

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING ST
DECEMBER 14, 2015 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

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

ABSENT: George Crowley, Councilman

ALSO: Eddie Peterson, City Administrator; Larry Vickery, Utilities General Manager; Paul Worley, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Garry Moss, Police Chief; Jerry Crawford, Water and Sewer Director; Lenny Nesbitt, Fire Chief; Jeff Defoor, Director of Electric Utilities; Todd Holbert, CFD Battalion Chief; Tony Swink, Eddie Reeves, and Rhoda Washington, Calhoun Board of Education; Dr. Michele Taylor, Calhoun City Schools Superintendent

- 1. Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
A. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards gave the invocation.**
- 2. Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.**
- 3. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the agenda, and Councilman Barton seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion approved.**
- 4. Councilman Barton made a motion to approve the regular minutes of the November 23, 2015 City Council meeting. Councilman Edwards gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.**
- 5. Mayor's Comments:**
 - A. Mayor Palmer conducted the oaths of office for Calhoun Board of Education Post 4 Eddie Reeves and Post 5 Tony Swink. (exhibit attached)**
 - B. Mayor Palmer reminded the public that the next City Council meeting has been moved to December 21st.**
 - C. The City of Calhoun offices will be closed on December 24th and December 25th for the Christmas Holidays and January 1st for New Year's.**
 - D. The Gordon County Youth Leadership 2015-2016 class was in attendance. The class includes 49 students from all four high schools in the County. The class is sponsored by the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce Leadership program. This is the twenty-second class and over 1,200 students have graduated from the program.**

6. Council Comments:

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

1) **Electric Department**

- The Bad Pole Replacement program continues on South 41 and Hwy 53.
- Electric Engineering has begun of lighting the back parking lot of Gordon Central. This will consist of installing six new poles and eight new lights.
- Electric Engineering is complete on the 58 acre Recreation Park lighting plan.
- Pulling poles at the intersection of Curtis Parkway / Warrior Path and Red Bud Road. This will allow the next phase of the Red Bud Road improvement project to begin.
- Construction has begun 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 Southwestern side of the City.
- The City of Calhoun's Electrical load for November was 30,888,924 kWh.

Work orders in process or completed

- Newly created- 112
- Completed and closed- 94
- Consisting of:
 - Capital construction- 6
 - Street and security lighting-49
 - Distribution Maintenance-17
 - Meter maintenance/replacement- 11
 - New customer meter sets- 10
 - Electric locate tickets processed- 228

2) **Telecommunications Departments:**

- Added four new internet customers and disconnected one.
- Started construction of new fiber connection to the new electric substation.
- Added 300 megabits of point-to-point bandwidth to existing customers.
- Installed new fiber for internet connection for customer's move to new building.
- Moved one internet connection at customer's request to a new office.
- Assisted service provider in moving two customers to new circuits.
- Set up after hours calls to route to "Interactive Utilities Communications" or IUC. IUC takes after-hours and emergency outage calls during non-normal work times and dispatches crews for the Electric, Water Construction, Sewer Construction, Metering and Telecommunications departments, relieving the water treatment and sewer treatment plants of this responsibility.
- Implemented new online bill payment system, Paymentus, which has a pay-by-phone function to go along with web payments by credit card or eCheck. New system also posts payments to customers' accounts in real time.
- Opened 25 and closed 24 work orders.

3) Geographic Information Systems:

- Updated water model database with new water data and tested data
- Updated water meter mapping and meter information.
- Update pre fire plans
- Updated fiber map for Telecom Department.
- Updated physical addressing, building and billing information.
- Updated City and GIS websites.

4) Downtown Development Authority

- The DDA director attended a CVB/Tourism Committee Meeting; a Small Business Development/Marketing meeting; and a Young Professionals meeting. The DDA board held their monthly meeting.
- It was another successful year for Farm City Week. The lighting of the Christmas tree, visit with Santa and downtown merchant Christmas open house was November 22nd. It was a great year with a record number of visitors to see Santa. The DDA partnered with the Gordon County Convention & Visitors Bureau to install gateway signs in downtown. They are both completed, and are being enjoyed by the community.

