



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 8, 2024 - 7:00 PM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem Moyer
Councilmember Edwards
Ray Denmon, Councilmember

ALSO: Paul Worley, City Administrator; Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Ken Carson, Police Department; Terry Mills, Deputy Fire Chief; Erik Henson, Water and Sewer Director; Mark Burchett, Waste Water Collection; and Donny Morgan, Water Distribution.

1. Council Meeting Called to Order

Welcome

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

Invocation

Councilmember Edwards 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

Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

4. Amendment or Approval of Minutes

Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of March 25, 2024. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. Mayor's Comments

- A. Mayor Palmer stated that Angie Gillman, Gordon County E-9-1-1 Interim Director, is presenting for signature a Proclamation Observing Telecommunicator's Week. The City Council of the City of Calhoun and Board of Commissioners of Gordon County hereby proclaim the week of April 14-20, 2024 as "National Telecommunicator's Week" and urge all citizens to join in honoring the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our county and citizens safe. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the proclamation. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer announced that a work session will be held on Monday, April 22nd beginning at 10:00 a.m. to review the FY25 Preliminary Budget. The work session will be held at the City Annex, located at 700 West Line Street, and is open to the public.
- C. Mayor Palmer announced that the first public hearing on the City's Annual Operating Budget and Capital Plan for the fiscal year July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 will be held on May 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

6. Council Comments

- A. Mayor Palmer submitted March reports as follows:

1) Electric Department

- The LED Streetlight upgrade continues around the City.
- Electrical Engineering continue for the Coosa Valley Federal Credit Union, the new townhomes on Newtown Rd.
- Construction continues on the 53 Townhomes at Old Mill, Home to Suites Hotel on Lovers Lane, The new overhead line extension on Marine Dr and The City of Calhoun building and planning building. The Electric Dept is continuing system upgrades necessary for the new growth and increased reliability.
- Construction also continues for the Exchange Apartments, Manor Lake Cottages of Calhoun on Curtis Parkway, upgrading Exit 315 to new LED lighting, the New Pickleball courts and the new GBI building on McDaniel Station Rd.

WORK ORDERS IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED:

• NEWLY CREATED	95
• COMPLETED AND CLOSED	95
•	
• CONSISTING OF:	
• CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION	43
• DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE	1
• OUTAGES / TROUBLE CALLS	12
• SECURITY / STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE	1
• TEMPORARY POWER HOOK UP	2
• WORK FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS	28
• NEW METER SETS	39

• METER MAINTENANCE/REPLACEMENT	18
• ELECTRIC LOCATE TICKETS PROCESSED-	248

The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for March 2024 is about 27.5 million kilowatt hours (kWh's).

2) Telecommunications

- Connected 1 new internet customer and completed three year renewal for existing customer.
- Repaired fiber line break from tree falling across Piedmont Street. Outage affected eight customers for nine hours.
- Upgraded customer from 100 to 1000 megabits per second.
- Configured 28 new laptops for Police Department patrol cars. Cleaned 28 old laptops returned from Police Department to return to reseller.
- Installed four computers and three printers.
- Filed annual revenue report with the FCC.
- Firewall high availability system worked when primary firewall hard drive failed. All systems continued to work while replacement firewall was shipped, reconfigured and connected back to the network.
- Updated 12 access points on City's Wi-Fi system.
- Completed interviews and hired Clark de Leon for new IT/Cybersecurity position to start April 1st.
- Opened 10 and closed 13 work orders.

Geographic Information Systems

- Started PFAS water mapping project for well sites identification.
- Updated fire hydrant mapping for station zones.
- Continued Updating data for Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory project.
- Participated in water modeling sessions with Engineering Department.
- Generated Electric Usage Reports
- Updated data and mapping for the following:
 - Water system and meter updates
 - Fiber
 - Zoning
- Updated Physical addressing, building and billing information.
- Updated City and GIS web sites.

