

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – JANUARY 9, 2017

The January 9, 2017 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room at 101-B North Broad Street by Mayor Robert B. Burns, Sr. Present were Mayor Pro Tem James H. Douglas, Council Members Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., Jerry L. Cox, Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, and Clerk Carolyn Lee. Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, and Times Enterprise Reporter, Jordan Barela, were also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Cox.

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

APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO-TEM: After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to appoint Councilman Cloud as Mayor Pro Tem for 2017. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gwaltney and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Council Meeting – December 12, 2016. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

Linda Conti, Bereavement Coordinator, Hospice of Southwest Georgia, along with an associate, was present to request the Council's approval to plant a tree in Davis Park at a ceremony on Monday, March 20, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. in memory of those who died in Hospice care in 2016. City crews were requested to dig the hole and set the tree, but wait until after the ceremony to cover the root ball. They agreed to purchase a tree of the City's choice and would also furnish a marker similar to one they had brought to the meeting. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Consider Special Event Permit for Allen Powell – Razor Sharp Records South - Talent Search to be held on January 16, 2017 at Holder Park (east side) from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. - Allen Powell, Applicant. Mr. Powell was not present; but his sister-in-law, Ms. Sharon Wimberley, was present and had telephone connection with Mr. Powell who stated that there would be 15 to 20 contestants and around 75 attending. He was charging \$25 to each contestant to perform and believed this event would be good for the community and be well-attended due to the MLK activities. Councilman Cloud noted that the MLK collaborative had already reserved the park for activities on the same date, and he believed that it would conflict with those activities as well as take up the parking area on the east side. Council Members discussed, with Councilman Cloud making motion to deny the event for January 16th, adding that he would not have any problem with another date being requested. Motion was seconded by Councilman Douglas, and denial of the event was unanimously approved by all Council Members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Review of Proposed Compensatory Policy. Councilman Cox stated that the new proposal was a good basis for a policy and believed the 60/120 maximum hours was a good reduction. The department director would give approval for overtime, and thus comp time, with no additional overtime or comp time to be earned by or paid to another employee to cover for an employee to use comp time. Employees would be required to take accumulated comp time prior to using accrued annual leave unless doing so

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would result in forfeiture of annual leave at the end of December. All comp time accumulated in a fiscal year should be used before the last pay period in June of that fiscal year. The only provisions for pay out of comp time would be upon separation of employment or if an employee with accrued comp time should be promoted to an exempt position. Council also discussed the taking of, or paying out, of comp time by the end of June under the new proposal. It was noted that the Fire Dept. had volunteer firemen who sometimes filled in there which did not incur any overtime. It was also discussed to not pay off on any existing balances, and employees who still had balances could not earn any more comp time until those balances were reduced to the proposed maximums through time taken off prior to January 1, 2019. Councilman Douglas asked that comp time be included with the overtime reports each month should the policy be approved. It was requested that any wording changes or clarifications that might be needed in the policy be made, and it be brought back at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing – Conditional Use for a Family Day Care Home in R-1A (Single-Family Residential District) at the location of 495 Ridgecrest Drive S. E. – County Tax Map C30, Parcel 31 – Applicant: Joyce Addison; Owner: Jeffrey Scott Gainous. Hearing was held with Ms. Addison making comments. Ms. Addison was present and stated that she had previously been in business elsewhere but had moved to this location.

Conditional Use for a Family Day Care Home in R-1A (Single-Family Residential District) at the location of 495 Ridgecrest Drive SE –County Tax Map C30, Parcel 31 – Applicant: Joyce Addison; Owner: Jeffrey Scott Gainous. (The SWGRC and the Cairo Planning Commission had both recommended approval of the conditional use). After review, motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve the conditional use, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Public Hearing – Rezoning from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to C-2 (Highway Commercial District), located at the NW corner of 8th St., NE and 3rd Ave., NE – County Tax Map C-26, Parcel 144 – Applicant: D & G You Store It. The public hearing was held without any comments.

Rezoning from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to C-2 (Highway Commercial District), located at the NW corner of 8th S., NE and 3rd Ave., NE – County Tax Map C-26, Parcel 144 – Applicant: D & G You Store It. (Both the SWRGC and the Cairo Planning Commission had recommended approval of the rezoning). After review, motion was made by Councilman Gwaltney to approve the rezoning, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Cancellation or Rescheduling of January 23, 2017 Council Meeting due to GMA Mayor's Day Conference. Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to cancel the meeting unless a meeting becomes necessary; in which case, it would be held Jan. 30th. Motion was seconded by Councilman Douglas and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reports:

1.) **Consider Departmental Reports for the Month of December 2016.** Council reviewed the reports.

2.) **Consider Finance Report for the Month of October 2016.** Councilman Douglas reported that the Finance Committee had reviewed the report, and that everything looked in good shape one quarter way

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through the year. The bond payment had been made in December. He made motion to approve the report, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

3.) City Manager:

- Five members of the City Electric crew went to Albany to assist after the storm, along with representatives of 17 other Electric cities.
- Meeting was scheduled with Bob Roberson to start the 20th Street CDBG project application.
- The Airport well went on-line without a hitch or any detectable arsenic in testing. He asked if the Council wished to have a ribbon-cutting and/or tours. The MacIvor plant had been taken off-line, and discovery of leaking valves there may have been causing part of the water loss.
- Provided information on pool operations in a meeting with the County Commission regarding an aquatic center where a committee was formed to explore an option developed in the meeting.
- Metro Power is to be in town on Tuesday to begin installing signal poles downtown.
- The Fire Truck would be in the MLK Parade should the Mayor and Council like to ride on it.

4.) Reports from Mayor and Council:

- Councilman Thornton reported a street light out in the 300 block of 4th Ave., NW.
- Councilman Cox asked if anything more had been heard from MEAG on the Northwest project. Atty. Claire Chason was present and reported a communication with MEAG Board of Directors, but City Manager Addleton had not had contact with them.
- Councilman Cloud reported that he and Councilman Gwaltney would be recognized with awards at Mayor's Day in Atlanta.
- Councilman Douglas asked the status of the annexation of 20th St., SE, with City Manager Addleton reporting that he was waiting on the survey. Councilman Douglas also commented that the grass and cleaning on Hwy. 84 West looked good.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:50 p.m., motion was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, to enter into executive session to discuss or vote to authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of or lease property, or to enter into a contract to purchase, dispose of or lease property subject to approval in a subsequent public vote; (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)). Motion passed unanimously by all Council Members. Present for the meeting were the Mayor, all Council Members, City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk.

At 7:15 p.m., motion was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Cloud, to end the executive session. Motion passed unanimously by all Council Members. There was no action taken as a result of the session.

ADJOURN: There being no further business, Councilman Cloud made motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

ATTEST:

CAROLYN B. LEE, CITY CLERK

APPROVED:

ROBERT B. BURNS, SR., MAYOR