

**CITY OF CALHOUN
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DECEMBER 16, 2002, 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

**PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
John D. Shelton, Jr., Mayor Pro Tem
Ronald H. Woods, Councilman
Ray M. Denmon, Councilman
Lorene Potts, Councilwoman**

**ALSO: William P. Bailey, City Attorney
Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities
Eddie Peterson, Director of Public Safety and Public Works
Cathy Harrison, City Administrator**

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. Minutes of the December 9, 2002 regular City Council meeting were approved as written.
4. Mayor's comments:
 - a. Mayor Palmer asked Larry Vickery to provide information regarding his department providing aid for the North Carolina storm victims.
 - 1) Larry Vickery stated three of his men and equipment went to North Carolina and assisted a small town named Cherryville. They were the only crews in the area other than their small electric force. The town was very grateful for their assistance. Also, the contractor that provides tree trimming for Calhoun and several other North Georgia cities went to the area and worked for approximately two weeks.
 - b. Mayor Palmer took the opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
 - c. Mayor Palmer read a report from John McGivern and Councilman Denmon who attended the festivities for the Mayors' Motorcade at Northwest Regional Hospital. He stated they felt very honored to have been a part of the celebration and to see the appreciation on the faces of the patients at the hospital. Councilman Denmon expressed appreciation to the citizens who provided gifts for the event.
 - d. Mayor Palmer gave a report on insurance. The city had continued to work with several companies in order to provide the best possible coverage at the lowest possible price for the city following the May 1 storm and the effects it had on the city's insurance, as well as the after-effects of 9/11 and the resulting lower economy. Mayor Palmer stated the GIRMA Group from GMA could not directly quote the school system's coverage, since the school system had under 2,800

students and if the insurance was bid to an alternate company, it would add some \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00 to the cost. Following a full review, it was the Mayor's decision to remain with St. Paul and Zurich for full coverage at a cost of \$438,177.00 for a 12-month period.

- e. Mayor Palmer stated the Golf Advisory Commission had recommended the Mayor and Council extend the snack bar contract for Becky Lanier, who has done an excellent job and continues to provide excellent service. Following discussion, Councilwoman Potts made a motion to extend the current contract for an additional 12-month period, second by Mayor Pro Tem Shelton, with Councilwoman Potts, Mayor Pro Tem Shelton, Councilman Woods and Councilman Denmon voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- f. Mayor Palmer stated there were several zoning hearings scheduled for January 13, 2003. He asked Councilwoman Potts to review those, as follows:
 - 1) A request for zoning of R-1 and annexation by CAHA, LLC, d/b/a Small World Day Care at 111 Jones Road, for approximately 1.5 acres adjoining other city property.
 - 2) A request for a zoning variance by Gordon County Board of Education for five mobile classrooms, 50 x 76 feet, at 333 New Town Road NE.
 - 3) A request by James Wyatt for a 7 foot variance under the current R-3 ordinance in order to build apartments at the intersection of Court Street and McConnell Road.
 - 4) A request for a zoning change from R-2 to C-2 by Alex Feagin for 9 lots located between Old Dixie Highway and North Drive.

5. Public Hearings and Comments:

- a. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing on the revolving loan request of Tammy West for funding to purchase a downtown restaurant building and equipment, in the amount of \$278,615.00, for a ten-year period, with a balloon balance for an additional five years, at 5%. The request would create 9 jobs initially with two meals per day and would increase to 18 jobs when extended to three meals.
 - 1) Mayor Palmer asked for the report of the Loan Advisory Commission. Councilman Woods stated the Loan Advisory Commission had met by conference call on the morning of December 16. Following a thorough review of the application and the circumstances surrounding the application, it was the recommendation of the Loan Advisory Commission to make the loan to Mrs. West in the amount of \$278,615.00 for a ten-year period, with a balloon balance for an additional five years, at 5%, with the long-range creation of jobs being 18 to 20 jobs and with the loan scheduled to pay \$190,000.00 on the Downtown Development Authority loan and to pay completely the Steve Crowe loan for restaurant equipment.
 - 2) Mayor Palmer inquired if there were any comments from the public regarding the application. There were none and the public hearing was closed.
 - 3) Councilman Woods made a motion to approve the loan as outlined by the Loan Advisory Commission, with a mortgage on the property and equipment and the personal guarantee of Mrs. West, second by Councilwoman Potts, with Councilman Woods, Councilwoman Potts, Councilman Denmon and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

- b. Mayor Palmer opened a public hearing on a request to change the name of the western portion of Timms Road to Wright Court. Mayor Palmer stated that due to development in the area, it had been necessary to divide the road, making the road a dead end at each division and it was appropriate for a portion to remain as Timms Road and for the western portion to be renamed to Wright Court. He asked if there were any comments or questions from the public or the elected officials. There were none and the public hearing was closed. Councilman Woods made a motion to approve the name change of the western portion of Timms Road to Wright Court, second by Mayor Pro Tem Shelton, Councilman Woods, Mayor Pro Tem Shelton, Councilman Denmon and Councilwoman Potts voting affirmatively, motion carried.

6. Old business:

- a. Mayor Palmer gave a second reading of the third group of beer, wine and liquor license renewal requests, as follows:

Alcohol	Business Name	Manager	License Type
	Losposada	Vickey R. Brown	Beer Pouring
	ABC Liquor	Johnny Thomas Bryant	Wine/Liquor Package

Following review, Councilman Woods made a motion to approve the license renewals for the year 2003, second by Mayor Pro Tem Shelton, with Councilman Woods, Mayor Pro Tem Shelton, Councilman Denmon and Councilwoman Potts voting affirmatively, motion carried.

- b. Mayor Palmer gave a second reading of the third group of pawn license renewal requests.

Business Name	Owner	License Type
Bubba's Pawn, Inc.	Laurence Mauldin	Pawn
Cash Store, Inc	Kent Popham	Pawn
Title Exchange & Pawn	Hugh M. Austin	Pawn
Titlemax of Calhoun, Inc.	Barry Russell, Manager	Pawn

Councilman Woods made a motion to approve their license for the year 2003, second by Councilman Denmon, with Councilman Woods, Councilman Denmon, Councilwoman Potts and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

7. New business: **none.**


8. Other written items not on the agenda:

- a. Mayor Palmer stated the city had received an offer of a grant for \$10,000.00 for a portion of the project associated with the extension for the Arts Council building. He stated the grant would require an equal match of in-kind work from the city in order for the Arts Council to receive funding for the rough grading for the addition to their Arts Council facility. Mayor Palmer stated it would be necessary for the Council to consider and to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign all the necessary documents. Following discussion, Councilman Woods made a motion to approve the DCA grant request of \$10,000.00, which would assist the Arts Council with their additional construction. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon, with Councilman Woods, Councilman Denmon, Councilwoman Potts and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.


9. Work Reports:
 - a. Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities, reported that the filter tests at the well are going well with two portions of the project operating at this time and with turbidity being below the level permitted by the state.
 - b. Eddie Peterson, Director of Public Safety and Public Works: **none**.
10. Mayor Palmer inquired if there were any items requiring a move to executive session. There were none.
11. Councilwoman Potts made a motion to adjourn, second by Councilman Woods, with Councilwoman Potts, Councilman Woods, Councilman Denmon and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:

Submitted:



James F. Palmer, Mayor



Cathy Harrison, City Administrator