3) Building Inspections

Issued 228 permits for an estimated cost of \$7,423,232, collected \$62,707 in permit fees. This included 51 new residential, 6 residential remodel, 0 new commercial, 1 commercial remodel, 0 new industrial, 1 industrial remodel, 61 residential plumbing, 21 residential electrical, 13 residential HVAC, 1 commercial plumbing, 5 commercial electrical, 1 commercial HVAC, 1 industrial plumbing, and 1 industrial electrical. 664 total inspections.

4) **Library**

- There are 13,608 library card holders, 5,510 library visitors, and 6,153 total circulation.
- There were 206 story time attendance, 31 adult program attendance, 92 new users, 1,313 e-books, 1,465 audio books, 453 computer logins, and 0 Facebook visits.

B. Councilmember Edwards submitted March reports as follows:

1) **Water and Sewer Operations**

Water Treatment Plant

- Total gallons withdrawn: 336,720,000
- Daily average: 10,861,935
- Wells: 133,290,000
- Big Springs: 0
- % produced by Brittany Drive: 39.6%
 - Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 36.43%
 - Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 41.01%
 - Rainfall for March – 6.68"

Waste Water Treatment Plant

- Treated a daily average of 9.389 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 6, and an average COD of 60.

Water Distribution & Wastewater Collection

- 289 work orders completed, 51 new water connections, 13 water service leaks repaired, 14 water main leaks repaired, 0 water services changed to new main lines, 11 meter changes, 45 utility locates called in for work orders, 770 utility locates responses.
- 2,000 feet of Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 537 utility locates completed, 11,500 feet sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 3 new sewer connections installed, 3 sanitary sewer services repaired.

2) **Water and Sewer Construction**

Projects Under Construction

- SR 136 @ Coosawattee Bridge Water Relocation - This project includes moving the water main on SR 136 so that the Coosawattee River bridge can be replaced. Construction for the water main relocation is now completed.
- GBI McDaniel Station Rd Sewer Extension. This project includes extending gravity sewer 1,000' from the city's police department towards the Hwy 53 Spur intersection to serve the new GBI building that is now under construction. This project is approximately 85% complete.
- Service Line Inventory – As mandated by the EPA, every water system in the USA has to identify and develop a service line inventory of all services found within their water distribution system. This project is

now underway and city crews are identifying water services throughout the distribution system. Project completion percentage approximately 76%.

Projects in Design & Development

- Water & Sewer Maintenance Building – Contract Awarded
- New Fire Tower Water Tank Project
- Water Treatment Plant Modifications
- Brittany Dr & Water Booster Stations Standby Generator Project
- Northwest Booster Station Header Modification Project.
- Peters St. Phase III Water Relocation
- Curtis Pkwy Water & Sewer Relocation
- Spring Valley Sewer Rehabilitation Project
- Engineering Department is Actively Working on Approximately 25 Plan Reviews & Inspections for Developments.

C. Councilman Denmon submitted March reports as follows:

1) **Public Works**

Street Department

- Completed 30 shop and 27 street dept. work orders.
- Installed 4 new street signs.
- Cleaned up an oil spill on Lake drive.
- Helped the Electric Department cut and remove a tree on Gallman Avenue.

Cemetery

1. Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler cemetery.
2. Supervised the opening and closing of 12 grave sites.
3. Sold 8 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. Restored table and chairs for Building Inspection.

Animal Control

- Housed 12 dogs and 10 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 4
- Number of cats adopted: 0
- Number of dogs rescued: 2
- Number of cats rescued: 10
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 2
- Number of cats reclaimed by owner: 0
- Number of dogs euthanized: 0

- Number of cats euthanized: 0
- Number of warnings given: 19
- Number of bite cases: 1
- Citations issues: 1

2) **Recreation Department**

Baseball and Softball – The 2024 baseball and softball season has started. Practices began March 2. We have 19 baseball teams and 7 softball teams. The scheduled games started Monday, April 1.

Youth Soccer – The 2024 spring soccer season started March 23. There are 61 teams participating. Fifty-two games were played March 23-April 2.

Youth Volleyball – The 2024 Spring volleyball season started March 7 with practices. There are 14 teams participating this spring. Matches will start Monday March 23.

5th Annual Miracle Run – The Miracle run was held March 16. There were 24 participants and 9 sponsors. A total of \$1,560.00 was donated to both the Winner’s Club and Camp New Adventure.

