

**CITY OF CALHOUN  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM  
109 SOUTH KING ST  
APRIL 13, 2015 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

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

**ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator; Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager; George Govignon, City Attorney; Paul Worley, City Clerk; 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 Palmer 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 as amended and Councilman Hammond seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.**
- 4. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2015 City Council meeting. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.**
- 5. Mayor's Comments:**
  - A. There will be a budget work session April 27, 2015 after the regular City Council meeting which starts at 7:00 P.M. The meeting will be held at the Depot Community Room, 109 South King Street. No official action will take place, however the public is notified and invited to attend.**
- 6. Council Comments:**
  - A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards gave the March report as follows:
    - 1) Electric Department**
      - o The Bad Pole Replacement program continues on South Industrial Blvd. and South River Street. Pole removal continues as Bell South and Comcast transfers off the old poles to the new poles.**
      - o Construction continues on Harbin Clinic and J.W. Plaza Drive.**
      - o Construction has begun on Lenox subdivision phase # 2.**
      - o Construction has begun on the Brumlow Mill expansion.**
      - o LED Streetlight conversion has begun on Piedmont Street.**
      - o Construction has begun on lighting Interstate I-75 Exit 312 at Hwy 53.****

- The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for March was 37,960,498 kWh. This was a new March record beating 2014 by 3 percent.

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 85
- Completed and closed- 92  
Consisting of:
  - Capital construction- 4
  - Street and security lighting-46
  - Distribution Maintenance-11
  - Electric Locate Tickets- 222

**2) Telecommunications Departments:**

- Started fiber drop construction to new customer.
- Upgraded two existing internet customers to new network.
- Added 410 Meg customers' point-to-point circuits.
- Disconnect one 10 Meg point-to-point and two internet customers.
- Repaired fiber cut by tree falling during a storm.
- Cleaned out old files on billing server to increase disk space.
- Met with MEAG engineer for circuit location for substation 5.
- Restored critical files encrypted by hijacking virus. Tracked down and cleaned computer with hijacking virus.
- Developing plan for upgrading access equipment software after first attempt failed.
- Opened 25 and closed 21 work orders.

**3) Geographic Information Systems:**

- Updated water meter data.
- Training new user at Electric.
- Updated zoning parcel data.
- Worked on sewer master plan mapping
- Updated pre-fire plans and fire hydrant mapping for Fire Department.
- Updated fiber mapping and added fiber tracing feature for Telecom Department.
- Updated addresses from changes in billing account data.
- Updated City and GIS websites.

**4) Downtown Development Authority**

- BBQ, Boogie, and Blues will be on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> in Downtown Calhoun. KCBS sanctioned BBQ competition, live entertainment, fashion runway show, food and arts and crafts vendors, kids zone, Amazing Race contest, and benefit bicycle ride. Also, Destination America will be on site filming an episode of "BBQ Pit Wars!"

**B. Councilman Barton gave the March report as follows:**

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

- The Brittany Drive Expansion Project- The project is complete and start up is progressing and going well.

- Clarifier Mechanism Replacement Project- The new mechanisms and troughs are on site. Installation has begun and is approximately 75% complete.
- I-75 & Red Bud Road utility relocate- The project should be completed this month.
- The 2" galvanized line replacement project is underway on the first project area off Newtown Road and the second project area in the Hunts Subdivision is scheduled to begin later this month.
- Flocculation and sedimentation control project at the Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant: The work on Basin #4 is complete and work on Basins #1 and #2 has begun.
- Water System Modeling project is on schedule and should be completed in the next few weeks.
- SR 225 Water Main Relocation (GDOT Bridge @ New Echota)- This project has been completed.
- Hwy 53 Floyd County Connection- The project is under construction and is scheduled to be completed by June.

**2) Water Treatment Plant Facility**

- Total gallons withdrawn: 298,970,000
- Daily average: 9,644,194
- Wells: 123,480,000
- Big Springs: 119,300,000
- Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 44.3
- Rainfall- 3.39"
- Congratulations to Operator Jeremy King for successfully completing the State of Georgia – Board of Certification Class One operators' exam.
- Also, congratulations to the entire water treatment staff for being awarded the "Gold Award" by the GA Association of Water Professionals. This honor is awarded to those water treatment facilities that have no reporting or maximum contaminant level violations in the past calendar year. This is the third consecutive award for both the Mauldin Road and the Brittany Drive plants.
- Seven water treatment staff members attended a two hour chlorine safety training session on March 27th presented at the Utilities training room. Employees are routinely trained on the most current safety measures to assure their safety as well as that of the community.

