

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
JANUARY 11, 2016 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

**PRESENT: Al Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem
Jackie Palazzolo, Councilwoman
David Hammond, Councilman
Matt Barton, Councilman**

ABSENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor

**ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager
George Govignon, City Attorney
Jeff DeFoor, Director of Electric Utilities
Paul Worley, City Clerk
Jerry Crawford, Water and Sewer Director
Garry Moss, Chief of Police
Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief
Suzanne Roberts, DDA Director
Danny Stephens, Water Plant Superintendent
Mark Williamson, Superintendent of Water & Sewer Construction
Kevin McEntire, Director of Public Works
Andrea Bramlett, Director of Finance Utilities & General Government
David Burnett, Manager of Engineering Department
Kim Townsend, Recreation Director
Eric Stewart, Golf Professional
Bobby Robertson, Superintendent of Water & Sewer Maintenance
David Locke, Golf Course Superintendent
John Banks, Superintendent of Sewer Treatment**

- 1. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards gave the invocation.**
- 2. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.**
- 3. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards stated that there had been some recommended changes to the agenda at the Work Session concerning Council appointments and that is reflected under Mayor's Comments. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the amended agenda, Councilman Barton seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.**
- 4. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2015 City Council Meetings. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.**

5. Mayor's Comments:

- A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards read the 2016 City Council member's appointments, per Sec. 2-33 of the Calhoun Code of Ordinances as follows:
- 1) Councilman Edwards- Water and Sewer Operations, Water and Sewer Construction, Building Inspection, Revolving Loan, and Recreation and Parks.
 - 2) Councilman Barton- Police, Municipal Court, Fire, Downtown Development Authority, Main Street Program, and Historic Preservation Commission.
 - 3) Councilwoman Palazzolo- Street, Sanitation, Cemetery, Animal Control, Safety Committee, and Zoning Advisory Board.
 - 4) Councilman Hammond- Electric, Telecommunications, Schools, Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, and Airport.
 - o After reading the appointments Mayor Pro Tem Edwards asked for a motion to approve the list. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the Council appointments. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards reminded the Council that the Mayor's Day Conference will be on January 22-25, 2016 in Atlanta.

6. Council Comments:

- A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the Council reports and have the submitted reports be entered into the minutes. The reports will be available online or at City Hall. Councilman Hammond made a motion to dispense with the reading of the reports. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

1) Water, Sewer, and Engineering

- o The 2" Galvanized Line Replacement Project –The contractor is working on the third project area in the Hunts Subdivision and is nearing completion. The next project area is Spring Valley is underway.
- o Flocculation and Sedimentation Control Project at the Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant- The project is behind schedule, but should be completed by the end of January.
- o Peters Street Water and Sewer Relocation- Construction is scheduled to begin the week of January 11th.
- o 2015 Annual Unidirectional Flushing Program has been delayed until early spring of 2016 due to colder weather.
- o The Draft NPDES permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant has undergone the thirty day public comment period and the final permit should be issued soon.
- o New Wastewater NPDES Permit Pilot Program- Implementation of the pilot program for phosphorus removal is underway and will be completed by July of 2016.
- o Calhoun By-Pass utility relocations, GDOT "Let Date" is February 15, 2016.

2) Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Total gallons withdrawn: 297,782,000
- Daily average: 9,607,097
- Wells: 134,760,000
- Big Springs: 0
- Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 45.2
- Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 34.5%
- Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 33.3%
- Rainfall- 14.34"

3) Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Treated a daily average of 9.484 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 10, and an average COD of 45.

4) Water Distribution

- 337 work orders completed, 9 new water connections, 14 water service leaks repaired, 7 water main leaks repaired, 3 yards or roadway edges repaired due to previous work, 19 utility locates called in for work orders, 350 utility locates responded to, and 27 misc. calls

5) Waste Water Collection

- 2,400' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 271 utility locates completed, 3 lift station repairs completed, 4,200' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 5 new sewer connections installed, 7 sanitary sewer services repaired
- Repaired driveways to Kirby Road, Ranger water tanks and raw water intake.

6) Building Inspection Department

- Issued 38 permits for an estimated cost of \$1,029,963, collected \$7,811 in permit fees. This included 4 new residential, 1 residential remodeling, 2 commercial remodeling, 2 residential plumbing, 8 residential electrical, 4 commercial electric, 4 signs, 1 grading, and 114 total inspections.

