

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – MAY 29, 2012

The May 29, 2012 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room at 101-B North Broad Street with Mayor Richard VanLandingham presiding. Present were Mayor Pro Tem James H. Douglas, and Council Members Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr. and Lannis Thornton. Councilman Robert L. Gwaltney was unable to attend the meeting. Councilman Ernest W. Cloud, Jr. joined the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, Public Works Director Raymond Stokes, Public Works Supt. Darin Todd, and City Clerk Carolyn B. Lee. Cairo Messenger Editor Randy Wind was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Mayor VanLandingham.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – May 14, 2012. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Budget Workshop Meeting – May 14, 2012. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

DELEGATIONS:

1.) Presentation of Award to Washington Middle School Sixth-Grader, Miss Haley Hutto, Winner of the 2012 “If I Were Mayor, I Would...” Essay Contest. Mayor VanLandingham presented a plaque and gift certificate to Miss Hutto who was accompanied by family members. Councilman Gilliard, who also served as Principal at WMS, joined the Mayor and Miss Hutto for a picture.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

1.) Cairo First Baptist Church Vacation Bible School Request for Special Event Permit – Request to Block 6th St., NW from Broad St. west to the end of the Church property. (June 10-14, 2012 – 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.). After review, motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Gilliard, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing: Conditional Use Permit for a Church to be located at 76 Hall Road - Tax Map C39B, Parcel 3 - C2 (Highway Commercial District) - Truth & Deliverance Christian Center, Applicant. There was a large group present regarding the request. There were no public comments made, so the hearing was closed.

Conditional Use Permit for a Church to be located at 76 Hall Road - Tax Map C39B, Parcel 3 - C2 (Highway Commercial District) - Truth & Deliverance Christian Center, Applicant. (Both the Cairo Planning Commission and the SWGRC recommended approval of the permit). After review, motion to approve the permit was made by Councilman Thornton and seconded by Councilman Gilliard. Councilman Douglas asked about the distance requirement from the bar and restaurant, with Attorney Lehman responding that state law provided for an exception in distance requirements between a church and a hotel with 50 or more rooms that served alcohol in their restaurant. Councilman Douglas also asked about ample parking, with a member of the church delegation stating that they had approximately twenty-five members and most of those traveled to church together as families. They agreed to create

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more spaces as needed with no parking to be done on the street. Motion passed with all Council Members present voting in favor.

Public Hearing: Proposed FY 2012-2013 Budget - Receive Citizen Input. No input was received so the hearing was closed.

Application for Alcoholic Beverage License (Retail Package Beer and Wine) – Change of Managers to Charles B. Norton, Jr. - Rite Aid #4603. After review, motion to approve the application was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Councilman Cloud joined the meeting at this time.

Resolution and Model Pole Attachment License Agreement (Setting Annual Rental Rates for 2012 through 2016, with no increase for 2017 through 2020 rates). City Manager Addleton reported that Electric Cities of Georgia had worked with Comcast, Mediacom, and the Cable Television Association of Ga. on the proposed agreement and had negotiated a good settlement. The City would be receiving \$66,000 in past-due pole attachment fees. After review, motion to approve the resolution and agreement was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reports:

1.) Finance Report for the Month of April, 2012. Committee Member Douglas stated that the City was still on budget, with electric, sewer and water revenues close, but gas sales would not meet projected revenues due to the mild winter. He made motion to approve the report, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

2.) Public Works Director Raymond Stokes and Supt. Darin Todd - Presentation of Water Loss Report. Director Stokes reported that much improvement had been made over the past year reducing the water loss from over 25% to 12.6%, with the hope to reduce further loss to the 10% range. This was accomplished in part by repairing water leaks as soon as possible and replacing dead/slow meters and changing out high usage meters. During the past year, over 195 water leaks had been repaired and over 600 water meters replaced. Supt. Todd presented one of the new meters being installed which had no moving parts and a guaranteed life of 20 years, costing only \$8.00 more than the ones used previously. The more efficient meters could be read electronically and would provide a 30-day data history. They were to be monitored closely and a report presented in six months.

3.) City Manager's Report:

a.) City Manager Addleton reported that the 1st Avenue Water Plant Rehab that had originally been bid at a low bid of \$750,357 had instead been done in-house at a cost of \$451,681, plus a small amount of labor, saving over \$250,000 on the project. Supt. Todd explained the benefits of having the plant on line, one of which was having all three water tanks balanced. The Mayor and Council expressed their appreciation and commended the department on the positive work that had been accomplished.

b.) Regarding the Streetscape Project, City Manager Addleton reported that Robert & Company was preparing a conceptual report. Quotes on surveying have been received, and work should begin in June/July. Response has been received from DOT on the street takeover, and they were working on the proposal details.

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c.) The Hilltop Water Tank would undergo maintenance and inspection on May 31st.

d.) Bids on the 7th Ave. sewer lift station were scheduled to be opened on June 5th and awarded on June 11th.

e.) Landscape architects had recently looked at improvements for Azalea Park and the gateways, as well as the Library.

4. Reports from Mayor & Council:

Mayor VanLandingham noted that he understood the Memorial Day Celebration held at Davis Park had gone well.

Executive Session: None

ADJOURN: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**CAROLYN B. LEE
CITY CLERK**