202.4 2024 Walk Challenge – There are 75 participants in the 202.4 Walk Challenge. Participants will have until December 31 to walk 202.4 miles.

PICKLEBALL CLASSES - There were 33 participants in the March classes. Friday evening and Saturday morning classes were also added for March

Tennis – CMS and CHS tennis matches were played throughout the month
 Combo 18 and over and +40 league had 75 participants
 Tuesday and Thursday morning drills – 20 participants
 Flex – 100 participants

Parks/Facilities –

- Check and repair fences
- Pressure washed softball building
- Set-up Bernstein Park for Calhoun Community Education T-ball
- Field Maintenance prep for baseball/softball season
- Prep fields for middle school baseball games
- Prep fields for middle and high school soccer
- Prep field for Rec soccer games
- Mow all parks grounds
- Weed eat all parks grounds
- Pool maintenance

Website Usage

CalhounRec.com
 Page Views – 4,535

Facebook
 Reach – 18,650

Users – 3,405
Sessions – 2,366
Post – 19

Post Engagements – 4,756
Post – 19
Photo Views – 2,047
Page Views – 2,551

Facility Rentals:

Billy Bearden Recreation Center
Meeting Room – 2 events
Community Room – 4 events
Gym – 2 events
Pavilion
Black and Yellow Playground – 7 events

Community and Professional Involvement

Young Professionals Meeting – March 14 – 2 staff members
GRPA State Committee Meetings – March 13 – 2 staff members
GRPA Summer Camp Workshop – March 5 – 2 staff members
GRPA Maintenance Management Workshop – March 25-28 – 1 staff member

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 20 – Touch of Calhoun – 110 Recreation Drive

- 3) **Downtown Development Authority**
No report

D. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer submitted March reports as follows:

• **Police Department**

- Made 327 cases with 1 DUI
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$38,411.48
- Issued 812 warnings
- Investigated 55 highway accidents, 45 private property accidents
- Obstruction - 15
- Lethal Weapon Encounter - 0
- Alarm responses - 133
- Miles patrolled: 47,180

• **Municipal Court**

- Court cases docketed- 255
- Probation cases assigned- 10
- Probation revocations- 1
- Failure to appear- 31
- Bench warrants-5

• **Fire Department**

Total Reported Calls for Service for the Suppression Division 181

<i>Type of Dispatched Calls</i>	Number of Dispatched Calls
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<i>Structure Fires</i>	2
<i>Mobile Property Fire (Vehicle)</i>	0
<i>Natural Vegetation</i>	4
<i>Outside Rubbish Fire</i>	2
<i>Special Outside Fires</i>	1
Total Fire Calls	9

<i>Rescue Emergency Medical Call</i>	114
<i>Medical Assist</i>	10
<i>Motor Vehicle Accidents</i>	0
<i>Search for Lost Person</i>	0
<i>Water or Ice Related Rescue</i>	0
<i>Rescue / EMS Standby</i>	1
Total Medical Calls	125

<i>Flammable Gas or Liquid Condition Other</i>	0
<i>Combustible/Flammable Spills & Leaks</i>	1
<i>Chemical Release, Reaction, or Toxic Condition</i>	0
<i>Electrical Wiring / Equipment Problem</i>	1
Total Hazardous Conditions Incidents (No Fire)	2

<i>Water Problem</i>	1
<i>Unauthorized Burning</i>	0

<i>Person in Distress</i>	4
<i>Public Assistance</i>	1
<i>Total Service Calls</i>	6

<i>Dispatched and Canceled En-Route</i>	19
<i>Good Intent Call</i>	1
<i>Hazmat Release Investigation</i>	0
<i>Wrong Location or No Incident Found at Dispatch Location</i>	9
<i>Smoke Scare Odor of Smoke</i>	0
<i>Malicious, Mischievous False Alarm</i>	1
<i>CO Alarm Activation</i>	0
<i>System or Detector Malfunction</i>	0
<i>Unintentional System / Detector Operation (No Fire)</i>	5
<i>False Alarm or False Calls Other</i>	4
<i>Total False Alarms or False Calls</i>	39

