

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
May 23, 2011 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, Director of Utilities
Bill Bailey, City Attorney
Paul Worley, Deputy Clerk
Jerry Crawford, Water and Sewer Director
Major Larry Gilbert, Calhoun Police Dept.
Danny Stephens, Superintendent, Water Treatment
Alicia Stewart, General Director of Finance
Andrea Bramlett, Utilities Director of Finance
Jeff DeFoor, Superintendant, Electric Dept.
Brad Carrick, Telecommunications Superintendent**

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 Edwards requested that a proclamation for Mr. Bert Lance be added under new business. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition, Councilman Hammond seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.
4. Councilman Crowley made a motion to approve the City Council school Bond Meeting on May 4, 2011 with Councilman Barton giving a second. All voted aye, motion approved. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the Executive Sessions on April 25, 2011 and May 9, 2011. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting on May 9, 2011. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
5. **Mayor's Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Palmer gave a reminder that the public hearing for the Annexation and Zoning request of R-1 by Martin and Mary Vaughn of 104 E. Forty Dr. will be on July 11, 2011. The ZRC will meet on June 30, 2011 and ZAB will meet on July 7, 2011.

6. Public Hearings:

- A. Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing on the City's annual operating budget and capital plan for the fiscal year July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.
- Eddie Peterson conducted a power point presentation on the proposed budget.
 - Larry Vickery stated that the Utility Department would be recommending a 5 and 7 percent increase in water and sewer, respectively. With the proposed increase Calhoun would still be in the lower tier of cost compared to other water and sewer systems in Northwest Georgia.
 - There were no further comments from the public.
 - The public hearing was closed.

7. Old Business:

- A. Councilman Hammond made a motion to remove from the table an appointment to the Industrial Development Authority. Councilman Barton seconded, all voted aye, motion approved. Mayor Palmer recommended Larry Vickery be appointed. Councilman Barton made the motion to appoint Larry Vickery to the Industrial Development Authority for a four year term to replace Jimmy Silvers. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer discussed how to move forward with new organizational charts and a new personnel ordinance. Mayor Palmer stated that a resolution was passed unanimously in the fiscal year of 2006 to separate the Utility Systems from the General Government. However, Attorney Bailey informed the Mayor and Council that the resolution was temporary and needed to be followed up with a new personnel ordinance, which has not occurred. Attorney Bailey asked for guidance from the Mayor and Council on how to structure the ordinance. Councilman Hammond advocated, for discussion, a structure with the City Administrator as ultimate manager from a top down responsibility. Councilman Crowley advocated, for discussion, using an ordinance drafted by Attorney Bailey in 2009, with updates, that would continue with the current reporting structure. Attorney Bailey was instructed to draft the two ordinances and present them to the Mayor and Council for review and discussion. There will be posting, advertising, and a public hearing before any ordinance is passed.

8. New Business:

- A. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of a taxicab operator regulatory license request by Moises A. Robleto, D/B/A Taxi Express, at a location of 235 West Line Street suite #9. Second reading will be on June 13, with a public hearing date of June 20th.
- B. Mayor Palmer read a Resolution of support for the Cherokee Mill Lofts project which is within the area defined by the West Calhoun Urban Redevelopment Plan. The project will rehab the former O'Jay Mill into sixty units of quality affordable rental housing for families earning up to 60% of area median income. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the resolution of support for Cherokee Mill Lofts. Councilman Edwards seconded with all voting aye, motion approved.


- C. The Mayor and Council received a copy of a Georgia Department of Transportation paving contract for review. Project and contract number S013582-PRC. Mayor Palmer and Mr. Peterson explained the project is for resurfacing of Dews Pond Road and E. Line St. from Curtis Parkway to Fain Cemetery. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the GDOT project with Councilman Edwards giving a second, all voted aye, motion approved.
- D. Councilman Edwards read a Proclamation honoring Mr. Bert Lance on his upcoming 80th birthday. The Proclamation recognizes June 3, 2011 as Bert Lance Day in honor of the accomplishments he has achieved and the public service he has rendered to the City of Calhoun, the State of Georgia, and the United States of America. Councilman Edwards made the motion to have the proclamation signed by Mayor Palmer and Administrator Peterson, and a copy forwarded to Mr. Bert Lance. Councilman Hammond seconded with all voting aye, motion approved.

9. Other written items not on the agenda:

- A. Utility Director Vickery, stated for the record, the City will soon be providing an online e-billing service for Calhoun Utility customers. This will help increase payment options for customer convenience.
- B. Mayor Palmer stated a need to approve a financial management policy discussed and reviewed in previous meetings. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the financial management policy. Councilman Crowley seconded with all voting aye, motion approved.
- C. Attorney Bailey stated for the record that the property swap with Mr. David Bailey was complete. Mr. Bailey now owns the Warren Tire property located at 300 W. Line St., and the City of Calhoun now owns Bailey Auto Repair located at 215 S. Wall St. Mr. Bailey has until August 2nd to relocate his business.
- D. Attorney Bailey stated that the City needed to finalize the acceptance of Willow Brook Way from the Brent Stepp Construction company. The road was inspected and approved by Kevin McEntire. Attorney Bailey stated he possessed the executed warranty deed to the property which needed to be accepted and recorded as a permanent act of dedication. Councilman Hammond made a motion for Mayor Palmer to accept the street and allow the Mayor to sign the deed. Councilman Barton seconded with all voting aye, motion approved.

10. Councilman Barton made the motion to adjourn, Councilman Edwards seconded, all voted aye, motion approved.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Eddie Peterson, City Administrator