Public Hearing and Comments:**

Add Fire Protection and Prevention Requirements to C-1 District For Loft Apartments – Ordinance Number 957

- Public Hearing of an ordinance change to Chapter 18 and Chapter 50 of the Calhoun Code of Ordinances to add fire protection and prevention requirements to the C-1 District concerning loft apartments. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing, noting that current loft apartments, and loft apartments under construction do meet these requirements.
- Assistant City Administrator, Paul Worley, stated that all legal requirements pertaining to the ordinance have been met.
- Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments. City Attorney, George Govignon stated that the ordinance is just to codify what everyone else has already been adhering to, that way future construction will have the same requirements. Mayor Palmer asked for questions or comments regarding the possible ordinance change to Chapter 18 and Chapter 50.
- With no public comments being made, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion on the ordinance.

Councilman Hammond made a motion to adopt the ordinance as written. Mayor Pro Tem Barton gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

8. **Old Business:**

None

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

9. **New Business:**

A. **Annexation Request – Jack and Mary Jenkins**

Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of an annexation and zoning request of R-1 for 1.32 acres at a location of 106 East 40th Drive by Jack and Mary Jenkins. The Zoning Advisory Board is scheduled for May 4, 2017. The Public Hearing will be on May 8, 2017.

B. **Annexation Request – Love’s Travel Stops and Country Stores**

Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of an annexation and zoning request of C-2 for 14.81 acres at a location of Parcel #058-060 by Love’s Travel Stops and Country Stores. The Zoning Advisory Board is scheduled for May 4, 2017. The Public Hearing will be on May 8, 2017.

C. **Sign Variance Request – Love’s Travel Stops and Country Stores**

First reading for a sign variance request by Love’s Travel Stops and Country Stores at a location of Parcel #058-060. The sign variance request is 160 feet for the height of the sign and variance of 812 square feet for the face of the sign. The Zoning Advisory Board will meet on May 4, 2017 and the public hearing will be on May 8, 2017.

D. **Benstone Road Dedication Request**

Councilman Hammond made a motion to table the item until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

E. **Resolution Calling for Non-Binding Referendum to Inquire the Electorate – Amendment to Term Limitations and Number of Council Members**

City Attorney Govignon stated the purpose of the resolution was to gather from the electorate whether there is a desire to initiate the proceedings. Anytime you change the local government authority themselves, the composition or the election process, that is one of the Charter requirements. An action is required by the General Assembly. This would not be a binding referendum. It would just be posing the question to the electorate.

Mayor Pro Tem Barton made a motion to postpone the item for a couple of meetings in order to have more discussion in the work session regarding the matter. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

F. **Revolving Loan Advisory Committee Report – Heather Timms D/B/A: Southern Heritage Personal Care Home – 501 Court Street**

Councilman Hammond stated that after reviewing the documentation the Committee’s recommendation was to deny the loan.

Councilman Hammond made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Revolving Loan Advisory Committee and deny the loan. Mayor Pro Barton gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

10. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda:

None

11. Work Reports:

Paul Worley, Assistant City Administrator

The City has been working hard on next year's fiscal budget. The first work session will be on April 24th, with our first public hearing on May 8th. Mr. Worley encouraged the public to participate in the public meetings and learn about what's going on in the City.

Councilman Hammond asked Mr. Worley to discuss his recent findings in determining a cost per gallon on water consumption.

Mr. Worley noted the following statistics:

- Inside/outside ratio industry standard of 1.5. North GA average is 1.57. Calhoun is at 1.36. Cartersville is at 1.93. Reasons: Outside customers are inherently more expensive to provide service because of lower densities and they are farther away from the water/sewer plants. This causes higher distribution and collection system costs.
- The citizens of Calhoun are the ones responsible for the debt repayment and carry the most risk of owning and operating the utility services.
- The City has \$12.8 million dollars of principal and interest payments due in the next 5 years.
- Several of these projects that have accrued debt is tied to County projects. For example, the Miller Ferry Loop project that has improved flow and capacity issues in the southern part of the County. This was a \$1 million dollar project. The south Calhoun bypass has a significant portion of its expense occurring in the County. This is over a \$1 million dollar project.
- A level one project needed is a new water tank in the Ranger area to service the east side of the County. This is close to a \$1 million dollar project. Also, piping upgrades needed to improve flows to the new water tank is another \$2.5 million dollars.
- An additional 10 miles of 2" galvanized line in the County and surrounding municipalities is needed at a cost of \$2 million dollars.
- The City will be evaluating the inside/outside ratio during the upcoming budget discussions concerning the project and revenue needs of our water system. Our water system is something we all too often take for granted, but it is essential to our quality of life in Calhoun and Gordon County.

12. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed:

City Attorney Govignon stated there was no need to move to executive session.

13. Motion to return to General Session:


12. Motion to Report Executive Session, if appropriate

13. Motion to adjourn:

Streamed Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU5GQcAM1sA>

Mayor Pro Tem Barton made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second, with all voting aye. Motion approved.

Approved:



James Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Sharon Nelson, City Clerk