<i>Flood Assessment</i>	0
<i>Wind Storm Assessment</i>	0
<i>Severe Weather and Natural Disaster Calls</i>	0

Monthly Fire Suppression Activities and Accomplishments

Department Total
 Turnout Time 1:49
 Travel Time 3:37
 Total Response Time 5:26

A Shift
 Turnout Time 1:51
 Travel Time 3:37
 Total Response Time 5:28

B Shift
 Turnout Time 2:12
 Travel Time 3:38

Total Response Time 5:50

C Shift

Turnout Time 1:26

Travel Time 3:37

Total Response Time 5:03

Fire Inspection – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Division

Inspections and Enforcement Activities

<i>Annual Inspections</i>	8
<i>New Business Inspections</i>	2
<i>Requested Inspections</i>	22
<i>Follow Up, Re-Inspections</i>	3
<i>Burn Site Inspections</i>	1
<i>Plan Review</i>	3
<i>Pre-Construction Meeting</i>	0
<i>Sprinkler Permits Issued</i>	0
<i>Fuel Tank Permit (Install, Removal, or Service)</i>	0
<i>Consultations</i>	22
<i>Illegal Burning Citations</i>	0
<i>Fire Extinguisher Classes</i>	1
<i>Fire Drills</i>	0
<i>Fire Prevention Programs</i>	1
<i>Zoning / Annexation Meetings</i>	1
<i>Total Inspection – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Activities</i>	61

Monthly Fire Inspections – Public Safety Education – Code Enforcement Division Activities and Accomplishments

- March 6th, 2024 - Inspector McMahan attended the GFIA meeting at Gordon County Fire
- March 6th, 2024 - Division Chief Duvall attended the Calhoun Safety Committee Meeting and attended the GEMA CRASE Class.

- March 8th, 2024 - Inspector McMahan taught Fire Prevention and Extinguisher Class to Remnant Homeschool Group. This included 17 kids and 12 adults.
- March 14th, 2024 - Inspector McMahan attended a three-day IAAI Fire Investigation Conference in Cobb County.
- March 18th, 2024 – Inspector McMahan met with the Georgia Arson Control Board and Calhoun Police Department about suspicious fires on Nathan Circle.
- March 20th, 2024 – Provided Fire Safety Education at David’s Day Care for 70 kids.
- March 20th, 2024 – Inspector McMahan completed his EMT recertification training which consisted of 5 days of training over March.
- March 21st, 2024 – Inspector McMahan and Division Chief Duvall attended the Gordon County LEPC meeting and NWS Storm Spotter Class.
- March 21st, 2024 – Inspector McMahan met with the State Fire Marshal at Exchange Apartments and Town Place Hotel.
- March 28th, 2024 – Division Chief Duvall attended the City of Calhoun Zoning Meeting.

Training and Special Operations Division

Monthly Training Hours

<i>Company Training</i>	1091.00
<i>Facility Training</i>	366.00
<i>Officer Training</i>	164.00
<i>Driver Training</i>	3.00
<i>Specialized Rescue Training</i>	54.00
<i>Hazardous Materials Training</i>	81.00
<i>Medical Training</i>	288.00
<i>Fire Inspector Training</i>	0.00
<i>Fire Investigation Training</i>	72.00
<i>Fire and Life Safety Educator Training</i>	0.00
Total Monthly Training Hours	2119.00

2024 Annual Training Hours

<i>Company Training</i>	2215.00
<i>Facility Training</i>	484.00

<i>Officer Training</i>	580.00
<i>Driver Training</i>	1102.00
<i>Specialized Rescue Training</i>	54.00
<i>Hazardous Materials Training</i>	75.00
<i>Medical Training</i>	550.00
<i>Fire Inspector Training</i>	6.00
<i>Fire Investigation Training</i>	72.00
<i>Fire and Life Safety Educator Training</i>	0.00
Total 2023 Annual Training Hours	5138.00

