

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – APRIL 8, 2013

The April 8, 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., and Lannis Thornton. Councilman Robert L. Gwaltney did not attend the meeting. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton and City Clerk Carolyn Lee. City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman joined the meeting after the invocation. Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by City Manager Addleton.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Council Meeting – March 25, 2013. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

DELEGATIONS:

1.) Mr. Jerome Bryant - Cairo Reds Baseball Team. Mr. Bryant submitted a copy of the team's schedule and requested to use the field at Holder Park from April to October. Motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

1.) Grady County Council on Child Abuse, Inc. - Fundraiser/Awareness Walk to be held on Thursday, April 25, 2013 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Ms. Constance Robinson stated that the proposed route would start at the Courthouse, proceed north up Broad Street to Highway 84, right on 84 to 5th St., right onto 5th, proceed to 4th Ave. and turn right, right on S. Broad, ending back at the Courthouse. Some monitoring by the Police Department shift on duty that day might be needed. Motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing: Rezoning Request from CBD (Central Business District) to C-2 (Highway Commercial District) – 20 MLK Jr. Avenue S.W. – Tax Map C-20A, Parcel 18 – Dennis O. Rackley, Owner. Mr. Rackley stated that he wished to have the property rezoned so that Mr. Alvin Tolliver could operate a take-out BBQ business there. Mr. Tolliver stated that he had been cooking for years and would like to locate his business there. After comments, the public hearing was closed.

Rezoning Request from CBD (Central Business District) to C-2 (Highway Commercial District) – 20 MLK Jr. Ave., S.W. – Tax Map C-20A, Parcel 18 – Dennis O. Rackley, Owner. (The SWGRC staff had recommended approval of the rezoning with the use limited to a take-out only BBQ establishment. The Cairo Planning Commission also recommended approval with the same use restriction). City Manager Addleton recommended that a reversion clause be put in place so that zoning would revert back to CBD should the business close. He added that C-2 was a very broad zoning class, and the property would be surrounded by more restrictive zoning. Attorney Lehman

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confirmed that the conditional use would remain in place as long as any fast food take-out business operated there. After discussion, motion to approve the rezoning to C-2, with the reversion clause and the limited use to fast food take-out, was made by Councilman Cloud. Motion was seconded by Councilman Thornton and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Public Hearing: Conditional Use Request for Open Air Mobile BBQ (Contingent upon the approval of C-2 rezoning) – 20 MLK Jr. Ave., S.W. – Tax Map C-20A, Parcel 18 – Alvin L. Tolliver, Sr., Applicant. The public hearing was held with no additional comments made.

Conditional Use Request for Open Air Mobile BBQ (Contingent upon the approval of C-2 rezoning) – 20 MLK Jr. Avenue S.W. – Tax Map C-20A, parcel 18 – Alvin L. Tolliver, Sr., Applicant. After discussion, motion to approve the conditional use permit was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Street Renaming of Frank Alley to Frank “Lane”. Councilman Cloud reported that the Council had agreed in December 2012 to change both Robinson and Frank Alley to “Lane” if there were no objections from property owners. All property owners along both Frank and Robinson Alleys had been notified of the request to change the street names from “alley” to “lane”. There was one objection received to changing Robinson Alley, but none to Frank Alley. After discussion, motion to approve the change from Frank Alley to Frank Lane was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Hubert Knauff, Jr. was present to report a clogged stormwater drain located near the gym that had burned on 3rd Ave., SE between 3rd and 4th Streets, SE. He was informed that someone would check on it. He also expressed his opposition of the proposed closing of the crossing on 3rd St., SE by CSX.

Reports:

1. City Manager Addleton:

- Reported on his research of the proposed CSX crossing closing on 3rd St., SE. CSX and GDOT both considered the crossing a safety issue since it did not have signalization. While the Council had expressed their desire to see the crossing remain open, there was not a great deal of leverage to accomplish that. CSX had been encouraged by GDOT to either offer the City a crossing closure incentive payment (\$7,500 maximum) which would be matched by GDOT, or by a formal petition for closure. If a petition was received, the City would have to hold a public hearing before granting or denying the petition. If the decision was to deny, CSX could request a review by GDOT. If the crossing was closed, CSX would have to remove the roadway and barricade the crossing. It was recommended to not do anything until a petition had been received.
- A Thank-You note had been received from the Boys and Girls Club regarding the Jackie Robinson event.
- A wireless internet pilot test had been installed at Davis Park.
- A meeting was scheduled the next day with the SWGRC staff to discuss zoning classification updates.

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Reports from Mayor & Council:

Mayor VanLandingham reported that a woman on a motorized/electric cart had been struck by a car recently and asked the Council if they thought these type vehicles should be regulated. He was concerned for the safety of the users. It was suggested that state law would probably have regulations in place, and that they should stay on sidewalks and cross at pedestrian crosswalks. It was discussed whether to advertise the regulations or have police officers make contact with the cart users. City Manager Addleton suggested checking with other communities to see if they had the same issue, or perhaps with the SWGRC.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None:

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

APPROVED:

**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**CAROLYN B. LEE
CITY CLERK**