B. Councilman Barton gave the November report as follows:

1) Water, Sewer, and Engineering

- Clarifier Mechanism Replacement Project is now complete.
- 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 and should begin in January.
- Flocculation and Sedimentation Control Project at the Mauldin Road Water Treatment Plant- The project is behind schedule, but is nearing completion.
- Peters Street Water and Sewer Relocation- Awaiting acquirement of rights-of-way.
- 2015 Annual Unidirectional Flushing Program has been delayed until early spring due to colder weather.
- 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.
- New NPDES Permit Pilot Program- Implementation of the pilot program will begin in January 2016.
- Calhoun By-Pass utility relocations, GDOT Let Date is February 15, 2016.

2) Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Total gallons withdrawn: 282,640,000
- Daily average: 9,421,333
- Wells: 129,180,000
- Big Springs: 0

- Percent produced by Brittany Drive: 45.7
- Rainfall- 6.78"
- Brittany Dr. daily production to capacity: 33.7%
- Mauldin Rd. daily production to capacity: 32.0%
- The bacteria laboratory tested 100 routine samples and 8 special samples from the City's distribution system, 5 samples for the City of Adairsville, and 10 samples for J & J Water. Also, 9 private well samples were tested.
- The laboratory staff responded to and resolved 1 water quality complaint and collected 2 cryptosporidium samples, 2 TOC samples, 2 NPDES quality samples, and four Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 samples.

3) Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility

- Treated a daily average of 6.122 MGD, with an average BOD effluent of 4, average suspended effluent of 9, and an average COD of 52.

4) Water Distribution

- 8 Water connections, 25 water service leaks repaired, 13 water main leaks repaired, 249 water meters changed out/maintenance, 3 yards or roadway edges repaired due to previous work, 24 utility locates called in for work orders, 343 utility locates responded to, and 40 misc. calls
- Completed installing 2,340' of 2" black poly line along East 40th Street to replace old 2" galvanized line.
- Completed installing 890' of 8" ductile iron pipe along Clarence King Drive for phase two of LG Hausys water line upgrade.
- Completed installing 1,200' of 2" black poly line along Pendley Road to serve water connections for new chicken house complex.

5) Waste Water Collection

- 1,750' Sanitary Sewer Services TV inspected, 292 utility locates Completed, 4,800' sanitary sewer lines cleaned, 65 manholes opened and inspected, 1 new sanitary sewer connections, 4 sanitary sewer services repaired

6) Building Inspection Department

- Issued 25 permits for an estimated cost of \$385,800, collected \$3,671 in permit fees. This included 1 new commercial, 2 commercial remodels, 4 residential electrical; 5 sign permits, and 25 total inspections.

7) Recreation Department

- **PARK EXPANSION PROJECT UPDATE:** Meetings were held on November 10 and November 16 with BWSC. The advertisement for bid on the construction of phase I began on December 9. Pre-bid conference will be held on December 18 and bids will be received until January 6.
- **Youth Basketball:** Registration for youth basketball concluded with 331 boys and girls registering to participate. Teams have been formed and

practices began on November 16. Registration increased by 18 participants. 19 participants received United Way scholarships. Scheduled games will begin Monday, December 14. Games will be played at Billy Bearden Recreation Center and Calhoun Middle School gym. The girl's league will be inter-scheduled with Gordon County Parks and Recreation.

- **Youth Football:** The all-star football teams participated in the GRPA 5th District Football Championships November 12 -21, 2015. Our agency hosted games on 11/17 and 11/19. The championship games were also held at Phil Reeve Stadium Saturday, November 21. All of our all-star teams participated in the GRPA State Football tournament North regionals December 5-6 which we hosted at Phil Reeve Stadium.
- **Youth Soccer** – Calhoun Recreation Department hosted the U8, U10, and U12 Coed GRPA District soccer tournaments November 13-16, 2015. Our U10 and U12 girls traveled to Fannin County. The U10 and U12 Girls advanced to the State Championships with the U12 Girls winning the GRPA State Championship held in Jefferson.
- **STAFF CONTINUING EDUCATION:** Kim Townsend, Jeff Davis, Will Chappell, Sharon Meadows, Malcolm fain and Brandon Adams attended the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association conference during the week of November 2-5, 2015 in Dalton. A total of 35 hours of continuing education were obtained by staff attending educational sessions. Grant Walraven was also awarded as GRPA Volunteer of the Year at the conference banquet. Additional staff were able to attend the annual conference since it was held in Dalton.
- **WEBSITE/FACEBOOK:** 1,738 Likes; 132 New Engagements; 3,376 post made to Facebook; 173 shares; viewership up by 225%; viewers from – Mexico; Guatemala; China; United States and Canada

