

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – JUNE 10, 2019

The June 10, 2019 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room at 101-B North Broad Street by Mayor Booker T. Gainor. Present were Mayor Pro tem Lannis Thornton, Council Members Demario J. Byrden, Jerry L. Cox, James H. Douglas, and Robert L. Gwaltney. Staff Members present were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, City Clerk Carolyn Lee, and Asst. City Clerk Dana Barfield. Also in attendance was Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, and Times Enterprise Reporter, Eric Yabor.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Mayor Gainor.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Byrden, and approved unanimously by all Council Members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 28, 2019 - Regular Meeting: Mayor Gainor asked, with regard to the alcohol application, that wording be changed from “school” to “educational building”. Motion to approve the minutes with this change was made by Councilman Cox, seconded by Councilman Byrden, and approved unanimously by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Special Event Permit for New Generation by Faith Ministries, Back to School Cookout – Pack the Back Packs Event at Azalea Park on July 27, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - Sheena Sparrow, Applicant. After review, motion to approve the event was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and approved unanimously by all Council Members.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing: Rezoning Request from C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial District) to C-2 (Highway Commercial District) at the location of 390 5th Street, SE; identified as County Tax Map C27, Parcel 101. Owner: PJJ, LLC (Phillip Drew). Mr. Drew was present for the hearing and stated that he wished to use the property for some use other than a service station, possibly for mini-warehouses. He advised that the underground tanks had already been removed and the property cleaned. After comments, the public hearing was closed.

Rezoning Request from C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial District) to C-2 (Highway Commercial District) at the location of 390 5th Street, SE; identified as County Tax Map C27, Parcel 101. Owner: PJJ, LLC (Phillip Drew). Both the SWGRC and the Cairo Planning Commission had recommended approval of the rezoning request. After review, motion to approve the rezoning was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and approved unanimously by all Council Members.

Approval of Final Budget for FY 2019-2020 (\$42,629,777). In discussion of the budget, and with regard to the increase in Worker’s Comp Insurance, Councilman Cox asked if the City had a Safety Director or Safety Awareness Committee. City Manager Addleton advised that the Safety Committee fell under the Human Resources Dept., and did have safety programs and audits. Councilman Douglas asked about the Wage Improvement Percentage, with City Manager Addleton responding that the 2% to 2.3% change was a result of his Pay Scale/Compa

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Ratio Evaluation based on certain criteria, and the change had affected 10 or 12 people. After discussion, motion to approve the budget as presented was made by Councilman Douglas and seconded by Councilman Gwaltney. Mayor Gainor asked about the expected software update for utility billing, with City Manager Addleton advising that Thomasville had gone with Cogsdale, and Cairo would not have support for the current software after 2020. Other software options were being considered but a decision would not have to be made in the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Councilman Cox asked if the \$30 Utility inspection fee included 2nd and 3rd times going back, and if the City was charging for those trips; as he understood that contractors would call to have someone just run by to look at something. City Manager Addleton stated that those contractor inspections were covered by the permit fee, and the Utility cut-on inspection fees of \$30 for the 2nd and subsequent trips were a different type fee. After discussion, the motion was unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Introduction of Budget Ordinance for FY 2019-2020. It was pointed out that the amount in the ordinance should be changed to \$42,629,777 before adoption at the June 18th meeting.

Rescheduling the Regular Council Meeting on June 24, 2019 to June 18, 2019 in conjunction with the Special Called Meeting for the Final Adoption of the Budget Ordinance for FY 2019-2020 due to GMA Annual Conference. After review, motion to approve the rescheduling was made by Councilman Cox, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and approved unanimously by all Council Members.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reports:

1. Departmental Reports for the Month of May 2019.

Councilman Cox commented on the “hands-free” violations written. He also noted that some drivers don’t know what to do at the blinking yellow arrows at traffic lights, and some signs may be needed; with Mayor Gainor adding that Thomasville has signs at their lights. Councilman Douglas commented that the water loss was down. Councilman Cox was looking forward to having the new Bldg. Dept. employee to work on nuisance abatement. He also commented on the number of water meter re-reads, and asked what the reason was for that, with Mrs. Barfield offering some information. Mayor Gainor commented that there was still a high number of alarm calls; with Councilman Douglas adding that lightning can sometimes trigger those, but there may be other issues as well.

2. Financial Report for the Month of April 2019. After review, motion to approve the report was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

3. Reports from City Manager Addleton:

- Evaluation of the Audit RFP’s was being done, and he hoped it would be addressed on the next agenda.
- Check received from FEMA/GEMA for \$70,515 for Category B, with another check for Category F expected next month.
- Reminded Council that the Sweet Summer Concert would be held downtown on Friday night.

4. Reports from Mayor and Council:

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- Councilman Byrden mentioned the sidewalk repair needed on South Broad St. and reminded everyone about the Dance Production on the weekend.
- Councilman Douglas asked Atty. Lehman about the 20th Street paperwork, with Atty. Lehman advising that he was putting the final touches on it; and some reaction would probably be heard by the next meeting.
- Councilman Thornton brought up the 4th Street repair between the railroad and MLK, with City Manager Addleton stating that it was on the next paving list.
- Councilman Gwaltney reported a complaint received about mower tire tracks being on slabs at Greenwood Cemetery and asked that it be investigated.

ADJOURN: Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and approved unanimously by all Council Members.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

CAROLYN B. LEE, CITY CLERK

BOOKER T. GAINOR, MAYOR