**3) Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility**

- Treated a daily average of 5.803 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 9, average suspended effluent of 11, and an average COD of 63.

**4) Water Distribution**

- 18 Water connections, 25 water service leaks repaired, 6 water main leaks repaired, 19 meters changed, 107 meters pulled for no usage, 38 investigated leaks, 11 meter cut-off valves changed, 5 yards or roadway edges repaired due to previous work, 37 utility locates called in for work orders, 377 utility locates responded to, and 53 misc. calls

- Installed 2,400' of 2" black poly pipe along in the Calhoun Recreation Department to replace old 2" galvanized lines with many leaks and moved 2" meter to River Street.
- Completed installing 500' of 8" ductile iron pipe to relocate water lines at new bridge construction on Hwy. 225 and the river just east of the Elks Club.

**5) Waste Water Collection**

- 2,100' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 264 utility locates completed, 2 lift station repairs completed, 5,800' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 74 manholes opened and inspected, 1 new sewer connection installed, 4 sanitary sewer services repaired

**6) Building Inspection Department**

- Issued 38 permits for an estimated cost of \$1,861,806, collected \$8,173 in permit fees. This included 3 new residential, 4 residential remodeling, 1 commercial remodeling, 1 residential plumbing, 2 new residential HVAC, 2 residential electrical, 6 commercial electric, 8 sign, 2 grading, and 114 total inspections.

**7) Recreation Department**

- GRPA STATE BASKETBALL – 7-8 BOYS AND 7-8 GIRLS – Calhoun Recreation Department hosted the GRPA State Basketball tournament for 7-8 Boys and 7-8 Girls March 6-7, 2015. Calhoun Recreation. Calhoun Middle and Calhoun High gyms were used for the tournament. A total of 16 teams participated in the 2 day event with a total 1,248 players, coaches and spectators. The estimated economic impact \$54,080.00
- PROGRAMS: Spring Baseball and Softball – Registration for spring baseball and softball is at 507 participants. There are also adult softball teams that will be participating in the Men's Open and Men's Industrial/Church leagues. The spring baseball and softball league games will begin April 13.
- Spring Soccer – The Spring Soccer season concluded on Wednesday, April 3.
- United Way – The 2015 allocation request has been submitted. Our agency will be reviewed for United Way allocations in the next several weeks.
- Website Usage – total visits 3,692
- **2015 TOURANMENTS AND EVENTS:**
  - Opening Day Baseball/Softball – April 13, 2015
  - ASA National Qualifier – 16 & under – April 17-19, 2015
  - ASA Girls Fast Pitch Invitational – April 25, 2015
  - ASA Girls Fast Pitch Invitational – May 16, 2015

**C. Councilman Crowley gave the March report as follows:**

**1) Police Department**

- Made 493 cases with 5 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$61,363

- Issued 764 warnings
- Investigated 55 highway accidents, 54 private property accidents
- Provided 77 escorts
- 1,384 incident reports
- Responded to 249 alarms
- Miles patrolled: 53,413
- Responded to 4,482 calls for service by E-911

**2) Municipal Court and Probation**

- Total Court cases- 409
- Court cases dropped- 89
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 190
- Number of Probation cases- 42
- Probation Payments- \$19,213
- Probation Revocations- 17
- Failure to appear- 50
- Prisoner transports- 27
- Subpoenas served- 17

**3) Fire Department- Suppression**

- Responded to 172 calls for service for the suppression division, 6 fire incidents for damages. (\$67,500 in estimated fire damage)
- Responded to 116 medical service calls
- Responded to 10 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 14 false alarms or false calls, 21 good intent
- GSAR team, with CFD members, were activated for two missing children searches to Haralson County and Gordon County. Both were found safe.

**Training Division**

- Department completed 729 hours of training.
- Training consisted of: apparatus pump training, CPR and AED recertification, medical patient packaging of down firefighter, and required core skills.

**4) Fire Inspection Department**

- 93 total reported activities/inspections which included 19 annual inspections, 3 new business inspections, 27 requested inspections, 12 follow-up or re-inspections, and 27 consultations
- Met with EPD for inspection at City fuel depot

D. Councilman Hammond gave the March report as follows:

**1) Street Department**

- Completed 20 shop and 18 street department work orders.
- Placed 10 new street signs.
- Inspected and maintained 103 miles of streets and storm drainage.
- Dug out and put stone base down for sidewalk on East May Street.

- Cleaned out a 30' section of ditch line on Three Oaks Drive.
- Continued work on the Animal Control Building addition. There will be an open house when the expansion is finished.

