



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 26, 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  
Jackie Palazzolo, Councilmember  
Al Edwards, Councilmember

ALSO: Paul Worley, City Administrator; Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Tony Pyle, Police Chief; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief; Margaret Boyd, Purchasing 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**

Mayor Palmer stated that an amendment was needed to the agenda to add Item D. under Mayor's Comments for the presentation of a Life Saver Award by Woodsmen Life Insurance Company. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to amend the August 26, 2024 agenda as requested. Councilmember Palazzolo 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 August 12, 2024. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer presented a proclamation to the Xavier Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution recognizing September 17 through September 24 as Constitution Week.
- B. Mayor Palmer announced that Calhoun City offices will be closed Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> in observance of Labor Day.
- C. Mayor Palmer announced that the City of Calhoun has tentatively adopted a millage rate which will require an increase in property taxes. Public hearings on the tax increase to be held at the Utility Training Room, 700 West Line Street on August 26, 2024 at 11:30 A.M. and at the Depot Community Room, 109 South King Street at 6:30 P.M. There will also be a third public hearing at the Depot Community Room, 109 South King Street on September 9, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. The tentative increase will result in a millage rate of 3.5 mills, an increase of 0.3 mills.
- D. Mayor Palmer gave the floor to Toby Cane, Lisa Lawson and Rufus Cantrell, of Woodsmen Life Insurance for a Life Saver Award presentation to Cayman Reynolds, a Sonoraville High School student and football player, for his heroic actions on the morning of January 25<sup>th</sup>, when he rescued a car accident victim from a burning vehicle while on his way to school.

6. **Zoning Hearings and Comments**

7. **Other Public Hearings**

8. **Old Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of a zoning change request from R-2 to C-2 for 2.53 acres, at a location of Mauldin Road, being parcel C33-077, by Sankat 1, LLC. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held on September 5<sup>th</sup> and the public hearing held on September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an ordinance to amend certain sections of Part II – Code of Ordinances, Appendix A – Zoning, Article XIV – Zoning Procedures and Hearings, Section 14.6 – Sign requirements for posted notice, to eliminate the sign size of 36 X 36, to allow for more standard sizes to be utilized. The public hearing will be on September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- C. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an ordinance to amend certain sections of Part II – Code of Ordinances, Appendix A – Zoning, Article VI. – General Provisions, Section 6.5 – Required Buffers, changing setback requirements. The public hearing will be on September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- D. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an ordinance to amend certain sections of Part II – Code of Ordinances, Appendix A – Zoning, Article VII – Use Requirements by District, Section 7.14 – PRD, Planned Residential Development, to enact a 24-month expiration on inactive PRD zoning projects. The public hearing will be on September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- E. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an ordinance to amend certain sections of Part II – Code of Ordinances, Chapter 82 – Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places,

Article II – Street Design and Construction Standards, modifying compliance with GDOT standards. The public hearing will be on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

**9. New Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer read a recommendation from the Purchasing Department to award the bid of \$393,995.75 to Northwest Georgia Paving, Inc. for the Public Works Department FY25 asphalt resurfacing and striping for the annual State of Georgia LMIG program. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the bid award. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer read a request from Calhoun Fire Department to surplus a 2007 Ford Crown Victoria on GovDeals. This vehicle has been replaced and is no longer in service. Mileage: 128,569 Vin# 2FAFP71W67X123529. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- C. Mayor Palmer read a request from Calhoun Fire Department to surplus the following miscellaneous items on GovDeals. Four flashlights, red and white brooking light bar, infrared camera, a pump, and a fire hose attachment. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- D. Mayor Palmer gave the floor to Utilities Administrator Ellis to report on a request for a third amendment to the power purchase contract between Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia and its solar participants which increases the price per MWh from \$37.75 to \$41.50 per MWh, with a 15-year fixed term. Utilities Administrator Ellis stated that this was a price increase to the base contract, which has been extended to January 21, 2026. The update also adds a \$3,000,000 additional security to be posted in favor of MEAG, as well as an increase to \$8,000 in delay damages per day. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the amended contract. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- E. Mayor Palmer read a request from the Downtown Development Authority to close Court Street from Wall Street to the railroad tracks near the library, and Park Avenue from the library parking lot to Heavale Brewing, for Rocktober Fest, to be held Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. The requested street closures start at 9:00 a.m. and the event will run from 2:00 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. with streets reopening at 12:00 a.m. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the request, subject to GDOT approval. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

**10. Other written items not on the agenda**

**11. Work Reports**

- A. Paul Worley, City Administrator gave a review of July 2024 general cash and hotel motel reports (copy attached). Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the reports as presented. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

City Administrator Worley stated that restricted funds were set aside as designated funds for the new police department station, the new records retention building, and the public safety radio projects. These projects have been completed and remaining funds are ready to be released back into unrestricted funds as reserves, or to use

toward future projects. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

- B. Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator gave a review of the July 2024 utilities cash report (copy attached). Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the report as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- C. George Govignon, City Attorney, had nothing to report.


12. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed

13. Motion to return to General Session

14. Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Approved:

  
James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:

  
Sharon Nelson, City Clerk

