

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
DECEMBER 10, 2012 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

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

**ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator
Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager
George Govignon, City Attorney
Jeff DeFoor, Director of Electric Utilities
Paul Worley, City Clerk
Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief
Garry Moss, Police 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, Councilman Crowley seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.
4. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2012 City Council Meeting. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
5. **Mayor's Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Palmer reminded the public that the next City Council meeting will be held on December 17th.
 - B. Mayor Palmer reminded the public of the Mayor's Christmas Motorcade. With the advent of the Northwest Regional Hospital being closed, the mental health clients were moved to community-based housing. GMA is continuing to work with the cities in the Northwest region and the state coordinators to ensure that the clients continue to receive Christmas gifts through the Motorcade. The City will be taking donations to the Rome Civic Center tomorrow.
 - C. Mayor Palmer announced that the Cherokee Mill Loft project has been awarded Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The award is in the amount of \$838,563 per year for ten years, which can be sold upfront to help finance the project. This is in addition to the \$500,000 CDBG

(Community Development Block Grant) that was awarded earlier this year for this project. "Cherokee Mill Lofts" is the proposed \$9.7million adaptive reuse of the former O'Jay Mills property at 305 McConnell Rd for the purpose of providing sixty (60) units of affordable yet unique rental apartments and amenities for families earning up to 60% area median income (AMI). The former O'Jay Mill is 114,000 square feet and sits on 4.34 acres. Calhoun Affordable Housing Development, Inc. (CAHD) will have an 80% stake in the property and Landmark Development will have a 20% stake. Mayor Palmer thanked Suzanne Roland, Director of the Downtown Development Authority, and Stacey Abernathy, Director of the CAHD, and everyone else who have worked for the past three years to make this project possible.

- D. Mayor Palmer stated that he has received many requests to honor Billy Bearden who is battling cancer. Billy Bearden is the former Director of the Calhoun Recreation Department and worked for the City for 30 years. Mayor Palmer stated that Billy helped to significantly build the recreation program over his tenure as Director and admired Billy's belief that, "Recreation is for everybody." The Mayor and Council have discussed different options and Mayor Palmer suggested naming the main recreation building after Mr. Billy Bearden. Councilman Crowley made the motion to approve the dedication of the building in honor of Billy Bearden. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. Mayor Palmer stated that a specific name and procedure for the dedication would be determined at a later date.

6. Council Comments:

- A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards gave the November reports as follows:

1) Police Department

- Made 673 cases with 8 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$68,601.40
- Issued 848 warnings
- Investigated 55 highway accidents, 25 private property accidents
- Provided 60 escorts
- 1,652 incident reports
- Responded to 749 alarms
- Miles patrolled: 58,185
- Responded to 5,035 calls for service by E-911

2) Municipal Court and Probation

- Total Court cases- 569
- Court cases dropped- 94
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 269
- Number of Probation cases- 59
- Probation Payments- \$16,007.00
- Probation Revocations- 11
- Failure to appear- 53
- Prisoner transports- 32

3) Fire Department- Suppression

- Responded to 155 calls for service for the suppression division, 7 fire incidents for damages
- Responded to 97 medical service calls
- Responded to 10 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 15 false alarms or false calls, 15 good intent
- All personnel attended a pre-incident tour of the new cancer center at Gordon Hospital

Training Division

- Department completed 436 man hours of training.
- All shift personnel attended a due regard class on preventing accidents while responding to emergency calls by public safety personnel, and the safety issues related to the responding personnel.

