

## REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 25, 2013

The February 25, 2013 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 Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., Council Members James H. Douglas, Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr., Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, and City Clerk Carolyn Lee. Cairo Messenger Editor Randy Wind was also in attendance.

**INVOCATION:** The Invocation was given by Councilman Gwaltney.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Regular Council Meeting – February 11, 2013.** Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**DELEGATIONS:** None

### **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**1.) Request for Special Event Permit - Jerome Bryant - Cairo Reds Baseball Team - Use of Holder Park Baseball Field beginning March 15<sup>th</sup> through October 30, 2013.** City Manager Addleton noted that there may be a conflict for March 15<sup>th</sup> with the Jackie Robinson event, and that the team would probably not start practice until April. Council discussed setting regulations for use of the ball field as well as developing a reservation form. They requested that the Cairo Reds provide a schedule, since others may want to use the field also. Councilman Cloud noted that the new lights could be turned off remotely and suggested putting up a sign with regulations for use in English as well as Spanish, since the area was also being used for soccer. After discussion, Councilman Cloud made motion to postpone approval of the request until further information was obtained, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**2.) Request for Special Event Permit – Family Worship Center Mpack/Missionette 5K/10K Event to be held on May 18, 2013 from 6:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. beginning and ending at 1400 South Broad Street.** After review, Councilman Gwaltney made motion to approve the permit, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Public Hearing - Obtain Citizen Input on a City of Cairo Application to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant of up to \$500,000.** There were no public comments, and the hearing was closed.

**Resolution for Submission of City of Cairo Application to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant of up to \$500,000 (8<sup>th</sup> St., SW Project).** After review, Councilman Cloud made motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**City of Cairo Budget Calendar for FY 2013-2014.** City Manager Addleton noted that the regular Council meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup> was Memorial Day so the public hearing had been set for May 28<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Cloud requested that the May 28<sup>th</sup> date be changed to May 30<sup>th</sup>. He made motion

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to reschedule the May 27<sup>th</sup> regular meeting to May 30<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and passed unanimously by all Council Members. Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to adopt the calendar with the date change to May 30<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

#### **Reports:**

**1.) Finance Report for Month of January 2013.** Councilman Douglas reported that finances were looking good and made motion to approve the report, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**2.) City Manager Addleton's Report:**

- a. Announced that a Health/Wellness Grant in the amount of \$84,000 had been received by the Fire Department from FEMA.
- b. Presented a letter of invitation to a forum to be held by Ga. Department of Revenue on March 28<sup>th</sup> in Tifton.
- c. Presented information from Electric Cities of Georgia.
- d. Handed out information and presented 2013-2014 Budget Review. Presentation consisted of revenue projections, long-term debt information, and capital budget items that had been completed as well as those projects being proposed. Long-term debt had been reduced from \$22.5 million in 2005 to \$14 million in 2012. Mayor VanLandingham asked if the Council wanted to set a goal to reduce debt each year. City Manager Addleton noted that, until the CNS Bonds were paid off, not much more could be done with debt reduction. Councilman Cloud stated that he and Councilman Gilliard were requesting that the ditches on 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., SW behind Washington School be piped along both sides from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> Streets. Councilman Douglas requested some information on a MEAG account. In closing, City Manager Addleton asked that Council Members email him with any suggestions or questions on the budget.

**3.) Reports from Mayor & Council:**

Councilman Gwaltney asked that an ongoing drainage problem on Brookwood Drive be checked, with City Manger Addleton responding that all the loose debris had been cleared from the area. He also requested that the problem of overgrown lots at Brookwood Drive and 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., SE be addressed.

Councilman Cloud inquired as to when the next phase of the Grant Ave. project would be completed, as some property owners there were losing parts of their yards. City Manager Addleton responded that it would be in the upcoming fiscal year. He also asked that someone check on the Decatur County ambulances that pass through Cairo back to Bainbridge to see if it was necessary that they use their sirens and lights.

Councilman Douglas requested that letters be written to legislators on behalf of the Council to express opposition to House Bills #186 and #282 which related to cell towers and telecommunications, as well as to express support of House Bill #143 regarding changes in campaign contribution reporting.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION: None**

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

**APPROVED:**

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**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM  
MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**CAROLYN B. LEE  
CITY CLERK**