C. Mayor Palmer gave the November report as follows:

1) **Police Department**

- Made 482 cases with 5 DUI's
- Fines collected by Municipal Court - \$50,154
- Issued 742 warnings
- Investigated 75 highway accidents, 32 private property accidents
- Provided 92 escorts
- 1,517 incident reports
- Responded to 326 alarms
- Miles patrolled: 45,961
- Responded to 4,606 calls for service by E-911

2) **Municipal Court and Probation**

- Total Court cases- 422
- Court cases dropped- 121
- Number of Bond forfeitures- 228
- Number of Probation cases- 35
- Probation Payments- \$10,969
- Probation Revocations- 9

- Failure to appear- 40
- Prisoner transports- 30
- Subpoenas served- 18

3) Fire Department- Suppression

- Responded to 166 calls for service for the suppression division, 3 fire incidents for damages. \$13,400 in estimated fire damage.
- Responded to 124 medical service calls
- Responded to 4 hazardous conditions incidents
- Responded to 7 false alarms or false calls, 23 good intent
- Took fire engine to First Baptist Pre-school for continued fire prevention programs.
- Firefighters assisted with fire extinguisher class at Henkel Corporation and Kerry Industries for 122 students.

Training Division

- Department completed 842 hours of training.
- Training consisted of live fire drills with Gordon County Fire, fire rescue, and SCBA air consumption drills.

4) Fire Inspection Department

- 116 total reported activities/inspections which included 11 annual inspections, 5 new business inspections, 28 requested inspections, 6 follow-up or re-inspections, and 16 consultations
- Inspectors coordinated and taught all mentioned fire safety programs and fire extinguisher classes.
- Lt. Fox participated in the Toys for Tots Car Seat Safety Check at Walmart with other area public safety agencies.

D. Councilman Hammond gave the November report as follows:

1) Street Department

- Completed 22 shop and 18 street department work orders.
- Installed 22 new street signs.
- Inspected and maintained 103 miles of streets and storm drainage.
- Repaved 13,278 feet of streets including Derby Lane, Normandy Lane, Cherry Street, Louise Avenue, North Industrial Blvd, Cherokee Drive, Richardson Road, Melea Lane, Jackson Street, and Roberts Street.
- Continued the annual leaf cleanup around town.

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 14 cats
- Number of dogs adopted: 15

- Number of cats adopted: 1
- Number of dogs reclaimed by owner: 5
- Number of dogs euthanized: 1
- Number of cats euthanized: 4
- Number of warnings given: 26
- Number of bite cases: 2
- Citations issues: 1
- Number of inquiries: 53

4) Parks Department

- The Parks Department grounds crew picked up litter, hauled garbage to the dump, and maintained records at records room.
- 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- ladder safety
- Safety Inspection- Water Treatment Plant
- Vehicle Accidents: 1- Community Development; 1-Street Department
- Workers Compensation: 0

6) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

- Councilman Hammond discussed that 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. Also, Councilman Hammond reviewed a power point presentation highlighting the Aging Services in Gordon County.
- Councilman Hammond stated that Gordon County's unemployment rate is now 5.8% and the State's is at 5.7%. The regional unemployment rate is also 5.7%. Whitfield County is 6.1%, Murray County is 7.1%, Paulding County is 4.9%, and Bartow is 5.4%. Councilman Hammond also reported on the average wages county by county in the region. The average wage rate in Gordon County is \$36,767.

7) 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 Palmer opened a public hearing on an annexation and zoning request of C-2 for 3.89 acres at a location of 100 Mauldin Street (Parcel #GC22-080) for Haley Stephens DBA: Nubold Development Corporation.