4) Fire Inspection Department

- 102 total reported activities/inspections which included 22 annual inspections, 26 requested inspections, 16 follow-up or re-inspections, and 35 consultations

5) Downtown Development Authority and Main Street Program

- In November the DDA and Main Street Program partnered with the Gordon County Young Farmers to bring Farm City Week to Downtown. The week long festivities from November 16 through Thanksgiving night included the following events: On the 15th we hosted a Young Farmers meeting at BB&T City Park which was open to the public and free hot dogs were served. On the 16th we provided Farm City school presentations; a mobile petting zoo; and each school system staff member was presented with an apple from Downtown and the Young Farmers. On Saturday the 17th a downtown festival complete with a live Farm Animal exhibit and many vendors and live entertainment was enjoyed by many. A farm fresh meal was served at Sonoraville Recreation Center, tickets were required for this meal. The 18th was Christmas Open House downtown. 19th and 20th - Farm and City tours were available free to the public which left from the Depot to visit local farms and Calhoun Utilities operations. Payne Farms provided the lunch on both days. On Wednesday the 21st, the GC Young Farmers hosted a free Community Thanksgiving service with hot soup with live gospel music at BB&T City Park and at 6:30 the tree at the Park was lit. On the 22nd, Thanksgiving night, we lit the tree in front of the Courthouse at 6:30, Santa was there for pictures, the Santa Express train was available for the kids to ride and hot chocolate/coffee was served.

B. Councilman Barton gave the November as follows:

1) Street Department

- Completed 12 shop and 8 street department work orders.
- Placed 4 new street signs.
- Ran the storm water maintenance plan checking all grates and pipes in the city.
- Crews worked many hours cleaning up and hauling off leaves and brush in preparation for the holidays.

- 2) **Cemetery Department**
 - Supervised the opening and closing of 5 grave sites.
 - Sold 14 new grave spaces.
 - Worked 4 grave sites.

- 3) **Rabies Control**
 - Housed 37 dogs, and 6 cats
 - Issued 6 warning
 - Answered 56 customer calls

- 4) **Parks Department**
 - The Parks Department grounds crew picked up litter, hauled garbage to the dump, books from the library and maintained records at records room.
 - Mowed and weedeated 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.
 - Put up Christmas decorations downtown.

- 5) **Safety Committee**
 - Safety topic- Office hazards
 - Safety Inspection- Water plant
 - Accidents: 0
 - Workers Comp: 0

- 6) **Recreation Department**
 - **Youth Basketball** – Registration numbers for youth basketball were:
 - Total Registered – 285 – ages 7 – 18 – boys and girls
 - Total City Residents – 146
 - Total County Residents – 139
 - Total Receiving United Way Funding – 34
 - Youth Basketball registration increased by 10 participants for 2012.
 - **Youth Football**- Calhoun Recreation Department hosted the GRPA 5th District Football Championships November 13 - 17, 2012. Calhoun All-Star teams advanced to the GRPA State Championships in the 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12 tackle divisions. The GRPA State Championships conclude December 9.
 - **Youth Soccer**- Calhoun Recreation Department hosted the GRPA 5th District Soccer tournament November 10 and 16-17, 2012. There were 22 teams that competed in the U10, U12, and U 14 Coed divisions, and 7 teams competed in the U10 and U12 Girls division. The Calhoun U10 and U12 Coed teams won the district championship and advanced to the GRPA State tournament in Bartow County December 7-8, 2012.

C. Councilman Crowley gave the November report as follows:

1) Water, Sewer, and Engineering

- Brittany Drive Expansion Project- Forming for the pipe gallery roof is underway.
- Maintenance crews are approximately 75% complete with the upgrades to the Coosawattee intake. The project consists of replacing check valves and switch gears for three of the four raw water pumps.
- Water and Sewer relocation for the Union Grove Interchange has begun and is approximately 90% complete.
- Harris Beamer Water Main – This project is nearing completion.
- Engineering design for the wholesale connection with Floyd County has been completed. Meter pit installation is scheduled for mid December.
- SR 136 and I-75 GDOT water main relocation- GDOT has given the City a notice to proceed to begin relocation of utilities. Construction has begun and is approximately 40% complete.

2) Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Total gallons withdrawn: 274,190,000
- Daily average: 9,139,666
- Wells: 127,840,000
- Big Springs: 0
- Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 46.6
- Rainfall- 1.12"

3) Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Treated a daily average of 2.745 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 10, and an average COD of 54.

4) Water Distribution

- 1 Water connections, 24 water service leaks repaired, 25 water main leaks repaired, 2 fire hydrants repaired, 6 calls to patch roads or repair yards, 44 utility locates called in for work orders, 384 utility locates responded to, and 141 misc. calls
- Continued installing 8" ductile iron pipe along Highway 156 to Harris Beamer Road. Project at 95% complete.
- Completed installing 2,210' of 6" line to replace 2" galv. line along Herrington Bend Road, changed all services to new line.

5) Waste Water Collection

- 1,750' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 263 utility locates completed, 2 lift station repairs completed, 4,700' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 76 manholes opened and inspected, 6 sanitary sewer services repaired

6) Building Inspection Department

- Issued 22 permits for an estimated cost of \$325,144.00. This included 1 new commercial, 2 commercial remodeling, 3 residential remodeling, 2

residential HVAC, 3 new commercial HVAC, 3 commercial electrical, 3 residential electrical, and 1 sign permit

D. Councilman Hammond gave the November report as follows:

1) Electric Department

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 40
- Completed and closed- 20
- Consisting of:
 - Street and security lighting-4
 - New business-1
 - Distribution Maintenance-8
 - After hours trouble and callouts-4
 - City electrical maintenance-13
 - Meter maintenance/replacement- 40
 - New customer meter sets- 7
 - Monthly total system locate tickets processed- 360

Electric System supplied – 33,046,956 kwh in November

New November record. This is up 12.4% from 2011. Large Industrial increased 17.5% from 2011, 25.4% over 2010, and 146% over 2009.

2) Telecommunications Departments:

- Started construction on two circuits for the county.
- Relocated library's fiber cable to make way for library construction.
- Finished point-to-point circuit construction to upgrade a 10 Meg circuit to 50 Meg.
- Changed auto-draft submission process from modem to Internet access.
- Installed computer lines at new fuel depot.
- Continue to evaluate phone systems for potential future upgrade.
- Opened 39 and closed 32 work orders.

3) Geographic Information Systems:

- Updated pre-fire plans for several buildings. Also updated hydrant flow data and water pressure.
- Worked with Electric Department to verify primary circuit phasing from substation 2.
- Continue to assist the cemetery with web mapping and plot management.
- Continue to assist Engineering with wastewater inflow/infiltration project, water valve identification tagging, and water hydrant and hydrant valve inventory.
- Updated City and GIS websites

- Use stats for November: 37 city employees used GIS 443 times for total time of 61 hours. 45 public users accessed GIS site 52 times for total time of 10 hours.

4) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

5) Airport

- Currently doing environmental engineering studies concerning the new taxiway. The airport is the 7th largest permanent based aircraft airport in the state of Georgia.

7. Public Hearings and Comments:

A. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing for of a zoning request for a hotel sign and building variance for Nimish Patel at a location of 1303 Lovers Lane Road. Property owner is East 53 Commercial Development, LLC. Applying for a 50' variance for a sign and a 25' height variance to build a four story hotel.

- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
- Councilman Edwards stated that the Zoning Advisory Board met on December 6th and recommended that the 50' variance for a sign and a 25' height variance request be granted. Councilman Edwards stated that one question arose concerning if the Calhoun Fire Department's ladder truck was sufficient to protect the four story building and the ladder truck is sufficient to reach the proposed height of the building.
- Mayor Palmer asked if there were any comments from the applicant or the public. There were no comments.
- Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing.
- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the 50' height variance for the sign and a 25' height variance for the building. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