Monthly Training and Special Operations Team Accomplishments

- March 3rd, 2024 – Lt Daniel, Lt Mills, Eng. Kidd, FF Richardson, FF Cantrell, FF Dodd, FF Hunter, and FF Meintz attended an Advanced Truck Company Operations class at Dalton Fire Department.
- March 4th, 2024 – Administered an NPQ Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations Exam.
- March 4th, 2024 – FF Hall successfully passed his promotional Strategy and Tactics Exam.
- March 7th, 2024 – Administered an NPQ Firefighter I Exam
- March 7th, 2024 – Provided a GSAR Inservice for Whitfield County CERT Program
- March 8th, 2024 – Assisted with Fire Extinguisher Training for Community Program
- March 12th, 2024 – Performed a Career Day Presentation at Calhoun High School
- March 13th, 2024 – Provided CPR for Georgia Army National Guard
- March 14th, 2024 – Assisted with Georgia Fireworks Tax Grant Award Committee
- March 19th, 2024 – Hosted two days of GSAR Quarterly Training for team
- March 21st, 2024 – Attended Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council Meeting
- March 22nd, 2024 – Recruit Fowler successfully obtained his NPQ Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations Certifications.
- March 26th, 2024 – Attended the Northwest Georgia Fire Chief and Training Officer Association Meetings.
- March 29th, 2024 – Lt Daniel, FF Richardson, and Recruit Fowler all successfully completed GPSTC Structural Fire Control Course.

Upcoming Important Training and Special Operations Activities

- April – EMT Program and Recruit Program throughout the month
- April 8th, 2024 – GPSTC Crash Victim Extrication Course

- April 10th, 2024 – Community CPR Course
- April 15th, 2024 – GPSTC Handling Flammable and Combustible Liquids Course
- April 16th, 2024 – GPSTC Pressurized Container Fire Control Course
- April 17th, 2024 – Emergency Management Summit
- April 22nd, 2024 – NPQ Rope Rescue Course

- **Safety Committee**

- On Wednesday, March 6th the Safety committee with other employees attended an Active Shooter Class, By Tim Reeve with GEMA in the Utility Training room. Then 3/25/24 Water Construction Facility had a Safety Inspection with Donnie Morgan and Casey Tumlin. Their facility was very clean and organized with no issues.
- Vehicle accidents: 0
- Workers' compensation: 0

7. **Zoning Hearings 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 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 an annexation and zoning request from County residential to R-1B, at a location of 134 Jones Road (049-121), by Iris Retamar. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting scheduled for April 4th was not held due to lack of a quorum.
- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
 - There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning annexation request. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the annexation request. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
 - Mayor Palmer called for a motion concerning zoning request of R-1B. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning request. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

8. **Other Hearings and Comments**

- A. Public hearing of a beer and wine pouring license request at a location of 427 Hwy 53 East, by Alexia Prasinis d/b/a Gondola Pizza. Ms. Prasinis will also serve as the store manager.
- Councilmember Edwards made a motion to remove the item from the table. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
 - City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
 - Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments beginning with the applicant.
 - There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning the alcohol request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to approve the alcohol request. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

9. **Old Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an ordinance to amend, strike or change certain sections of Part II – Code of Ordinances, Appendix A – Zoning, Section 10.7 – Freestanding signs; to repeal all conflicting ordinances; to fix an effective date; and for other purposes. The public hearing will be held April 22nd.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of a beer and wine package license request, at a location of 198 Peters Street, by Omar Food Mart, LLC (Mohsin Khan) d/b/a Mexican Mart. Asif Khan will serve as the store manager. The public hearing will be held April 22nd.

