

**CITY OF CALHOUN  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM  
109 SOUTH KING STREET  
APRIL 22, 2002, 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor  
Mayor Pro Tem Shelton  
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. Councilman Denmon gave the invocation.
2. Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
3. Minutes of the April 8, 2002 regular City Council meeting were approved as written.
4. Mayor's comments:
  - a. Mayor Palmer stated the city was fortunate to have three police officers to receive rewards, as well as a private citizen, Mrs. Glenda Bowman, Manager of Kroger Grocery. Police Chief Therrell Goswick presented a special award to Mrs. Glenda Bowman who, in a recent incident, was able to detain a felon who was attempting to cash a bogus check on the pretense of getting permission on the telephone to cash the check, when actually talking with 911 and keeping them on the telephone until police officers could arrive on the scene. Sgt. Charles Wheat, Patrolman James Stanfield and Patrolman Curtis Craig were each recognized for arriving on the scene, subduing the felon who was armed with a weapon, preventing any shots from being fired and making the arrest without serious physical harm to anyone. Each police officer was presented a plaque.
  - b. Mayor Palmer reminded everyone of the "Georgia Cities Week," April 21, 2002 through April 27, 2002.
  - c. Mayor Palmer reminded the Council of the DOT meeting at the City Hall Conference Room on April 24, 2002 at 11:00 A.M.
  - d. Mayor Palmer reminded the Council of the Regional DOT Improvement Program meeting at the Calhoun Depot on April 30, 2002 at 2:00 P.M. He stated the DOT programs of work for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 would be discussed.
  - e. Councilman Woods read a proclamation regarding the "National Day of Prayer." Following review, Councilman Woods made a motion to adopt the proclamation, second by Councilman Denmon, with Councilman Woods, Councilman Denmon,

Councilwoman Potts and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried. Lori Ethridge stated this was the seventh year the city had adopted a proclamation regarding the Day of Prayer. This year, rather than the ceremony being held at the Courthouse, it would be held as a breakfast sponsored on May 2, 2002 by Gordon Hospital at the Belmont Baptist Church.

f. Mayor Palmer stated at this time, Councilwoman Potts would review the proposed zoning hearings scheduled for May 13, 2002:

- 1) A request of the Calhoun police department for a zoning variance to allow two mobile units to serve as office space, located on Louise Avenue on city property. The units are to be occupied by the police department.
- 2) A request by Jack Crump to rezone approximately 5 acres of property at 145 Marine Drive from R-1 to C-2. A house on the property is being removed.
- 3) A request for a zoning variance by David Forrester, doing business as Tires, Inc., to locate a construction trailer on property located at 301 Wellco Lane.
- 4) A request by Darin Hardin for zoning of C-2 and annexation of approximately 11 acres and zoning of R-2 and annexation of approximately 3 acres, adjoining properties on the southeast quadrant of the intersection between Dews Pond and Lovers Lane Roads, for development of a combined commercial and residential area.
- 5) A request by Brian Wilson for zoning of PRD and annexation of tracts 3, 4, 5 and 6, consisting of approximately 29 acres off Highway 53 Spur and Harris Beamer Road.
- 6) A request by Brian Wilson and Calhoun Realty & Development Co. for a change in zoning from R-1 and R-2 to PRD for Tracts 1 and 2, consisting of approximately 85 acres off Highway 53 Spur and Harris-Beamer Road.

5. Public Hearings and Comments:

- a. A second reading was given of a liquor and wine package license request by Karen Lynn Wofford for 235 West Line Street. A public hearing was opened. Mayor Palmer stated the location had previously been approved for a license. However, the licensee decided not to purchase the license as approved. There were no comments by the applicant or the public and the public hearing was closed. Councilman Woods made a motion to approve the request, second by Councilwoman Potts, with Councilman Woods, Councilwoman Potts, Councilman Denmon and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- b. A second reading was given of a liquor and wine package license request by Johnny Bryant for 769 Highway 53 East, d/b/a ABC Liquor. A public hearing was opened. Mayor Palmer stated the location had previously been licensed. The police report met the criteria of the ordinance. There were no comments by the applicant and no comments by the public. The public hearing was closed. Councilwoman Potts made a motion to approve, second by Councilman Woods, with Councilwoman Potts, Councilman Woods, Councilman Denmon and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- c. Comments by Roy Russell, Douglas Lee, Randy Gann, Jerry Gann and Cheryl Land regarding water pressure on McDaniel Station Road were opened by Mayor

