



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 24, 2023- 7:00 PM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Ray Mitchell Denmon, Councilmember
Al Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem
Ed Moyer, Councilmember
Jackie Palazzolo, Councilmember

ALSO: Paul Worley, City Administrator; Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; George Govignon, City Attorney; Tony Pyle, Police Chief; Todd Holbert, Battalion Chief.

1. **Council Meeting Called to Order**
Welcome
Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.
Invocation
Mayor Pro Tem 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**
Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to approve the April 24, 2023 agenda as presented. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
4. **Amendment or Approval of Minutes**
Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of April 10, 2023. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer announced that the first public hearing on the City's Annual Operating Budget and Capital Plan for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 will be held on May 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. A copy of the proposed budget can be viewed by the public at www.cityofcalhoun-ga.com.

6. **Public Hearing 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 speaking having filed a financial disclosure statement five days prior to the hearing if required, 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. **Alcohol Ordinance Amendment**

Public hearing of an ordinance to amend the existing provisions regarding alcohol sales at licensed facilities when served to the table, sales and pouring at lodging establishments, and uniform provisions for special event sales of malt beverages and wine by approved vendors.

- 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 gave the floor to City Attorney Govignon for a review of the ordinance changes. City Attorney Govignon stated this was an opportunity to make modifications the city has seen a need for. Server identification requirements have been removed and the owner is now responsible for his employees. Changes also allow for package and over bar sales in hotels. Other cleanup items were also included.
- There were no other comments and Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning ordinance change. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to approve the amended ordinance. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

7. **Old Business:**

A. **Stream Buffer Variance – Rachael Dickinson - Mavis Tire C57-031**

Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of a stream buffer variance request for complete encroachment of the building and impervious area into the 50-foot buffer for 204 linear feet and into the 75-foot buffer for 176 linear feet, for .81 acre at a location of 510 Hwy 53 (C57-31), by Rachael Dickinson on behalf of Mavis Tire. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for May 4th and the public hearing on May 8th.

B. Annexation – John and Harriet Hiram 002-043

Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an annexation and zoning request from County R-3 to R-2 for 0.46 acre at a located on Yarbrough Street (parcel# 002-043), by John and Harriet Hiram. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for May 4th and the public hearing on May 8th.

C. Beer and Wine Package – Jai Mahavdev 4, Inc.

Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of a beer and wine package license request at a location of 235 West Line Street, Suite 3, by Jai Mahavdev 4, Inc. (Arpit V. Patel). The public hearing will be held May 8th.

8. New Business:

A. Beer, Wine and Distilled Spirits Pouring – Calhoun Coffee Company

Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a beer, wine and distilled spirits pouring license request at a location of 117 Wall Street, by Jonathan Bennett dba Calhoun Coffee Company. Eligible for a public hearing on May 22nd. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to set the public hearing for May 22nd. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

B. Beer and Wine Package – Jai Mahadev, Inc, dba Royal Express

Mayor Palmer gave the first reading of a beer and wine package license request at a location of 609 South Wall Street, by Jai Mahadev, Inc. (Arpit V. Patel) dba Royal Express. Eligible for a public hearing on May 22nd. Councilmember Moyer made a motion to set the public hearing for May 22nd. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

C. Street Closure – Echota Baptist Church - VBS

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 4th through Friday, June 9th for Vacation Bible School. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

D. Street Closure – Echota Baptist Church – Out of School Bash

Mayor Palmer read a request by 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 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 31st for the annual Out of School Bash. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

E. Board Appointment – Development Authority of Gordon County

Mayor Palmer called for a recommendation of appointment for expiring term of Larry Vickery on the Development Authority of Gordon County. Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to appoint Kyle Ellis as Mr. Vickery's replacement. Mayor

Pro Tem Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. This is a four year term expiring on May 7, 2027.

9. **Other written items not on the agenda:**

10. **Work Reports:**

- A. Paul Worley, City Administrator gave the March General Government cash report noting that the general fund ended the month with a balance of \$6,693,278.31. The 2018 uncommitted and committed SPLOST had a balance of \$3,132,372.24 and \$688,572.90 respectively. The revolving loan fund ended the month with a balance of \$629,390.73. A \$500,000 loan has been approved, leaving a balance of \$129,690.73. Hotel motel taxes received in March for January stays was \$68,269.00, a 10% decrease from the \$75,000 collected for the same period in 2022. Mayor Pro Tem Edwards made a motion to approve the March General Government cash report as presented. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator gave the March Utility cash report noting that total operating revenues ended the month with a balance of \$9,275,31.07. Total savings and reserves were \$16,316,227.76, for a grand total of \$25,591,537.83. Councilmember Denmon made a motion to approve the March Utilities cash report as presented. Councilmember Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- C. George Govignon, City Attorney, had nothing to report.

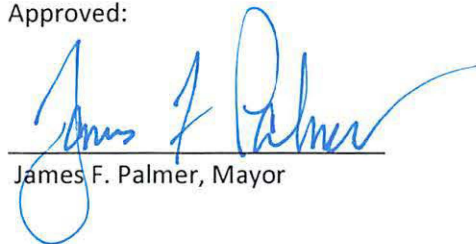
11. **Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed:**

12. **Motion to return to General Session:**

13. **Motion to Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Denmon gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Sharon Nelson, City Clerk