10. **New Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of an annexation and zoning request from County A-1 to PRD for 40.15 acres, located on Peters Street and being parcels 040-026A, 040-026B, and 040-099, by Brent Stepp Construction Company. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for May 9th and the public hearing for May 13th.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a zoning change request from Ind-G to C-2, located on Mauldin Road and being parcel C20-017, by Tejashkumar Patel. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for May 9th and the public hearing for May 13th.
- C. Mayor Palmer read a request from Echota Baptist Church to block the road beginning at the mailbox by the front steps of the church, College Circle, to the stop sign behind the church at Short North Wall Street from 5:00pm to 9:00pm on Sunday, June 7th for their annual Block Party, the same road block on June 9-14 for Vacation Bible School. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- D. Calhoun Utilities requesting approval to serve sanitary sewer to parcel 041-002B, located in unincorporated Gordon County and is ineligible for annexation. Mayor Palmer stated that this item would need to be tabled to the April 22nd meeting in order to gather additional information on the property. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to table the item as recommended. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

- E. City Administrator Worley submitted the FY2023 Financial Audit noting that entire audit is available online at <https://www.cityofcalhoun-ga.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/ACFR-2023.pdf>.

11. Work Reports

- A. Paul Worley, City Administrator introduced Lacey Fuquea, new Downtown Development Authority Director.
- B. Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator gave the floor to Erik Henson, Water and Sewer Director, for a PFAS update. (copy attached)
- C. George Govignon, City Attorney had nothing to report.

12. Other Written Items Not on the Agenda

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the floor to Jennifer Titus, 963 Moore's Ferry Road, Plainville, GA, to address councilmembers regarding recent reports pertaining to water contamination. City Attorney Govignon stated she would have ten minutes to present her comments.

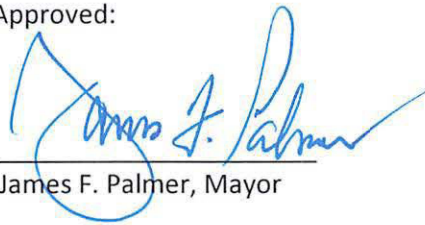
13. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed

14. Motion to return to General Session

15. Motion to Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Council, Councilmember Moyer made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Approved:

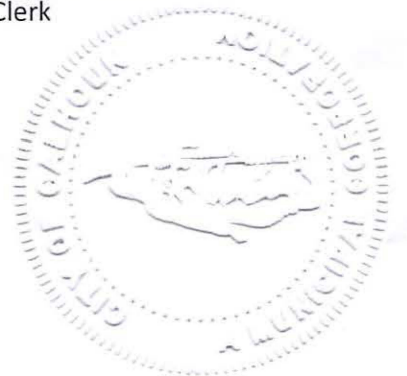


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Sharon Nelson, City Clerk



PFAS Update 04/08/2024

As Calhoun Utilities strives to provide safe drinking water, we appreciate the patience from our customers and the support from the GA EPD. We have gone through great effort to expedite modifications in our drinking water treatment plants in order to make this process a success. As we have from the beginning, we will continue to work hard for our customers.

The updates for the water treatment plants are as follows:

To reiterate, customers in Gordon County east of I-75 are served by the Brittany Dr WTP, with some overlap into the western side of I-75. The Mauldin Rd facility serves customers west of I-75.

Mauldin Rd WTP:

On April 2nd, the third pilot skid was successfully placed online at the Mauldin Rd facility to evaluate the removal of PFAS. The current pilots being evaluated consist of GAC, Ion Exchange, and two types of Reverse Osmosis.

Last Friday, granular activated carbon was installed within 4 of the filter beds to reduce the detectable levels of PFAS. Once it has been determined that it is hydraulically acceptable, we will begin installing GAC in the remainder of the filter beds at this plant. We are optimistic that a drastic reduction in PFAS will be seen once all the filters have GAC installed.

Brittany Dr WTP:

Last week, we installed GAC in the last remaining deep bed gravity filter and exchanged the GAC in one of the filters where we started to see PFAS beginning to break through. With this installation and exchange of GAC, we now expect to have PFAS levels near non-detect, if not non-detectable in our drinking water leaving this facility.

PFAS samples were collected today, and we will post these results on our website as soon as they are available. As mentioned during the previous council meeting, once we see that the Brittany Dr WTP is providing water near non-detectable, we will provide drinking water free of charge from a connection found near the entrance of this facility. A nearby sign will identify this connection.

I'd also like to note that during the next council meeting, the engineer Calhoun Utilities has selected to evaluate and design WTP modifications will present information concerning PFAS and our current position. He is one of the Southeast's leading experts on the subject and provides a wealth of knowledge and experience.