Palmer. Roy Russell as spokesperson for the group stated he lived at 2527 McDaniel Station Road and that in the last few months, he and his neighbors have suffered continual drops in water pressure and outages. He stated he wished to make sure the city is aware of their situation and the inability to take showers properly due to the low water pressure. Mayor Palmer stated the city has added a new pump to the area which has improved water pressure overall in the area. However, during the first few weeks of implementation, it was a time for the SCADA software that operates the pump to be regulated, which did cause some outages that were not acceptable in the long run. He also stated the city has a well on the eastern side of the county which is presently out of commission due to the well being enlarged to provide more production. This has caused the city to divert part of its water to meet the overall needs of the system as a whole and this has caused pressure to be lower system-wide. He stated this is a short term problem and should be corrected shortly. Mayor Palmer stated it is the intent of the Mayor and Council to provide additional tanks for the water system, which will also add assurance of better pressure levels and water flow. Kelly Cornwell reiterated the information provided by Mayor Palmer and stated that the activity in the last two months while the new pumping station was coming on line was not acceptable system-wide and hopefully, these corrections have been made. He stated the total solution to the problems is the tanks, which will take approximately 18 months for construction after funding has been secured. He stated these tanks were in the current budget being prepared and would be valuable improvements for the city's overall water system.

6. Old business:

- a. Mayor Palmer stated the final review of the Franchise Agreement with Comcast had been completed. He introduced Jeffrey Shook, Comcast Manager from the Rome area. A public hearing had been held at the prior meeting with an opportunity for the public and the cable company to ask questions, issue statements and to address the proposed franchise agreement. Attorney Bailey stated the final document had addressed the primary area of the length of the contract that had been negotiated by Edith Spencer of GMA, allowing the contract to be for a period of 8 years and with a franchise fee of 5%. He stated there were other minor items that had been agreed upon and were included in the contract. Mayor Palmer inquired if the agreement was ready for approval. Attorney Bailey stated he saw no reason for it to be held any longer. Following discussion, Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve the franchise agreement with Comcast for an 8-year period with a franchise fee of 5% annually and to authorize the Mayor to execute. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Potts, with Councilman Denmon, Councilwoman Potts, Councilman Woods and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried. Mayor Palmer extended his appreciation to GMA for their negotiations regarding the matter.

7. New business:

- a. Mayor Palmer stated the city had received a request from Tim Reeve stating that in order for the City of Calhoun and Gordon County to receive Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) statewide mutual aid and assistance, it must have a GEMA Aid and Assistance Agreement adopted. Attorney Bailey

stated he had reviewed the proposed agreement and found the references to state codes to be correct and also that emergencies were determined to be those that were declared by the Governor. He stated that while the city has mutual aid agreements with adjoining counties, this would be a GEMA aid and assistance agreement, which would be in addition to the local agreements. Following discussion, Councilman Denmon made a motion to approve the Aid and Assistance Agreement and to authorize the Mayor to sign, second by Councilwoman Potts, with Councilman Denmon, Councilwoman Potts, Councilman Woods and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

- b. A first reading was given of a pawn license application for Title Max of Calhoun, Inc., Barry Russell, Manager, at 421 South Wall Street. Councilman Woods made a motion to consider the item on May 13, 2002 at 7:00 P.M., second by Councilman Denmon, with Councilman Woods, Councilman Denmon, Councilwoman Potts and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.
- c. Mayor Palmer stated the official city map, as proposed, was displayed on the wall of the Council Chambers and included all annexations and zoning changes up through the period of April 8, 2002, and these said items had conformed to the city's long range plans. Following discussion, Councilwoman Potts made a motion to adopt the map as the official city map, second by Councilman Woods, with Councilwoman Potts, Councilman Woods, Councilman Denmon and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

8. Other written items not on the agenda:

- a. Attorney Bailey stated at this time, the city is attempting to finalize the easements for the sewer interceptor project. However, there are two that may require condemnation of property as allowed under state law and it may require the city to move very quickly in this area and would need authorization from the Mayor and Council to do so. Councilwoman Potts made a motion to acknowledge the need to move forward with the project and to authorize the attorney to take whatever legal action was needed to secure the designated easements for the north industrial sewer project and to authorize the Mayor to sign the necessary documentation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Denmon, with Councilwoman Potts, Councilman Denmon, Councilman Woods and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

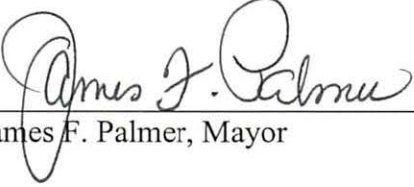
9. Work Reports:

- a. Kelly Cornwell, Director of Utilities: **no report.**
- b. Eddie Peterson, Director of Public Safety and Public Works: **no report.**

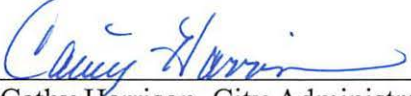
10. Mayor Palmer stated there was no need to move to inquire if it was necessary to move to executive session.

11. Councilman Woods made a motion to adjourn, second by Councilman Denmon, with Councilman Woods, Councilman Denmon, Councilwoman Potts and Mayor Pro Tem Shelton voting affirmatively, motion carried.

Approved:

  
James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:

  
Cathy Harrison, City Administrator