7) Recreation Department

- Park Expansion Project – Advertisement for bid of construction – Phase I – began on December 9. Pre-bid meeting was held on December 18. Project bid opening will be held Thursday, January 14, 2016.
- Youth Basketball – Youth Basketball games began on December 14. The partnership with Calhoun City Schools allows us to be able to use the Primary, Elementary and Middle school gyms for practices and games. All gym space is maxed out for our basketball program December through early February.
- Youth Football – Youth Football wrapped up December 4 with the GRPA State North Regionals. All games were played at Phil Reeve Stadium. Teams from Cedartown, Rockmart, Jones County, Baldwin County and Calhoun

participated in this event. This 2 day tournament had an estimated economic impact of \$35,100.00.

- 2015 TOURNAMENTS/SPECIAL EVENTS:
Calhoun Recreation Department hosted ten tournaments/special events during 2015 for youth basketball, fast pitch softball, soccer and youth football. A total of 13,435 participants visited our facilities for these events. The economic impact for these events is estimated at \$764,645.00.
- Website Usage – total visits 2,616

2016 UPCOMING EVENTS:

GRPA DISTRICT BASKETBALL – 11-12 GIRLS; 9-10 BOYS – FEBRUARY 20-27, 2016

GRPA STATE BASKETBALL – 11-12 GIRLS – MARCH 4-5, 2016

GRPA DISTRICT SWIM MEET – JUNE 25, 2016

ASA STATE – 9-10 GIRLS – FAST PITCH – JULY 1-3, 2016

GRPA NORTH REGIONALS – FOOTBALL – DECEMBER 3-4, 2016

GRPA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – FOOTBALL – DECEMBER 10, 2016

B. Councilman Barton December report as follows:

1) Police Department

- Made 355 cases with 4 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$41,855
- Issued 637 warnings
- Investigated 74 highway accidents, 30 private property accidents
- Provided 118 escorts
- 1,454 incident reports
- Responded to 278 alarms
- Miles patrolled: 47,730
- Responded to 4,342 calls for service by E-911
- Officers completed 4,390 hours of training in 2015.

2) Municipal Court and Probation

- Total Court cases- 176
- Court cases dropped- 54
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 196
- Number of Probation cases- 9
- Probation Payments- \$7,996
- Probation Revocations- 12
- Failure to appear- 24
- Prisoner transports- 5

3) Fire Department- Suppression

- Responded to 189 calls for service for the suppression division, 4 fire incidents for damages. (\$114,400 in estimated fire damage)
- Responded to 117 medical service calls
- Responded to 22 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 15 false alarms or false calls, 25 good intent

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- Gave demonstrations on live gas fire attacks and classroom session with 2016 youth leadership program at Training Tower.
- Firefighters assisted with fire extinguisher class at Gordon Central High School.

Training Division

- Department completed 414 hours of training.
- Training consisted of: Fire Officer 1 training class and TILT (transitional and interpersonal leadership training) class.

4) Fire Inspection Department

- 63 total reported activities/inspections which included 11 annual inspections, 2 new business inspections, 17 requested inspections, 2 follow-up or re-inspections, and 28 consultations
- Lt. Duval conducted training for local CERT (citizen emergency response team) members at the training center. CERT is an organization through the State of Georgia and Emergency Management Agencies.

5) Downtown Development Authority

- The DDA and HPC held their regular monthly meetings. The DDA director attended the Main Street Regional Conference; a CVB/Tourism Committee Meeting; a Small Business Development/Marketing meeting; and a Young Professionals meeting.
- The planning for the annual Barbeque, Boogie & Blues in downtown is underway. The dates will be April 29th & 30th. Four new trees were installed in BB& T Park. The DDA & Chamber of Commerce are partnering to launch a mobile app that promotes downtown and the Chamber of Commerce. It should be available for people to download by the end of January. The DDA and HPC encouraged our citizens to help us keep downtown clean and safe.

C. Councilwoman Palazzolo December report as follows:

1) Street Department

- Completed 12 shop and 15 street department work orders.
- Placed 10 new street signs.
- Inspected and maintained 103 miles of streets and storm drainage.
- Replaced 6 feet of 18 inch drain pipe on Gee Road.
- Replaced 60 feet of 24 inch drain pipe on South Industrial Blvd.

2) Cemetery Department

- Performed routine maintenance on Fain and Chandler Cemetery.
- Supervised the opening and closing of 10 grave sites.
- Sold 3 new grave spaces.

3) Parks Department

- The Parks Department grounds crew picked up litter, hauled garbage to the dump, and maintained records at records room.