**2) Cemetery Department**

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 9 grave sites.
- Sold 9 new grave spaces.

**3) Animal Control**

- Housed 34 dogs and 16 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 10
- Number of cats adopted: 0
- Number of dogs rescued: 18
- Number of cats rescued: 2
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 6
- Number of dogs euthanized: 0
- Number of dogs euthanized: 2
- Number of cats euthanized: 13
- Number of warnings given: 23
- Number of bite cases: 1
- Citations issues: 3
- Number of inquiries: 73
- Animal control is working with a newly formed nonprofit Pals for Paws, which will operate a thrift store to help raise money and collect donations to help pay pet vaccination, spay and neuter, and adoption fees to help increase the number of animals adopted.

**4) Parks Department**

- The Parks Department grounds crew picked up litter, hauled garbage to the dump, and maintained records at records room. Identified 166 records boxes for destruction according to the retention schedule.
- Mowed and weeded 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.

**5) Safety Committee**

- Safety topic- accident investigation
- Safety Inspection- Public Works Department
- Vehicle Accidents: 1- Police
- Workers Compensation: 0

**6) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission**

- The Work Force Investment Program provides a dislocation list by county and city, which identifies industries that have closed and works to help relocate/retrain displaced workers. Calhoun will be losing 120 jobs at Kobelco this year from July through September. The Work Force

Investment Board (WIB) is made up of City and County elected officials and also other civic leaders. The Federal Government is now mandating that 20% of the WIB be comprised of representatives of labor unions. Unemployment numbers: December 2014: Gordon County- 7%, NWGA region- 6.6%, State- 6.9%, Whitfield County- 8%, Murray County- 8.5%, Bartow County- 6.5%; January 2015: Gordon County- 6.8% and this is lower than Whitfield, Murray, and Floyd Counties, NWGA region- 6.8%, State- 6.4%; February 2015: Gordon County- 6.3%, Bartow- 6.2%, Whitfield- 6.7%, State- 6.3%.

**7) Tom B. David Airport**

- The airport is the 7<sup>th</sup> largest permanent based aircraft airport in the state of Georgia. The airport has a 6,000 foot runway and is home to the Life Force helicopter.

**7. Public Hearings and Comments:**

A. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing for a beer and wine package request by Hardik Patel DBA: ABC Convenience at a location of 703 Oothcalooga Street.

- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
- Mayor Palmer asked for public comments.
- There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the beer and wine package request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

**8. Old Business: None**

**9. New Business:**

- A. Mayor Palmer read a request to approve the write-off of uncollectable debt for cemetery spaces at Fain and Chandler Cemeteries in the amount of \$11,077. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the write-off request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. (List of accounts attached)
- B. Mayor Palmer stated that a variance request by Evco Plastics at a location of 100 Evco Drive has been withdrawn.
- C. Mayor Palmer read a beer, wine, liquor package manager change request for Liquor Mart at a location of 541 Hwy 53 E. The prior manager was Jayeskkumar Patel and the proposed manager is Nailesh Patel. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the manager change request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- D. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of the updated 2015 City of Calhoun Zoning Map. The City of Calhoun's GIS Department updates and maintains the zoning map. Councilman Barton made a motion to set the public hearing for April 27<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

- E. Mayor Palmer read a request to declare items surplus used by the Public Works Department. Items include a 1982 Chevy C-30 1 ton pickup (VIN# 1GBHC34M7CV127302), Simplicity 38" cut mower, 2004 Gravely 72" cut mower, and several miscellaneous items such as weedeaters, blower, and hedge trimmer. Councilman Hammond made a motion to declare the items as surplus. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

**10. Other written items not on the agenda: None**

**11. Work Reports:**

- A. City Administrator Peterson
- B. General Manager Vickery

The City of Calhoun is in the process of investigating the possibility of a community based "Solar Energy Farm" that may be used to supplement the energy resource portfolio of Calhoun Utilities and provide opportunity for community participation. In beginning such an investigation, it is Calhoun's responsibility and desire to establish and secure a practical application of local, State and Federal law or regulation for application within the City of Calhoun. This Policy will consider many factors associated with the deployment of alternate energy resources such as solar power including the following considerations:

1. Establish one or more rates or rate riders to ensure the City of Calhoun and its utilities operations appropriately recover the cost of service and compensate for solar, wind, fuel cell or any other alternate or distributed energy resource that is interconnected to the Calhoun system and is reliant on the Utilities' infrastructure for continual 'back-up' support for reliability and continuity of energy services.
2. Ensure that any compensation for an interconnected alternate or distributed energy resource considers all imbedded cost of existing, future or planned power supply resources or infrastructure and is further compensated at the Utility avoided costs for equivalent resources.
3. Ensure that, in the community of Calhoun and within the Utility service area of Calhoun Utilities, all appropriate zoning, ordinance, neighborhood covenants, and state or federal laws and regulations be met in planning and installing alternate or distributed energy resources.
4. To encourage the use of alternate or distributed energy resources in the most cost effective and technically viable applications whether community or individually owned.