8. Old Business: None

9. New Business:

A. Mayor Palmer stated that Attorney Bill Thompson representing the Development Authority of Gordon County and Jimmy Phillips, President of the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce, gave a presentation to the Mayor and Council at the Noon work session concerning a PILOT agreement (Payment in Lieu of Taxes). There are two separate PILOT agreements with Masland Carpets, LLC. also known as the Dixie Group who is buying the Colormaster carpet dyeing facility located at 200 S. Fair Street. There is a PILOT agreement in the amount of 5.5 million for the land and buildings and a separate PILOT agreement in the amount of 2.5 million to acquire new equipment with the goal of increasing the dyeing capabilities of the facility. The agreements exempt the Dixie Group from paying City M&O taxes for 10 years,

but Dixie Group will have to pay all school taxes. The Dixie Group plans to retain the existing jobs and hopefully add jobs in the future. The increased dying capabilities at the facility will result in larger consumption of utilities supplied by Calhoun Utilities. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the two PILOT agreements. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

- B. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a sign variance request by Phillip Beamer for Arby's Restaurant at a location of 1098 Red Bud Road. The 30 foot height variance is needed to relocate the existing sign to comply with a Georgia Department of Transportation request. The ZAB will meet on February 7th and the public hearing will be on February 11th.
- C. Mayor Palmer read a parade request by Mercedes Sturges for the annual MLK March to begin at Neal Street and MLK Blvd. to Court Street to the Gordon County Courthouse on Wall Street then after the ceremony the march will continue South on Wall Street and turn onto Hicks Street then right onto Park Ave. and dispersing at 109 South King Street. The parade is set to occur on January 21st beginning at 11:00am. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the parade request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- D. Mayor Palmer read a request to declare as surplus various Christmas decorations formerly used by the City, including but not limited to pieces of a plastic Nativity Scene, colored light bulbs, plastic hanging lanterns, various strings of lights, plastic garland and wreaths. Councilman Barton made a motion to declare the Christmas decorations surplus. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- E. Mayor Palmer and City Attorney Govignon reviewed an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Resaca concerning the City of Calhoun's donation of Christmas decorations. The agreement defines the responsibilities of Resaca to take full possession of the decorations as is with no guarantees concerning the working order of the decorations. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the intergovernmental agreement. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. (agreement attached)
- F. Mayor Palmer read a Beer, Wine, Liquor manager change request for Longhorn Steakhouse at a location of 1301 Lovers Lane Road SE. The prior manager was Jeff Mathis and the proposed manager is Jonathan R. Miller. Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the manager change request. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- G. Mayor Palmer read a Beer, Wine, Liquor manager change request for Los Magueys #3 at a location of 913 Hwy 53 East. The prior manager was Liborio Hernandez and the proposed manager is Guotavo Rizo. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the manager change request. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- H. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of an alcohol ordinance change to amend Section 6-34 and Section 6-40 to require domestic corporations or legal entities to designate a resident of the county as a store manager, or an individual member of the management team.
- I. The Police Department requests permission to declare as surplus a 2001 Crown Vic. VIN# 2FAPP71W81X1196697, with 120,000 miles. Councilman Barton made a

motion to declare the stated vehicle as surplus. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