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- Maintained all sidewalks and designated grass areas with mulching and leaf removal.
- The building and maintenance crew performed routine maintenance on designed city buildings and all fountains.
- Installed a new sign at the Calhoun Recycling Center.

4) Animal Control

- Housed 23 dogs and 16 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 10
- Number of cats adopted: 4
- Number of dogs rescued: 0
- Number of cats rescued: 13
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 6
- Number of dogs euthanized: 1
- Number of cats euthanized: 0
- Number of warnings given: 28
- Number of bite cases: 1
- Citations issues: 2
- Number of inquiries: 52

5) Safety Committee

- Safety topic- Year-end review
- Safety Inspection- All City facilities have been inspected for 2015.
- Vehicle Accidents: 0
- Workers Compensation: 0

D. Councilman Hammond December report as follows:

1) Electric Department

- The Bad Pole Replacement program continues on South 41 and Hwy 53.
- Construction has begun lighting the back parking lot of Gordon Central. This will consist of tree trimming, installing six new poles and eight new lights.
- Construction continues on bringing two new primary circuits out of the new substation # 5 on McDaniel Station Road. This will improve reliability and provide much needed capacity for growth on the South Western side of the City.
- Tree trimming and removal has begun on the Peter Street improvement project.
- The LED streetlight replacement program continues on College Street.
- The Electric infrastructure survived the flood with only minor problems.
- The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for December was 30,743,917 kwh.

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 100
- Completed and closed- 123
Consisting of:
- Capital construction- 3

- Street and security lighting-61
- Distribution Maintenance-19
- Meter maintenance/replacement- 9
- New customer meter sets- 5
- Electric locate tickets processed- 246

2) **Telecommunications Departments:**

- Completed fiber construction and turned up circuit to the new electric substation.
- Added 35 megabits of Internet bandwidth to existing customers.
- Disconnected one dark fiber connection.
- Started implementation planning for in-the-field service order access and customer service document storage projects.
- Processed advanced replacement for electric department switch damaged by lightning.
- Installed three new replacement computers.
- Resolved seven circuit outage tickets.
- Opened 12 and closed 15 work orders.

3) **Geographic Information Systems:**

- Executed first water model scenario with options for Floyd County water connection.
- Updated water meter mapping and meter information.
- Updated fiber map with underground vaults and hand hole location information for Telecom Department.
- Updated physical addressing, building and billing information.
- Updated City and GIS websites.

4) **Northwest Georgia Regional Commission**

- The Regional Commission (RC) oversees 15 counties and 51 cities in Northwest Georgia that helps to reallocate federal dollars to various programs that benefit the citizens such as meals on wheels, workforce training, community planning, area on aging, and community and economic development.
- Gordon County's unemployment rate for November 2015 is 5.3% and the State's is at 5.6%. The regional unemployment rate is also 5.2%. Whitfield County is 5.7%, Murray County is 6.8%, Paulding County is 4.5%, and Bartow is 4.9%.

5) **Tom B. David Airport**

- The airport is the 7th 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 Pro Tem Edwards opened a public hearing on an annexation and zoning request of R-1 for 0.69 acres at a location of 110 Shadowood Drive for Dayln Pulliam.

- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
- Mayor Pro Tem Edwards stated that there the Zoning Advisory Board met on January 7th and recommended the annexation and zoning be granted. This annexation does help to infill an existing island.
- There were no more comments and the public hearing was closed.
- Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the annexation request. Councilman Hammond gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the zoning of R-1. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

B. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards opened a public hearing on a beer and wine package license request by ALDI, Inc. #43 at a location of 647 Hwy 53 East. The proposed manager is Carl England.

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

8. Old Business: None

9. New Business:

A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards conducted the first reading of a variance request to allow an existing building to be used as an animal clinic, 40 foot variance request from the west and south property line, for Barrett Investment Enterprises at a location of 639 Oothcalooga Street. The Zoning Advisory Board will meet on February 4, 2016. The Public Hearing will be on February 8, 2016.

B. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards conducted the first reading of a variance request to allow a 25 foot variance from the required 75 foot side setback requirement for Calhoun First Baptist Church at a location of 411 College Street. The Zoning Advisory Board will meet on February 4, 2016. The Public Hearing will be on February 8, 2016.