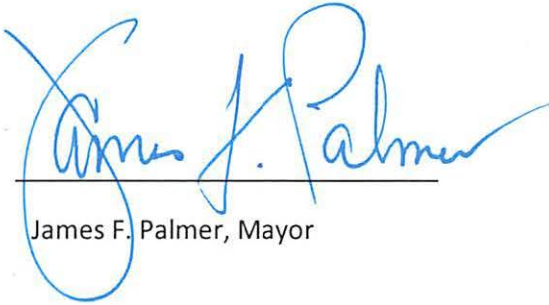
**C. City Attorney Govignon**

- Attorney Govignon stated that there was a need to consider a resolution concerning implementing a moratorium of scrap yards and recycling centers due to a lack of regulations and restrictions in the City's current ordinance. Before future facilities have the opportunity to open a new business the City needs time to implement a new ordinance that clearly establishes the proper regulations. The ordinance will likely include some zoning changes and also changes to the business license regulations. Attorney Govignon asked for a 90 day moratorium to allow for development of the ordinance and proper time for

the zoning changes to go through the Zoning Advisory Board. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the 90 day moratorium on scrap yards and recycling centers. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. (resolution attached)

12. Councilman Hammond made a motion to adjourn the regular session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Barton with all voting aye, motion approved.

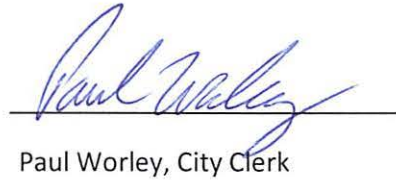
Approved:



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James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



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Paul Worley, City Clerk

## Proposed Write-offs for Cemetery

Date Sold	Person to Whom Sold	Amount Owed	Cemetery
5/12/1954	Delbert Lee Pye	\$ 100.00	Chandler
4/1/1970	Rosemary Monteith	75.00	Chandler
10/2/1974	Vernon Cooley	300.00	Chandler
3/15/1984	John Burton	600.00	Chandler
4/25/1986	Teresa Shirley	450.00	Chandler
12/1/1986	Charles Willix	737.00	Chandler
3/26/1987	Donnie Maness	250.00	Chandler
1/18/1988	Christine W. King	230.00	Chandler
9/20/1988	Judy Ann Paterson	250.00	Chandler
1/7/1989	Jeff Grimaldi	600.00	Chandler
8/14/1989	Evelyn Thomas	400.00	Chandler
9/18/1989	George Walker	500.00	Chandler
9/20/1989	Ronald Shepard	400.00	Chandler
3/14/1990	Dwight Davis	225.00	Chandler
10/2/1995	Annette Hayes	350.00	Chandler
3/19/1997	Joan Lay Moore	300.00	Chandler
6/4/1998	Clyde Flurry	550.00	Chandler
12/16/1998	Thelma Fuller	500.00	Chandler
3/8/2000	Dewey Gowens	75.00	Chandler
12/4/2000	Debbie McGuire	270.00	Chandler
1/8/2001	Eddie Bishop	190.00	Chandler
1/8/2001	Lanette Black	290.00	Chandler
3/27/1965	Doris Stanley	25.00	Fain
10/2/1974	Vernon Cooley	300.00	Fain
3/31/1978	Barbara Phipps	450.00	Fain
6/20/1978	Ellan Carver Bridges	100.00	Fain
9/10/1979	J.W. Edwards	210.00	Fain
1/24/1980	Larry Nix	300.00	Fain
7/29/1980	Maureen Johnson	150.00	Fain
9/12/1995	Joan Moore	150.00	Fain
11/12/1993	Brenda Jordan	250.00	Fain
1/21/1994	Winford Huges	250.00	Fain
1/1/1995	Kelly Davison	350.00	Fain
5/12/1994	John S. Smith	250.00	Fain
1/24/1997	Thurman Clark	150.00	Fain
10/11/1999	George Jones	350.00	Fain
11/15/2001	Thurman Watkins	150.00	Fain
	<b>Total of Proposed Write-off</b>	<b><u>\$ 11,077.00</u></b>	