

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – MARCH 12, 2012

The March 12, 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, Council Members Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., 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 Asst. City Clerk Sandra Pearce. Cairo Messenger Editor Randy Wind was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Thornton.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – February 27, 2012. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Budget Workshop Meeting – February 27, 2012. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS: None

SPECIAL EVENTS:

1. Special Event Request by Mr. Jerome Bryant for Cairo Reds Baseball Team to Use Holder Park Baseball Field. After review, motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Adoption of Rezoning Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances - Section 22-53 of Article II of Chapter 22 Titled Zoning. Motion to adopt the ordinance was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and passed unanimously by all Council Members. (Motion was introduced at the February 27, 2012 meeting).

Approval of the Purchase of Algae Cleaning Brushes for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. City Manager Addleton recommended going with the low bid from Ford Hall Company, Inc. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Gwaltney to purchase the algae cleaning brushes from Ford Hall Company, Inc. Motion was seconded by Councilman Thornton and passed unanimously.

Review of Professional Engineering Consultants for City of Cairo Streetscape Project – Phase I. City Manager Addleton explained that a committee had been composed and five engineering firms submitted statements of qualifications and were then rated, with Genesis Group and Robert and Company being the top two choices. Addleton suggested that more time would be needed to meet with the top two candidates. After further review, motion was made by Councilman Cloud to postpone action, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney and passed by all Council Members.

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Approval of 2012 Alcoholic Beverage Applications. Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the 2012 Alcoholic Beverage Applications. Motion was seconded by Councilman Thornton and passed unanimously.

City Manager Addleton's Report:

1. Striping had been placed on 20th Street NE and he believed the street would be open the following week. The cemetery and sidewalks had been paved and there was only some finishing work left to be completed.

2. Carpet was being put down at the Department of Labor building and striping was being completed in the parking lot. Their projected move-in date was set for April 23rd.

3. The city had begun site prep work on Phase II of the Davis Park project. Layout for the shade structure and bathrooms was being done.

4. Tnemec Tanks had featured the new City of Cairo Water Tank in their calendar.

Reports from Mayor & Council:

Councilman Gilliard asked if 21st Street NE would be paved once 20th Street NE was completed. City Manager Addleton explained that 21st, along with 19th Street NE would be paved according to the Master Plan.

Councilman Thornton asked that a "No Parking" sign be placed at MLK Jr. Blvd. and 1st Avenue SW.

Councilman Douglas asked about the Young Eagles Program that was presented to the Council at a previous meeting. Addleton explained that the Airport Committee would be meeting on March 19th and would discuss the program and make a recommendation.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mrs. Latasha Lovejoy asked to address the Council about her desire to open a church at 76 Alton Hall Road, which was previously Darsey's Learning Center. Mrs. Lovejoy had spoken with the building department and was told that a church was not allowed at the location due to Jose's restaurant being across the road. She asked for clarification, with City Manager Addleton explaining that since Jose's serves alcohol, and the proposed church building was less than 100 yards, or 300 feet from the restaurant, a church would not be permitted at that location according to state law and our local ordinance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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

APPROVED:

**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**SANDRA PEARCE
ASST. CITY CLERK**