C. The DDA, CVB and Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee request street closings in connection with the Annual BBQ Boogie & Blues Special Event. The professional BBQ competitors will be in Downtown to set up for the competition on Thursday, April 28th. This will require that the short block of King Street between Court Street and Oothcalooga Street be limited access only. This block will remain

closed until Saturday, April 30th at 9:00pm. In addition to this short block closure, we request the section of Park Avenue from Harlen Street to Oothcalooga Street be closed/limited access only from Friday afternoon at 2:00pm until Saturday at 7:00pm. We request permission to completely close the section of Court Street from King Street to Wall Street on Friday, April 29th from 3:30pm until 7:00pm Saturday, April 30th. The times are to give ample time for setup and take down of all booths. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the road closure requests. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

- D. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards stated that the Council needed to appoint a new person to the Zoning Advisory Board to replace Frank Sullivan. This would be a new three year term to expire on 12/31/2018. Councilman Hammond made a motion to appoint Stacey Abernathy to a three year term to the Zoning Advisory Board. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- E. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards read a request to re-appoint Tony Swink to another three year term on the Zoning Advisory Board. Mr. Swink currently serves on this board as a representative from the Calhoun Board of Education. The new term would expire on 12/31/2018. Councilman Barton made a motion to re-appoint Tony Swink to the Zoning Advisory Board. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- F. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards read a request from Calhoun Recreation Department Director Kim Townsend to use Recreation Hotel/Motel funds for the Recreation Department's swimming pool deck resurfacing project. Administrator Peterson stated this project needed to be completed before the pool can be reopened in the spring. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the use of Recreation Hotel/Motel funds for the project. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- G. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards read the following late annual Business License renewals.
 - o Taxi- Los Buenos Amigo and Taxi Express
 - o Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve taxi business license renewals. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- H. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards read the following lists to appoint/re-appoint department heads for 2016.

General Government Division:

City Administrator- Eddie Peterson
City Clerk- Paul Worley
Director of Finance Utilities & General Gov. – Andrea Bramlett
Police Chief – Garry Moss
Director of Probation- Neal Russell
Fire Chief - Lenny Nesbitt
Director of Public Works - Kevin McEntire
Recreation Director – Kimberly Townsend
Golf Professional – Eric Stewart
Superintendent of Golf Maintenance – David Locke
DDA/Main Street Director – Suzanne Roberts

Utility Division:

Utilities General Manager – Larry Vickery
Director of Water & Sewer - Jerry Crawford
Director of Electric Utilities– Jeff Defoor
Director of Telecommunications – Brad Carrick
Manager of Engineering Department – David Burnett
Superintendent of Water Treatment – Danny Stephens
Superintendent of Water & Sewer Construction – Mark Williamson
Superintendent of Sewer Treatment – John Banks
Superintendent of Water & Sewer Maintenance– Bobby Robertson

- Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the appointments/reappointments of stated department heads. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- I. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards read a list of appointments to the following City positions for 2016: City Chaplain- Dr. Bert Vaughn, City Attorney- George Govignon, Municipal Court Judge- Honorable Suzanne Smith, Indigent Defense Attorney- Giles Jones, and Town Marshal- Randy Jackson.
 - Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the appointments to the stated City positions for 2016. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- J. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards stated that he appreciated and enjoyed the opportunity to serve as Mayor Pro Tem the past several years and then asked for a motion regarding selection of Mayor Pro Tem for 2016. Councilman Barton stated that he would like make a switch to allow other Council members the opportunity to learn and serve in the Mayor Pro Tem capacity and then made a motion to nominate Councilman Hammond as Mayor Pro Tem for 2016. Councilwoman Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. Councilman Hammond stated that he was appreciative of the confidence the Council has for him to serve as Mayor Pro Tem and he would also like to see this appointment proceed on a rotational basis. Every Council member is talented and will serve the City well as this is a training opportunity for future Mayors.

10. Other written items not on the agenda: None

11. Work Reports:

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

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12. Attorney Govignon advised that there was a need the governing authority to move into Executive Session pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2 to discuss two issues to which Chapter 14 of Title 50 would not apply, to wit: (1) pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(A) the settlement of pending civil rights litigation; and (2) pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2) a question of employment compensation for government officer or employee. Also, for privileged consultation with legal counsel according to OCGA 50-14-2 on each issue. Councilman Hammond made a motion to go into executive session. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
13. Councilman Hammond made a motion to adjourn the executive session. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
14. Councilman Hammond made a motion to return to regular session. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards stated that there was no action needed following the executive session.
15. Councilman Hammond made a motion to adjourn the regular session. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Palazzolo with all voting aye, motion approved.

Approved:

Submitted:

Al Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem

Paul Worley, City Clerk