- Mr. Peterson stated that all signs and advertising requirements have been met.
- Mayor Pro Tem Edwards stated that the Zoning Advisory Board met on December 10th and recommended that the annexation and zoning request be approved.
- There were no more comments and the public hearing was closed.
- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the annexation request. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the zoning of C-2. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

8. Old Business:

- A. Mayor Palmer conducted the second reading of a Pawn Shop License request by Coosa Valley Financial Group DBA: Ace Total Solutions at a location of 356 South Wall Street. The proposed manager is Cassandra Herrington. The public hearing will be on December 21st.
- B. Mayor Palmer conducted the second reading of a beer and wine pouring license request by David Burton D/B/A Wall Street Catering at a location of 106 North Wall Street. The public hearing will be on December 21st.
- C. Mayor Palmer conducted the second reading of a beer and liquor pouring license relocation request and a wine pouring license request by Derrick Williams D/B/A Duke's at a location of 1201 Dews Pond Road Suite #2. The public hearing will be on December 21st.

9. New Business:

- A. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of 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. Councilman Hammond made a motion to set the public hearing on January 11, 2016. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer reviewed a restatement of City of Calhoun's Georgia Municipal Association 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan for required Federal Law updates. The restatement process occurs about every five years. Administrator Peterson stated that this is the City retirement plan that is currently frozen and covers the years of 1981 through 2002. The plan consisted of employees contributing 3% and the City would double the contribution at 6%. The plan can be rolled over when City employees retire. Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the restatement documents. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.
- C. Mayor Palmer conducted the first reading of an annexation and zoning request of R-1 for 0.69 acres at a location of 110 Shadowood Drive for Dayln Pulliam. The ZAB will meet on January 7th and the Public Hearing will be on January 11th.
- D. Mayor Palmer presented the following annual business license renewal requests.

Beer and Wine Pouring

- Gondolier's Pizza
- Classic Kitchen

Beer Package

- Little Giant

Beer and Wine Pouring Theatre

- Calhoun's Gem Theatre

Taxi

- Taxi Reyes
- Councilman Hammond made a motion to approve the list of all alcohol and taxi business license renewals. 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. Utilities General Manager Vickery

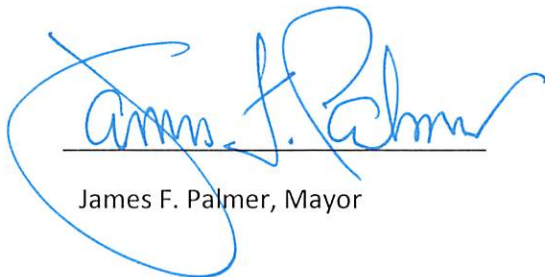
- General Manager Vickery stated that he reviewed new software capabilities using the Northstar Utilities Solutions platform of mCARE, which is a paperless service order system at the work session.
- Brad Carrick was at the work session to discuss needed changes with Calnet operations to include the replacement of the PON access equipment used to deliver internet and point-to-point services.
- General Manager Vickery updated the Mayor and Council at the last two work session concerning a Big Springs bottling plant lease agreement update. The monthly lease amount will increase from \$500 to \$750. The water withdrawal went from 250,000 gallons per day maximum down to 100,000 gpd. The charges for water withdrawn from the spring went from zero to 88 cents per 1,000 gallons. The current use is about 20,000 gpd and the new owners will increase production to around 60,000 gpd. This is raw water that is being used by the bottling plant, so there is no cost associated with supplying the water other than the ownership of the spring itself. This would generate around \$15,000-\$17,000 of extra revenue for the City. There is also a product

protection liability statement included. Councilman Hammond had questions concerning insurance and liability exposure. Mr. Vickery and Attorney Govignon have been reviewing the insurance coverage with Jim Mathews. Mr. Vickery stated that tenant insurance is required. Councilman Hammond made a motion to allow the Mayor to sign the lease agreement based on the City Attorney's recommendations. Councilman Barton gave a second with all voting aye, motion approved.

C. City Attorney Govignon

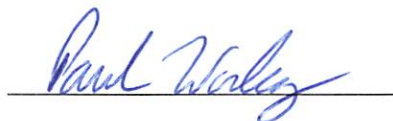
- 12. Councilman Barton made a motion to adjourn the regular session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hammond with all voting aye, motion approved.

Approved:



James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:



Paul Worley, City Clerk