- J. Administrator Peterson reviewed the final budget amendments for Fiscal Year 2012. The budget amendment is needed to balance out the financial statements for the yearend audit. Amendment number one allows for the final expenses of the West Calhoun project, including repairs and maintenance on a building, final administration, advertising, and legal fees. Amendment number two budgets the purchase of the land for the Fire Training Center and the start of the building out of the 2005 SPLOST. Amendment number three is needed to record improvements done to the school buildings through the EECBG grant and to transfer remaining funds to pay off the 2002 and 2003 bonds. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the budget amendments. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. (budget amendment attached)
- K. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a sign variance request by Haley Stephens at a location of 1052 Red Bud Road. The variance request is for a 185 square foot sign. Current ordinance allows for a 120 square foot sign. Variance request of 65 square feet. The ZAB will meet on February 7th, 2013 and the public hearing will be on February 11th, 2013.
- L. General Manager Vickery discussed an intergovernmental agreement and resolution with Electric Cities of Georgia. Mayor Palmer stated that he and the Council would review the agreement and resolution presented and asked for the matter to be tabled until the next meeting to allow for more time to review the documents. Councilman Hammond made a motion to table the item until the next meeting. Councilman Crowley gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- M. Business license renewal readings.
 - i. Reading of Taxi Cab renewal requests
 - **Edwin Herrera-Bojorequez for Taxi Edwin**
 - **Lilian J Barrera De Valladares for Taxi Los Buenos Amigo**
 - Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the Taxi cab renewal requests. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - ii. Reading of Pawn License renewal requests
 - **Tracy Young for Titlemax of Georgia Inc**
 - Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the Pawn License renewal requests. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
 - iii. Reading of alcohol license renewal requests
 - **Beer Package**
 - **Jose Estrada for El Sol Hispanic Grocery**
 - **Phil Beamer for Phil Beamer Distributor at 756 Hwy 53**

Wine Package

- Will Ostuw for Calhoun Drug Co

Beer, Wine, Liquor Pouring

- Jonathan Miller for Longhorn Steakhouse
- Gustavo Rizo for Los Maguey's #3

- Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the alcohol renewal requests. Councilman Barton 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
- C. George Govignon, City Attorney

12. Before closing the meeting, Councilman Edwards reminded everyone that the annual Calhoun Christmas Parade of Lights will be this Thursday at 7:00pm in Downtown Calhoun. Mayor Palmer also wanted to congratulate the Calhoun Football team for making it to the State Finals again and they will be playing Jefferson at the Georgia Dome this Saturday at 2:30pm.

13. Councilman Barton made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Crowley with all voting aye, motion approved.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Paul Worley, City Clerk

**City of Calhoun
Budget Amendment #4 Fiscal 2012**

West Calhoun		Original	Revised	Budget	Amended Budget
		Budget	Budget	Amendment	
#1					
Intergovernmental grant - West Calhoun	2500000-334310.10	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (5,500)	(5,500)
Legal & Grant Administration	2500000-521201	-	-	6,000	6,000
Transfer In - General Fund	2500000-391101	-	-	(500)	(500)
Repairs & Maintenance - Building	2500000-522203	-	-	2,100	2,100
Advertising	2500000-523300	-	-	150	150
Appropriation of Fund Balance	2500000-399000	-	-	(2,250)	(2,250)
				<u> -</u>	

To allow for the final expenses of West Calhoun, include repair & maintenance on a bldg., final administration & legal fees and advertising.

\$ - -

#2					
2005 SPLOST					
Interest Revenues	3220000-361000	(1,800)	(1,800)	\$ (14,000)	(15,800)
Land - Fire Training Center	3220000-541100.166	-	-	151,000	151,000
Buildings	3220000-541300.166	-	-	36,500	36,500
Advertising	3220000-523300.166	-	-	600	600
Appropriation of Fund Balance	3220000-399000	-	-	(174,100)	(174,100)
				<u> -</u>	
				\$ -	

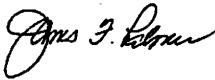
To budget for the purchase of the land for the Fire Training Center and for the start on the building out of the 2005 SPLOST.

#3					
School Splost Fund					
Transfer In - Electric fund	3230000-391103	-	-	\$ (58,000)	(58,000)
Capital Outlay	3230000-541300	-	-	58,000	58,000
Transfer Out - School Splost	3230000-611027	-	-	1,020,000	1,020,000
Appropriations - Fund Balance	3230000-399000	-	-	(1,020,000)	(1,020,000)
				<u> -</u>	
				\$ -	

To record improvements done to the school buildings through the EECBG grant and to transfer remaining funds to pay off the 2002 & 2003 Bonds.

ADOPTED this 10th day of December, 2012

City of Calhoun, Georgia



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Attest:



Eddie Peterson, City Administrator